

 <p>Yukon Workers' Compensation Health and Safety Board</p>	Part:	Entitlement	
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INJURED WORKER AND WITNESS TRAVEL

GENERAL INFORMATION

The Yukon Workers' Compensation Health and Safety Board (YWCHSB) occasionally requires injured workers to travel to receive health care or rehabilitation services. The YWCHSB or the Workers' Compensation Appeal Tribunal (Tribunal) may also require an injured worker or a witness to attend an appeal hearing.

When the YWCHSB or the Tribunal requires a person to travel, the YWCHSB shall pay their approved travel expenses.

Travel expenses may include transportation, accommodation, meals and incidentals.

PURPOSE

This policy provides direction to the YWCHSB on the payment of travel expenses for injured workers and witnesses.

DEFINITION

1. Companion: means a traveling companion approved by the YWCHSB.

PREVENTION

Preventing workplace injuries is the responsibility of everyone in the workplace. When injuries do occur and an injured worker is required to travel to receive health care or rehabilitation services, it is important that travel be done safely so as to avoid worsening the injury or incurring a subsequent condition or disorder.

6. Rates for Travel Expenses

Travel expense rates for injured workers, companions and witnesses are listed in Appendix A of the YWCHSB policy, "Travel".

7. Travel Status

Injured workers are on travel status and under workers' compensation coverage while they are engaged in activities related to the purpose of their travel. This may include transportation, dining, attending medical or rehabilitation treatment and attending appeal hearings.

Other activities unrelated to the purpose of their travel, such as side trips or entertainment, may be considered off travel status and not covered by workers' compensation.

Before an injured worker travels, the YWCHSB shall inform them in writing about travel status and workers' compensation coverage.

8. Alternate Transportation

The YWCHSB shall encourage the use of public transportation when it is available and practical.

The YWCHSB may allow an alternate mode of transportation on a discretionary basis. The decision to allow alternate transportation is based on the overall costs and on whether the mode of transportation would impede the recovery and return of an injured worker to the workforce.

9. Accommodation

The YWCHSB shall select the commercial accommodations and rates shall be in accordance with Appendix A of the YWCHSB policy, "Travel".

10. Alternate or Private Accommodation

The YWCHSB may allow and pay for alternate or private accommodation if the combined costs for the accommodation, per diem and local transportation do not exceed the costs of staying at the commercial accommodation.

The YWCHSB shall not pay for alternate or private accommodation when it is preferable for an injured worker to stay in a residence attached to a medical or rehabilitation facility.

When the YWCHSB approves alternate or private accommodation, it shall inform the injured worker, companion, or witness, of their entitlement and shall pay them the authorized amount.

APPEALS

Decisions made by the YWCHSB under this policy can be appealed directly in writing to the hearing officer of the YWCHSB in accordance with subsection 53(1) of the *Act*. Notice of the appeal must be filed within 24 months of the date of the decision by the YWCHSB, in accordance with section 52 of the *Act*.

ACT REFERENCES

Sections 11, 13, 39, 52, 53 and 57

POLICY REFERENCES

BD-02, "Travel"

EN-02, "Merits and Justice of the Case"

HISTORY

CL-34, "Claimant and Witness Travel", effective January 1, 2000, revoked April 1, 2001.

CL-34, "Claimant Travel," effective January 2, 1993, revoked July 1, 2008.