Policy

The WSIB provides a surviving spouse with a ~~work transition (WT)~~return-to-work (RTW) plan if, based on the ~~WT~~RTW assessment, the ~~decision maker~~WSIB determines that a plan is necessary to enable the spouse's entry or re-entry into the labour market in the identified suitable occupation.

Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to set out when the WSIB will provide a surviving spouse with a ~~WT~~RTW plan.

Guidelines

~~WT~~RTW plans are designed to provide the skills, knowledge, and abilities necessary for a surviving spouse to enter or re-enter the labour market. Generally, the WSIB provides a surviving spouse with only one ~~WT~~RTW plan.

When providing ~~WT~~RTW services, the WSIB has regard for surviving spouses' rights under the *Ontario Human Rights Code*. Surviving spouses are entitled to equal treatment, without discrimination, with respect to services, goods and facilities.

~~Preparing a WT~~RTW plan

The WSIB~~, in consultation with the surviving spouse, arranges for the preparation of an individualized WT plan~~ develops an individualized RTW plan in collaboration with the surviving spouse.

Components of a ~~WT~~RTW plan

A ~~WT~~RTW plan includes all programs and activities necessary for a surviving spouse to enter or re-enter the labour market.

The plan lists:

- the names of each training agency or institution to be used
- the details and outlines, start and end dates, and costs of each program, and
- the costs associated with each program or activity, including travel expenses, and costs of work or workplace modifications and assistive devices.

For details about the duration of ~~WT~~RTW programs, see ~~19-03-05, Work Transition Plans~~19-02-10, RTW Assessments and Plans.

~~WT~~RTW expenses

The WSIB pays for all necessary expenses during a ~~WT~~RTW plan, see ~~19-03-06, Work Transition Expenses~~19-02-10, RTW Assessments and Plans.

Special needs and circumstances

The WSIB may wait to implement a ~~WT~~RTW plan in order to accommodate any special needs a surviving spouse may have, or any circumstances that may affect a surviving spouse.

For example, the WSIB may wait to accommodate:

- the spouse's emotional unreadiness to start a plan
- the way the age of a spouse's child, or the availability of child care, would affect a plan, and/or
- the spouse's current or previous employment situation and how it would affect a plan.

Co-operating in the RTW~~WT~~ plan

A s~~S~~urviving spouse~~s~~ must co-operate in all aspects of ~~the~~ a ~~WT~~RTW plan, or the plan may be discontinued.

Application date

This policy applies to all decisions made on or after ~~February 15, 2013~~March 1, 2021, for all accidents.

Document ~~H~~history

This document replaces 20-02-04 dated ~~October 3, 2007~~February 15, 2013.

This document was previously published as:
20-02-04 dated October 3, 2007
20-02-04 dated October 12, 2004
20-02-04 dated June 15, 1999
13.4 dated January 1, 1998.

References

Legislative ~~A~~authority

Workplace Safety and Insurance Act, 1997, as amended
Sections 2(1), 42, 48, 102, 104, 108

Minute

Administrative
~~#42, January 28, 2013, Page 509~~