

Temporary Foreign Workers

A temporary foreign worker is someone from outside of Canada who is eligible to work in the country for an authorized period of time. This kind of worker can be recruited by employers from all types of businesses to meet temporary labour shortages. The federal government issues work permits that are both job and employer specific. These permits usually range from one to two years.

Temporary foreign workers are covered by WCB. Workers' entitlements and employers' obligations under the *Alberta Workers' Compensation Act* apply whether the worker is a Canadian citizen, landed immigrant or temporary foreign worker. All temporary foreign workers in Alberta are covered if:

- the employer is based in Canada
- the employer ordinarily carries on business in Alberta
- the employer is covered under the *Alberta Workers' Compensation Act*

Once workers arrive in Alberta and commence work, they *immediately* fall under the jurisdiction of the *Alberta Workers' Compensation Act*. *Employer responsibilities are the same as with any other worker.*

The injury reporting procedure is the same for temporary foreign workers as for any other worker. Workers and employers must report work-related injuries within 72 hours of the injury. Workers must also submit a report of injury. These forms are available at www.wcb.ab.ca.

For more information and resources for temporary foreign workers, please visit our website at: http://www.wcb.ab.ca/workers/heads_up_temp.asp.