



5.07 INJURY, DISABILITY, AND ACCIDENTAL DEATH COVERAGE

5.07.1 GENERAL

The Federal and Provincial governments have an agreement entitled, “An Agreement Providing for Sharing the Cost of Compensation in Respect of the Injury or Death of Emergency Services Workers, 1987.” This agreement states that the Federal Government and the Province will share costs for authorized claims for injured or killed Emergency Service Workers.

An Emergency Services Worker (ESW) is defined as any person who has volunteered for Emergency Services Work and has registered with the Provincial Emergency Services Coordinator. In British Columbia, this is EMBC and one of the key reasons that volunteers must sign in on a Task Registration Form. The agreement also outlines that Emergency Service Work means there is no compensation and the response activity has been authorized by EMBC. WorkSafeBC (WSBC) advises that it is the responsibility of EMBC to designate who its employees are for the purposes of the agreement. EMBC has said that persons who are registered as Public Service Lifeline Volunteers are ESWs and thus considered employees for purposes of WSBC coverage. ESWs at the municipal level are also covered when engaged in volunteer emergency services work.

Related Policies:

- [1.08 Application for a Training Task Number](#)
- [2.02 Task Authorization](#)
- [2.06 Public Safety Lifeline Volunteer Safety](#)
- [5.01 Task Registration](#)

5.07.2 DEFINITIONS

See [Terms and Definitions](#)

Emergency Services Worker (ESW): Any person who has volunteered for Emergency Services Work and has registered with the Provincial Emergency Services Coordinator.

Provincial Emergency Services Coordinator: Either the Minister defined in that *Emergency Program Act* or a local authority that is doing acts or taking proceedings pursuant to Section 4 of the *Emergency Program Act*.

5.07.3 POLICY STATEMENT

- (1) EMBC will provide injury, disability, and accidental death coverage for any emergency services worker under the authority of a Provincial Emergency Services Coordinator or a local authority under the *Emergency Program Act*.
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5.07.4 CONDITIONS/RESPONSIBILITIES

- (1) Emergency Program Coordinators must obtain the necessary approval by either a training task number or an emergency response task number in order for Injury, Disability, and Accidental Death coverage to be in effect.
- (2) All volunteers registered with EMBC are automatically covered when a task number is obtained and the volunteer's name is entered on the Task Registration Form. Volunteers must be signed-up each day on a Task Registration Form.
- (3) EMBC does not provide Injury, Disability, and Accidental Death coverage to employees of other agencies involved in emergency response.

5.07.5 AUTHORITIES

- [Emergency Program Act](#)
- [Workers Compensation Act](#)
- [An Agreement Providing for Sharing the Cost of Compensation in Respect of the Injury or Death of Emergency Services Workers, 1987](#)

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5.07.6 RELATED DOCUMENTS

- [5.07 Injury, Disability, and Accidental Death Coverage Procedures](#)
- [5.07 Injury, Disability, and Accidental Death Coverage FAQs](#)
- [WorkSafeBC Form 7 – Employer’s Report of Injury or Occupational Disease](#)