



5.07 WORKERS' COMPENSATION COVERAGE

5.07.1 GENERAL

Emergency Services Workers will be provided workers' compensation coverage by Emergency Management BC (EMBC) when on an approved task. The Federal Government and the Province will share costs for authorized claims for injured or killed Emergency Services Workers under the agreement titled, "An Agreement Providing for Sharing the Cost of Compensation in Respect of the Injury or Death of Emergency Service Workers, 1987". In addition, the Province has agreed to extend workers' compensation coverage to fire department staff doing road rescue work outside their jurisdictional area provided they have been approved by EMBC as a Road Rescue Service Provider. WorkSafeBC administers all claims in BC.

WorkSafeBC decides whether the accident occurred out of and in the course of Emergency Services Work and payment is made in accordance with the provisions of the *Workers' Compensation Act*. If WorkSafeBC deems that the injury or death meet the guidelines, the WorkSafeBC compensation process and claim criteria are then utilized.

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 Work: Is work authorized by the Provincial Emergency Services Coordinator and for which the worker is not compensated.

Emergency Services Worker: Any person who has volunteered for Emergency Services Work and has registered with the Provincial Emergency Services Coordinator. People who are registered as Public Safety Lifeline Volunteers are Emergency Services Workers and are eligible for workers' compensation coverage.

Provincial Emergency Services Coordinator: Emergency Management BC or a local authority working under the *Emergency Program Act*.

Road Rescue Service Provider: An organized fire rescue service or volunteer rescue society whose members maintain an on-going competence through participation in a training and exercise program



that meets the intent of the current National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) standards on operations and training for technical rescue incidents.

5.07.3 POLICY STATEMENT

- (1) EMBC will provide workers' compensation coverage for any Emergency Services Workers under the authority of a Provincial Emergency Services Coordinator. In addition, the Province has agreed to extend workers' compensation coverage to fire department staff doing road rescue work outside their jurisdictional area provided the fire department has been approved by EMBC as a Road Rescue Service Provider.

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 workers' compensation coverage to be in effect.
- (2) All volunteers registered with EMBC are 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 workers' compensation coverage to employees of other agencies involved in emergency response in their own jurisdiction.

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

Original Signed by

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5.07.6 RELATED DOCUMENTS



- 5.07 Workers' Compensation Coverage Procedures
- 5.07 Workers' Compensation Coverage FAQs
- WorkSafeBC Form 7 – Employer's Report of Injury or Occupational Disease