

WHAT IS LIGHT DUTY?

During the healing process of an injury, the employee will reach a point at which the medical provider may determine that the employee is capable of some kind of *“light”* or *“clerical”* or *“sedentary”* duty. This means that the doctor thinks that the employee may return to work in some capacity limited by the specific restrictions that the doctor imposes. If the employer can accommodate these restrictions, the employee will return to work there limited by the doctor’s restrictions. If the employer cannot offer work that meets the employee’s limitations, then the worker will be required to complete *“work searches”*. These are forms which document at least five contacts with prospective employers each week. The forms must be submitted to the employer’s insurance company every week that the worker has a *“light duty”* capacity.