



Division of Workers' Compensation

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<http://www.dlt.ri.gov/wc>

Information Letter 2021-02

April 1, 2021

Notice of 2021 Cost of Living Increase

Rhode Island General Law Sections 28-33-17(f)(1), Weekly Compensation for Total Incapacity, 28-33-18.3(b)(1), Continuation of Benefits – Partial Incapacity and 28-37- 30, Cost of Living Increase, provide for annual benefit increases to certain classes of employees.

By the statutes listed above, the increases to these employees shall be by an amount equal to the total percentage increase in the (CPI-W) Consumer Price Index, United States city average for urban wage earners and clerical workers as formulated and computed by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the United States Department of Labor for the period of March 1 to February 28 each year.

The Cost of Living Increase for 2021 will be 1.9%.

Effective May 10, 2021, weekly benefits paid to these employees should be increased 1.9%. By statute, increases shall be paid by insurers and employers without further order of the court. Late payment of the increase may result in the assessment of a 20% penalty on the unpaid amount. Questions may be addressed to a Workers' Compensation Education Unit Representative at (401) 462-8100, option #1.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Matthew P. Carey, III'. The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized 'M' and 'C'.

Matthew P. Carey, III
Assistant Director