

Pre-injury average weekly earnings fact sheet: Change in earning circumstances

Overview

This fact sheet provides guidance as to when a worker's relevant earning period should be adjusted to take into account a change in earning circumstances in the 52 weeks before injury.

NOTE: This fact sheet only applies to workers injured on or after 21 October 2019 and does not apply to exempt workers.

When to adjust the relevant earning period

An agent is to adjust a worker's relevant earning period if there was

- an ongoing, and
- financially-material change in the worker's earnings immediately before injury,
- arising from a change in earning circumstances (for example, a change in role, a change in duties, a change in work hours, a promotion, a demotion or similar).

How to adjust the relevant earning period

The relevant earning period is to be reduced so that it starts on the day on which the change to the worker's earnings took effect and ends on the day immediately before the date of injury.

Example

Jed has been employed as a graphic designer for two and a half years. On 19 January 2019, he was promoted from a level six to a level seven and his earnings increased from \$863.60 to \$889.90 per week. He was injured at work on 26 October 2019. Because there was a material change in Jed's earnings in the 52 weeks before his injury, his relevant earning period is adjusted to start from the day of this material change, 19 January 2019, and ends on the day immediately before injury, on 25 October 2019, reducing his relevant earning period to 40 weeks.

Other useful information

- [PIAWE fact sheet: PIAWE overview](#)
- [PIAWE fact sheet: Indexation](#)
- [PIAWE fact sheet: Agreements](#)
- [PIAWE fact sheet: Alignment to pay cycle](#)
- [PIAWE fact sheet: Relevant earning period](#)
- [PIAWE fact sheet: Short-term workers](#)
- [PIAWE fact sheet: Concurrent employment](#)
- [PIAWE fact sheet: Unpaid leave](#)
- [PIAWE fact sheet: Non-monetary benefits](#)
- [SIRA's Workers Compensation Guidelines](#)
- [PIAWE fact sheet: Apprentices, trainees and young people](#)
- [SIRA's Claims Management Guide](#)

Further assistance

For help with calculating PIAWE, please contact your agent or [icare](#).