

# WORKERS' COMPENSATION AND REHABILITATION ACT 1981

<b>VARIATIONS IN PRESCRIBED AMOUNT AND OTHER WORKERS' COMPENSATION PAYMENTS</b>
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## *EFFECTIVE 1 JULY 1999*

The increase in the Prescribed Amount for 1999 - 2000 is based on the annual percentage change in the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) December quarter Wage Cost Index ordinary time hourly rates of pay, excluding bonuses, for Western Australia. The index for December 1997 was 100.9 and for December 1998 it was 104.0. The percentage change is therefore 3.07234% (rounded by the ABS to 3.1%).

In accordance with Part I, section 5 of the Act, this percentage was calculated in accordance with the regulations and added to the existing Prescribed Amount of \$106,382.00 to give a new Prescribed Amount of \$109,650.00 effective from 1 July 1999.

The consequential adjustments to other payments, also effective from 1 July 1999, unless otherwise stated, are as follows:

ITEM	PERCENTAGE OF "PRESCRIBED AMOUNT"	AMOUNT
<u>Maximum Payment</u> <sup>1</sup>	100%	\$109,650.00
<u>Death</u>		
(a) Where dependants wholly dependent	100% of the "notional residual entitlement"	
(b) Dependent children <sup>2</sup>		\$31.30 per week
(c) Minimum	A sum equal to the aggregate weekly payments for total incapacity of the worker at a rate calculated and varied in accordance with Schedule 1 as at the date of death for a period of one year thereafter.	
(d) Where no dependants	Reasonable expenses of medical attendance and funeral expenses.	
<u>Medical and Hospital Expenses</u> <sup>3</sup>	30%	\$32,895.00
<u>Vocational Rehabilitation Expenses</u>	7%	\$ 7,675.50

<sup>1</sup> An additional amount of no more than \$50,000 may be ordered where a worker suffers permanent total incapacity and his/her social and financial circumstances justify it.

<sup>2</sup> Weekly payment made through WorkCover WA.

<sup>3</sup> An additional amount of no more than \$50,000 may be ordered where the worker's social and financial circumstances justify it.

**WEEKLY PAYMENTS**

*Weekly earnings as defined in Schedule 1 of the Act. For the purposes of clause 11A, full time adult average weekly total earnings in Western Australia in February 1999: \$783.70.*

**PRESCRIBED ALLOWANCES**

ITEM	AMOUNT	DATE EFFECTIVE
<u>Funeral Expenses</u> (clause 4 or 17(2))	\$ 4,000.00	23 August 1994
<u>Wheeled chair or similar appliance</u> (clause 17(4))	\$ 7,000.00	23 August 1994
<u>Board and Lodging Per Day</u> (clause 15)	\$ 90.00	23 August 1994
<u>Meals and Lodging Per Day</u> (clause 19)	\$ 70.00	23 August 1994

**SCHEDULE 2  
(Interpretation: see section 31 of the Act)**

ITEM	NATURE OF INJURY	PERCENTAGE OF "PRESCRIBED AMOUNT"	RATE AS AT 1.7.99
		%	\$
<b><u>EYES</u></b>			
1.	Total loss of sight of both eyes	100	109,650.00
2.	Total loss of sight of an only eye	100	109,650.00
3.	Total loss of sight of one eye	50	54,825.00
4.	Total loss of sight of one eye and serious diminution of the sight of the other eye	75	82,237.50
5.	Loss of binocular vision	50	54,825.00
<b><u>HEARING</u></b>			
6.	Total loss of hearing	75	82,237.50
<b><u>SPEECH</u></b>			
7.	Total loss of power of speech	75	82,237.50
<b><u>BODY AND MENTAL</u></b>			
8.	Permanent and incurable loss of mental capacity resulting in total inability to work	100	109,650.00
9.	Total and incurable paralysis of the limbs or of mental powers	100	109,650.00

ITEM	NATURE OF INJURY	PERCENTAGE OF "PRESCRIBED AMOUNT"	RATE AS AT 1.7.99
		%	\$
<b><u>SENSORY</u></b>			
10.	Total loss of sense of taste and smell	50	54,825.00
11.	Total loss of taste	25	27,412.50
12.	Total loss of smell	25	27,412.50
<b><u>ARM</u></b>			
13.	Loss of arm at or above elbow	90	98,685.00
14.	Loss of arm below elbow	80	87,720.00
<b><u>HAND</u></b>			
15.	Loss of both hands	100	109,650.00
16.	Loss of a hand and foot	100	109,650.00
17.	Loss of hand or thumb and four fingers	80	87,720.00
18.	Loss of thumb	35	38,377.50
19.	Loss of forefinger	17	18,640.50
20.	Loss of middle finger	13	14,254.50
21.	Loss of ring finger	9	9,868.50
22.	Loss of little finger	6	6,579.00
23.	Total loss of movement of joint of thumb	17	18,640.50
24.	Total loss of distal phalanx of thumb	20	21,930.00
25.	Total loss of portion of terminal segment of thumb involving one-third of its flexor surface without loss of distal phalanx	15	16,447.50
26.	Total loss of distal phalanx of forefinger	10	10,965.00
27.	Total loss of distal phalanx of:		
	• middle finger	8	8,772.00
	• ring finger	6	6,579.00
	• little finger	4	4,386.00

ITEM	NATURE OF INJURY	PERCENTAGE OF "PRESCRIBED AMOUNT"	RATE AS AT 1.7.99
		%	\$
<b><u>LEG</u></b>			
28.	Loss of leg at or above knee	70	76,755.00
29.	Loss of leg below knee	65	71,272.50
<b><u>FEET</u></b>			
30.	Loss of both feet	100	109,650.00
31.	Loss of foot	65	71,272.50
32.	Loss of great toe	20	21,930.00
33.	Loss of any other toe	8	8,772.00
34.	Loss of two phalanges of any other toe	5	5,482.50
35.	Loss of phalanx of great toe	8	8,772.00
36.	Loss of phalanx of any other toe	4	4,386.00
<b><u>BACK, NECK AND PELVIS</u></b>			
36A.	Permanent loss of the full efficient use of the back (including thoracic and lumbar spine)	60	65,790.00
36B.	Permanent loss of the full efficient use of the neck (including cervical spine)	40	43,860.00
36C.	Permanent loss of the full efficient use of the pelvis	15	16,447.50
<b><u>MISCELLANEOUS</u></b>			
37.	Loss of genitals	50	54,825.00
38.	Severe facial scarring or disfigurement to a maximum of	80	87,720.00
39.	Severe bodily, other than facial, scarring or disfigurement to a maximum of	50	54,825.00

**SCHEDULE 5**

In accordance with clause 1 of the Schedule, the existing Redemption Amount of \$35,438.00 was increased by 3.07234% to **\$36,527.00** with effect from 1 July 1999.

In accordance with Regulation 17A of the Workers' Compensation and Rehabilitation Regulations 1982 - 94 , amended 12 August 1997, the Supplementary Amount referred to in clause 1 of the Schedule remains at:

- (a) in relation to a worker with a dependent spouse,  
the sum of **\$88.00**;
- (b) in relation to a worker without a dependent spouse,  
the sum of **\$50.00**;

**SECTION 93A - COMMON LAW**

"Amount A" means, for the financial year ending on 30 June 2000, the amount of **\$219,000.00**.

"Amount B" means, for the financial year ending on 30 June 2000, the amount of **\$5,000.00**.

H T NEESHAM  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
WORKCOVER WA

23 June 1999