Student Coverage

Students registered in a secondary school are considered workers of the Government of Alberta while they are attending and participating in a work-experience program or the practical experience part of a work-related program, including courses in Industrial Education and Home Economics (i.e. Career and Technology Studies), if the program has been designated as such by the secondary school and approved by the Workers’ Compensation Board.

Students registered in and attending a post secondary institution, as outlined in section 7 of the General Regulations to the Alberta Workers’ Compensation Act, who are enrolled in a vocational or academic program which is a current academic requisite or required as part of the course of study in which the student is registered, are considered workers of the Government of Alberta. This coverage also extends to students placed with Alberta employers to gain practical knowledge related to their studies.

In both cases, students will be provided workers’ compensation coverage under the Government of Alberta’s account, pursuant to a Board Order issued in accordance with Section 7(1) of the General Regulations to the Alberta Workers’ Compensation Act.

* WCB-Alberta will not extend coverage to students who are participating in a “Take Your Child to Work” Program.

Student work experience outside Alberta

If Alberta-based students are sent outside of Alberta for their practical work, the work experience employer must contact the workers’ compensation agency of the jurisdiction they will be working in to determine the coverage requirements.

WCB-Alberta may extend coverage to students working outside of Alberta if all the conditions of Section 28(1) of the Alberta Workers’ Compensation Act are met.

Each case involving a student doing practical work outside Alberta will be reviewed on its own merits. Before the student leaves, an employer should contact WCB-Alberta to discuss the situation.

Apprentices

WCB-Alberta Policy 06-01 Part II, Application 3, refers to apprentice coverage. Apprentices working in Alberta are covered as workers of their sponsoring employers, if they have one. This includes coverage while attending classes prescribed by the Apprenticeship and Industry Training Board. If there is no sponsoring employer, an apprentice is considered a worker of the Government of Alberta.

You can reference the Alberta Workers’ Compensation Act at: https://www.wcb.ab.ca/about-wcb/policy-and-legislation/legislation.html