

New FAQs for Bulletin Resuming Work Search Requirements and Designated Doctor and Required Medical Examinations for Disability and Return to Work

Supplemental Income Benefits (SIBs) Work Search Requirements

Q: What are the work search requirements for SIBs?

A: You must meet at least one of these requirements each week in the qualifying period to be able to get SIBs.

- Return to work in a position you are able to do.
- Get into a program that helps you keep or find a job after an injury, illness, or disability (vocational rehabilitation program).
- Conduct work search efforts through the Texas Workforce Commission.
- Prove you have searched for work.
- If you are unable to work, provide a report from a doctor, which explains how the injury prevents you from working. There must not be other records that show you are able to return to work.

Q: When do work search requirements for SIBs resume?

A: The work search requirements for SIBs start again on Monday, August 2, 2021, for weeks of the qualifying period beginning on or after that date.

Q: What if my qualifying period begins in the middle of the week?

A: The work search requirements for SIBs start on Monday, August 2, 2021, or the first week of your qualifying period beginning on or after that date, whichever is later.

For example, if a week of an injured employee's SIBs qualifying period begins Sunday, August 1, 2021, the work search requirements do not apply to that week.

If a week of an injured employee's SIBs qualifying period begins on Monday, August 2, 2021, the work search requirements apply to that week.

Q: I'm not sure when my SIBs qualifying period begins. Who can tell me the start date?

A: The SIBs qualifying period is unique to each injured employee. Contact your adjuster if you need to know when your qualifying period begins.

Q. What happens if I do not meet one of these requirements each week in the qualifying period beginning on or after Monday, August 2, 2021?

A. If you have not met at least one of these requirements each week after this date, you will not be able to get SIBs unless you can show that you had a good reason not to.

Designated Doctor (DD) Exams

Q: I sent a DD exam request on the issue of return to work. Do I need to send a new request?

A: DWC will contact each requester to see if the exam is still needed. The requester may need to submit a new request if the information on the old request has changed.

Required Medical Exams (RMEs)

Q: I sent an RME request on the issue of return to work. Do I need to send a new request?

A: Yes. The requester must send a new request with an updated date and time for the examination.