

# Alternative Assessment Procedure (AAP) for interprovincial transportation

The Interjurisdictional Agreement (IJA) is an agreement between Canada's provincial and territorial workers' compensation authorities (WCBs) that benefits workers and employers whose business takes them into more than one jurisdiction.

The IJA is intended to avoid duplication of payments and premiums and to aid injured workers in claiming and receiving compensation when more than one jurisdiction is involved. Generally, employers are required to register with and pay workers' compensation premiums to each jurisdiction they work in.

Administration of workers' compensation for each province can be complicated and time consuming. The WCBs have implemented an AAP to simplify the registration and premium payment process for employers in specified transportation industries.

## AAP

The AAP is an optional procedure for interjurisdictional transportation employers. Employers registered in the AAP report earnings and pay premiums only to the WCB in the jurisdiction where their drivers reside.

Injured workers retain their right to claim compensation from the WCB either where they reside, or where they are injured. This optional procedure eliminates the need to prorate earnings between each province and territory that drivers travel in or through. For more information on prorating assessable earnings, see our fact sheet on [prorating assessable earnings](#).

## Base of operations and residence

If you maintain a base of operations in a province, or employ a resident of that province, you must report assessable earnings for your workers, including resident drivers, to that province's WCB.

A base of operations is established if you maintain an office, depot or warehouse facility in a province or territory or if you employ a resident of that province or territory.

If you have bases of operations in more than one province or territory, you need to maintain an account with each respective jurisdiction and report assessable earnings for those workers, including resident drivers, to that respective compensation board.

Indicators of residence include having a permanent residence, immediate family, a bank account, registered vehicles/assets and/or provincial taxes paid in Alberta. If you are registered in the AAP and you are an Alberta resident, you are not required to work first in Alberta before you work out of province.

## Personal coverage for proprietors/directors/owner operators

Personal coverage holders who choose to participate in the AAP can claim in either the province of residence or the province in which the injury occurs.

## Application and opt out deadlines

Businesses already operating inter-provincially must apply before February 28 to participate in the current year. New interprovincial businesses have 30 days to apply for participation in the current year.

You cannot opt out mid-year. To opt out effective January 1 of the following year, written notice is required by October 31.

## Quick facts

- AAP only applies to drivers who travel in more than one province or territory.
- Employers who decide not to participate in the AAP must report and allocate their assessable earnings to the WCB of each jurisdiction they travel through each year.
- Participating in the AAP requires the reporting of assessable earnings to the WCB only in the province where the drivers reside.
- All applicable compensation boards will be notified by WCB-Alberta to which jurisdiction(s) your premiums will be paid.

- Effective January 2014, forest products trucking may also participate in the AAP (this extends to logging companies transporting logs from site to mill and between provinces).
- Effective January 2015, interurban/rural bus, charter bus and scenic/sightseeing transportation businesses that travel inter-provincially may also participate in the AAP.
- This agreement does not apply nor extend outside of Canada.
- Effective January 2018, employers who specialize in pilot car services may also participate in the AAP.
- This agreement may apply to ice road trucking depending on the classification of the business and if the industry falls under AAP. More information can be found on our [out of province coverage](#) fact sheet.

### To participate in the AAP, you must:

- Complete an [Alternative Assessment Procedure application](#). You can also contact our office at toll-free in Alberta: 1-866-922-9221 or outside Alberta: 1-800-661-9608.
- Give consent to the disclosure of information between the respective WCBs.
- Maintain a workers' compensation account with all applicable WCBs.
- Provide information to respective WCBs as required.
- Continue to report assessable earnings for those not driving (such as dispatchers, shop workers and administration) in the province or territory where they are employed.

### FAQs

#### Who is eligible to participate in AAP?

If you have workers or have an active WCB-Alberta account as a proprietor or director who resides in Alberta and transports within Canada (even on a limited basis), you may choose to participate in the AAP.

#### If a driver lives in Alberta, but is injured in another province, which province's WCB takes the claim?

Injured workers still have the choice of applying in their province of residence or the province in which the injury occurs. If a worker resides in Alberta but is injured working in Saskatchewan, they can choose to have their claim administered by either WCB-Alberta or the Saskatchewan board.

#### How will the AAP affect my insurance pricing plan?

Your insurance pricing (small business or experience rating discount/surcharge) will be calculated as per our regular program. Regardless of where the injured worker claims, the claim is charged to the Canadian province or territory in which the worker resides in and this is where the employer has reported payroll for that particular injured worker.

#### Do I assume any risk if I hire independent owner/operators with their own WCB-Alberta accounts?

Yes. Other jurisdictions may still consider independent owner/operators your worker unless their WCB-Alberta accounts are approved under the AAP, regardless of your own AAP participation.

#### How do I know if I have to report to more than one Assessing Board?

If you maintain an office, depot, or warehouse facility in another province, or employ a resident worker of that province, then you have a base or operations there. You must therefore report assessable earnings for your workers, including resident drivers, to that province's WCB.

