

Did you know?

If you are injured or off work due to a Motor Vehicle Accident (MVA) your accident-related medical expenses including disability benefits are not covered under the IBEW Local 353 Benefit Plan.

What to do if you are involved in a Motor Vehicle Accident

If you are involved in an MVA and unable to work, contact the IBEW Local 353 Union Hall as soon as possible at 416-510-3530. Your dispatch record will be updated, and it will also provide you with the opportunity to ask about the valuable benefits that may be available to you such as Special Disability Contributions (SDC) in the pension plan, and how to maintain your health and welfare benefit eligibility while you are unable to work.

To be eligible for SDC pension credits (available after 6 months of Disability), and to maintain your health benefits after an MVA, you must be receiving statutory accident benefits (SABS) from your motor vehicle insurance carrier. Regardless of what car you drive, where you live, your age, or even your driving history, there are minimum car insurance coverage requirements in Ontario.

The minimum car insurance coverage in Ontario must include:

Third-party liability coverage:

This provides coverage for injuries suffered by people involved in an accident and even property damages.

Uninsured automobile insurance:

Drivers in Ontario must maintain uninsured automobile insurance which is coverage for accidents involving uninsured motorists or hit-and-runs. This coverage also provides for benefits to families who lose their loved ones in a hit-and-run, or from an uninsured driver.

Statutory Accident Benefits Coverage (SABS):

The normal amount of SABS is 70% of your gross weekly income to a maximum of \$400 per week.

This amount may not be enough to meet your income needs in the event of total disability.

Direct compensation:

This provides coverage for damages caused to your vehicle if you are involved in an accident where another driver is at fault.

The more you know...

Auto insurance is there to protect you in case something sudden and unexpected happens. Reviewing your auto insurance coverage regularly ensures that you're never caught off-guard without the right protection. This means taking a thorough look at your policy to make sure it is up to date and still covers you adequately.

If you need more than \$400 a week of income replacement, talk to your insurance broker, or insurer, about increasing your level of income replacement. Insurers will allow you to increase your level of income replacement to up to \$1,000 per week, for a modest increase in your insurance premiums.

It's a good idea to review your policy every year when you get your notice for renewal. As your lifestyle changes, so do your coverage needs. If you have a life event such as a change in marital status, or change of address, call your insurance provider as the life events may impact your insurance rates.

Regular reviews of your policy will ensure you have the coverage best-suited to your lifestyle.

Questions? You can email us at members@teibas.com or call us at 416-637-6789, toll-free: 1-800-267-0602.

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