As required by law, O.C.G.A. §34-9-8.1, this is a summary of your rights and responsibilities. The Workers’ Compensation Law provides you, as a worker in the State of Georgia, with certain rights and responsibilities should you be injured on the job. The Workers’ Compensation Law provides you coverage for a work-related injury even if an injury occurs on the first day on the job. In addition to rights, you also have certain responsibilities.

Your rights and responsibilities are described below.

### Employee’s Rights

1. **If you are injured on the job,** you may receive medical rehabilitation and income benefits. These benefits are provided to help you return to work. Your dependents may also receive benefits if you die as a result of a job-related injury.

2. **Your employer is required to post a list of at least six doctors or the name of the certifier.** In addition to medical care, unless the Board has granted an exception. You may choose a doctor from the list and make one change to another doctor on the list without the permission of your employer. However, in an emergency, you may get temporary medical care from any doctor until the emergency is over, then you must get treatment from a doctor on the posted list.

3. **Your authorized doctors, hospitals, physical therapy, and prescriptions, and necessary travel expenses will be paid if injury was caused by an accident on the job.**

4. You are entitled to weekly income benefits if you have more than seven days of lost time due to an injury. Your first check should be mailed to you within 21 days after the first day you missed work. If you are out more than 21 consecutive days due to your injury, you will be paid for the first week.

5. **Accidents are classified as being either catastrophic or non-catastrophic.** Catastrophic injuries are those involving amputations, severe paralysis, severe head injuries, severe burns, blindness, and severe disfigurement. These benefits are provided to help you return to work.

6. **If you are out more than 21 consecutive days due to an injury, you will be paid for the first week.**

7. **When you are able to return to work, but can only get a lower paying job,** your weekly benefits will be reduced to two-thirds of your average weekly wage but no more than $334 per week for no longer than 400 weeks. If you are not working and it is determined that you are unable to perform your prior work or return to work, you are entitled to receive medical and vocational rehabilitation benefits.

8. **If you receive these weekly benefits as long as you are totally disabled,** but no longer than 400 weeks, your weekly income benefits will be reduced to two-thirds of your average weekly wage but no more than $334 per week, not to exceed 350 weeks.

9. **If you do not receive benefits when due, the insurance carrier/employer must pay a penalty,** which will be added to your weekly benefits.

10. **A dependent spouse of a deceased employee shall notify the Board of Workers’ Compensation within one year after your death or lose the right to these benefits.**

11. **If your dependent(s) do not receive allowable benefit payments,** the dependent(s) must file a claim with the Board of Workers’ Compensation within one year after your death or lose the right to these benefits.

12. **Any request for reimbursement to you for mileage or other expenses related to medical care must be submitted to the insurance carrier/employer within one year of the date the expense was incurred.**

If you have questions, please contact the State Board of Workers’ Compensation at 404-656-3818 or 1-800-533-0682 or visit our website: http://www sbwc georgia gov. A lawyer is not needed to file a claim with the Board; however, if you think you need a lawyer and do not have your own personal lawyer, you may contact the Lawyer Referral Service at 404-521-0777 or 1-800-237-2629.

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