

Vocational Rehabilitation

Our main goal at the Workers Compensation Board (WCB) is to help you return to your pre-injury work. When this is not possible, our vocational rehabilitation services help you find suitable, safe work for reentering the workforce.

Who is eligible for vocational rehabilitation?

You may be eligible for vocational rehabilitation if you are unable to return to your pre-injury work and you:

- Have an impairment or pending impairment.
- Are receiving wage loss benefits.
- Are unable to do your regular job duties, and suitable work with your pre-injury employer is not available.

For more information on impairment, please see the **Impairment Assessment: What You Need To Know** publication on the WCB website.

What are the vocational rehabilitation options?

There are four vocational rehabilitation options to support your return to work. The WCB will work collaboratively with you to identify the best program for which you are eligible.

Options	Descriptions
Employment Preparation	This program provides up to 12 weeks of support to help you look for work and develop job search skills. The WCB may support you with online job searches, writing your resume and cover letter, applying for jobs and preparing for interviews.
Work Experience	This program gives you on-the-job training with an employer who gets help paying your wages while you learn. To participate, the employer must agree to employ you after the funding period ends.
Formal Training	This program includes retraining to help you learn new skills so you can reenter the workforce in a different job. To be eligible, you must be able to do the new job, and the training program must be cost-effective.
Self-Employment	This program may be considered if other vocational rehabilitation programs are not suitable. It includes a one-time payment to help you start your own business. If approved, you will no longer be eligible for further wage loss benefits related to the same injury.

[How is the vocational rehabilitation program chosen?](#)

The WCB will work with you and your health care providers to develop a vocational rehabilitation program that is safe, appropriate and cost-effective.

[Will the WCB pay for vocational rehabilitation expenses?](#)

Yes. The WCB will pay for necessary and reasonable expenses related to your vocational rehabilitation program. You will continue to receive temporary wage loss benefits while participating in vocational rehabilitation if you continue to have a loss of earning capacity. Program expenses must be pre-approved.

[What happens when vocational rehabilitation is complete?](#)

Your earning capacity is determined based on the greater of your actual earnings or the amount the WCB determines you are capable of earning. If you continue to have a loss of earnings after this determination, you may be entitled to extended wage loss benefits.

For more information

If you have questions that aren't covered here or if you need more information, please speak with your WCB case worker. You can reach us by phone at **902-368-5680** or toll-free in Atlantic Canada at **1-800-237-5049**.

You can also reach us by email at workerservices@wcb.pe.ca or visit our website wcb.pe.ca