



Andy Beshear
GOVERNOR

EDUCATION AND LABOR CABINET

Department of Workers' Claims
Scott C. Wilhoit
Commissioner
500 Mero Street, 3rd Floor
Frankfort, Kentucky 40601
(502) 564-5550

Jamie Link
SECRETARY

TO: Workers' Compensation Insurance Carriers and
Self-Insurers operating in the Commonwealth of Kentucky

FROM: Scott C. Wilhoit, Commissioner, Department of Workers' Claims

SUBJECT: 2026 Workers' Compensation Benefit Schedule

DATE: September 2, 2025

The Education and Labor Cabinet, Department of Workforce Development, has certified that the average weekly wage for Kentucky for the calendar year 2024 was \$1,161.81. Based upon that information and in accordance with KRS 342.143, the following determinations are made:

1. The increase in maximum weekly income benefits under the Workers' Compensation Act for total disability or death for the year 2024 over the year 2023 did amount to two dollars (\$2.00) or more; therefore, the maximum weekly indemnity benefit for calendar year 2026 for total disability shall be \$1,277.99.
2. The increase in minimum weekly income benefits under the Workers' Compensation Act for total disability for the year 2024 over the year 2023 did amount to one dollar (\$1.00) or more; therefore, the minimum weekly indemnity benefit for calendar year 2026, were applicable under the Act, shall be \$232.36.

A schedule of indemnity benefits is attached.

SCHEDULE OF WEEKLY WORKERS' COMPENSATION BENEFITS

TYPE OF DISABILITY SECTION OF STATUTE	FOR INJURIES OCCURRING					
	01-01-21 through 12-31-21	01-01-22 through 12-31-22	01-01-23 through 12-31-23	01-01-24 through 12-31-24	01-01-25 through 12-31-25	01-01-26 through 12-31-26
APPLICABLE AVERAGE WEEKLY WAGE OF THE STATE	\$917.78 (2019)	\$976.47 (2020)	\$1016.75 (2021)	\$1073.12 (2022)	\$1119.29 (2023)	\$1161.81 (2024)
DEATH (KRS 342.750) a. Widow or widower with no children- 50% of average weekly wage of deceased- subject to the following: MAXIMUM	\$458.89	\$488.24	\$508.38	\$536.56	\$559.65	\$580.91
b. Widow or widowers with children living in the home- 45% of average weekly wage of deceased plus 15% for each child-subject to the following: MAXIMUM	\$688.34	\$732.35	\$762.56	\$804.84	\$839.47	\$871.36
c. Widow or widower with children not living in home- 40% of average weekly wage of deceased plus 15% for each child-subject to the following: MAXIMUM	\$688.34	\$732.35	\$762.56	\$804.84	\$839.47	\$871.36
d. One child, no widow or widower-50% of average weekly wage of deceased- subject to the following: MAXIMUM	\$458.89	\$488.24	\$508.38	\$536.56	\$559.65	\$580.91
d(1) More than one child, no widow or widower-50% of average weekly wage of deceased for the first child with an additional 15% of average weekly wage of deceased for each additional child- subject to the following: MAXIMUM	\$688.34	\$732.35	\$762.56	\$804.84	\$839.47	\$871.36
e. Dependent parents-25% of average weekly wage of deceased to each parent- subject to the following: MAXIMUM	\$688.34	\$732.35	\$762.56	\$804.84	\$839.47	\$871.36
f. Dependent brothers, sisters, grandparents and grandchildren-25% of average weekly wage of deceased to each dependent subject to the following: MAXIMUM	\$688.34	\$732.35	\$762.56	\$804.84	\$839.47	\$871.36

The above is subject to the maximum of 75% of the average weekly wage of the deceased.

SCHEDULE OF WEEKLY WORKERS' COMPENSATION BENEFITS

TYPE OF DISABILITY SECTION OF STATUTE	FOR INJURIES OCCURRING					
	01-01-21 through 12-31-21	01-01-22 through 12-31-22	01-01-23 through 12-31-23	01-01-24 through 12-31-24	01-01-25 through 12-31-25	01-01-26 through 12-31-26
LUMP SUM DEATH BENEFIT INCREASE KRS 342.750(6)	\$90,150.18	\$95,915.08	\$99,871.64	\$105,408.66	\$109,943.77	\$114,120.35
TEMPORARY AND PERMANENT TOTAL KRS 342.730(1)(a) 66 2/3% of average weekly wage of employee-subject to the following: MAXIMUM MINIMUM	\$1,009.56 \$183.56	\$1,074.12 \$195.29	\$1,118.43 \$203.35	\$1,180.43 \$214.62	\$1,231.22 \$223.86	\$1,277.99 \$232.36
RETRAINING INCENTIVE BENEFITS KRS 342.732(1)(a) – 66 2/3% of average weekly wage of employee-subject to the following: MAXIMUM	\$688.34	\$732.35	\$762.56	\$804.84	\$839.47	\$871.36
PERMANENT PARTIAL FOR INJURIES OCCURRING AFTER 12-11-96 – KRS 342.730(1)(b), (1)(c)(2) and (1)(d) – 99% of 66 2/3% of average weekly wage of employee subject to the following: MAXIMUM	\$757.17	\$805.59	\$838.82	\$885.32	\$923.41	\$958.49
PERMANENT PARTIAL FOR INJURIES OCCURRING AFTER 12-11-96 – KRS 342.730(1)(c)(1) and (1)(d) – When the employee does not retain physical capacity to return to the type of work performed at the time of injury – 99% of 66 2/3% of average weekly wage of employee subject to the following: MAXIMUM	\$1009.56	\$1,074.12	\$1,118.43	\$1,180.43	\$1,231.22	\$1,277.99