



OKLAHOMA WORKERS' COMPENSATION COMMISSION

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Chairman Mark Liotta · Commissioner Jordan Russell · Commissioner Megan Tilly

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UPDATE: State's Average Weekly Wage and Maximum Benefit Amounts for Work-Related Injuries, Illnesses and Deaths

To: Workers' Compensation Insurance Carriers, Self-Insured Employers, Group Self-Insurance Associations, Third Party Administrators, Injured Workers, Attorneys, Other Interested Parties

Date: October 19, 2018

Title 85A sets the maximum compensation benefit rates based on a percentage of the state's average weekly wage reported to the Commission by the Oklahoma Employment Security Commission.

After review of the definition of "state average weekly wage" in 85A O.S. §2, the Commission has determined that the Administrative Workers' Compensation Act requires the new average weekly wage to become effective **January 1, 2019**, rather than November 1, 2018. Accordingly, the new state average weekly wage and associated rates for temporary total disability, permanent total disability, and death benefits will become effective for injuries or illnesses arising during the period beginning January 1, 2019, and ending December 31, 2019.

Due to an INCREASE in the state average weekly wage, the maximum compensation benefit rate for injury, illness or death will change as follows:

- For temporary total disability, the maximum rate is **\$607.40** per week for injuries and illnesses arising during the period beginning January 1, 2019 and ending December 31, 2019. *85A O.S. Supp. 2013, §45(A).*
- For Permanent Total Disability (PTD) and Death, the maximum rate is **\$867.71** per week for work-related injury, illness or death occurring during the period beginning January 1, 2019 and ending December 31, 2019. *85A O.S. Supp. 2013, §45(D) regarding PTD, and 85A O.S. Supp. 2013, §47 regarding death.*
- For Permanent Partial Disability (PPD), the maximum compensation benefit rate remains unchanged at **\$323** per week for work-related injury and illness occurring on or after February 1, 2014. *See, 85A O.S. Supp. 2013, §45(C).*

Look for revised benefit charts on the Commission's website https://www.ok.gov/wcc/Legal/Benefit_Charts/index.html or contact the Workers' Compensation Commission's Counselor/Ombudsman Program for more information at 855-291-3612 (in-state toll free) • 405-522-5308 (OKC) • Counselors@wcc.ok.gov (electronic mail).