

WHAT RIGHTS DO I HAVE AS AN INJURED EMPLOYEE?

You have an entire menu of rights as follows:

- *Temporary Total Disability*: When a doctor has said that you are temporarily, and totally disabled for work for a period of time, you are entitled to be paid at an amount known as your compensation rate, or TT rate, roughly two-thirds of your gross pay. This amount is not taxable.
- *Temporary Partial*: When the doctor says you can go back to work “light duty” or work with certain restrictions, your employer must return you to work in compliance with this light duty limitation if the employer has light duty available. You are entitled to be paid the difference between what you were making when you were injured and what you are currently making. In the event your employer does not have light duty available, you must conduct job searches during which time you will be paid at your compensation rate.
- *Specific Award*: Once you have made as much improvement as you are going to make, the doctor will make a determination as to whether you have made a full recovery. If not, the doctor will determine the extent of your permanent, partial impairment. You will then be paid an amount in conformity with the number of weeks allowed for the injured body part pursuant to the schedule set forth in the statute. For example, if you have a 10% permanent partial impairment, the statute allows for 37.4 weeks at your compensation rate.
- *Wage Differential*: If you cannot go back to doing the same type of work you were doing prior to the injury, you may be entitled to the wage differential between your higher paying former job and your current job for a period of time not to exceed the number of weeks awarded for your specific award.
- *Vocational rehabilitation*: In the event an employee is not able to return to his former occupation because of a work-related injury, the employee may get job training through the vocational rehabilitation office of the State of Connecticut, with offices located in every Commissioner’s office. This service is free to the employee courtesy of the State of Connecticut.