

# Return to Work Program

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# Anaheim Union High School District Return to Work Program

#### Introduction

Anaheim Union High School District's most valuable assets are our employees. The district has implemented the Return to Work Program to return employees to work after an injury/illness. It provides an innovated and professional approach to taking care of our most valuable asset during a time of need.

The Board of Trustees recognizes that, when employees have temporarily disabling medical conditions, temporary modified or light-duty assignments can allow the district to continue to use their valuable knowledge, skills, and abilities while minimizing time away from work. Temporary modified/light-duty assignments may also serve to facilitate the employee's transition back to his/her regular assignment.

In order to assist injured employees with the recovery process and to encourage an early return to work status, the district has implemented a program which reviews, on a case by case basis, the restrictions outlined in the physician's medical report to determine if an injured employee can return to work with modifications to their usual and customary job or to a temporary modified/light-duty work assignment.

#### **Definition and Parameters**

Modified work assignments are temporary assignments to assist the injured employee to transition back to his/her regular assignment. This type of duty is a "transitional" process, which enables the employee to return to work until medically recovered and able to return to his/her regular assignment. The maximum duration of the transitional assignment will be determined on a case by case basis with the physician's recommendation taken into consideration but normally do not extend beyond 90 days.

## Legal Reference:

#### **EDUCATION CODE**

44984 Required rules for industrial accident and illness leave

45192 Industrial accident and illness leave for classified employees

# **Program Objectives**

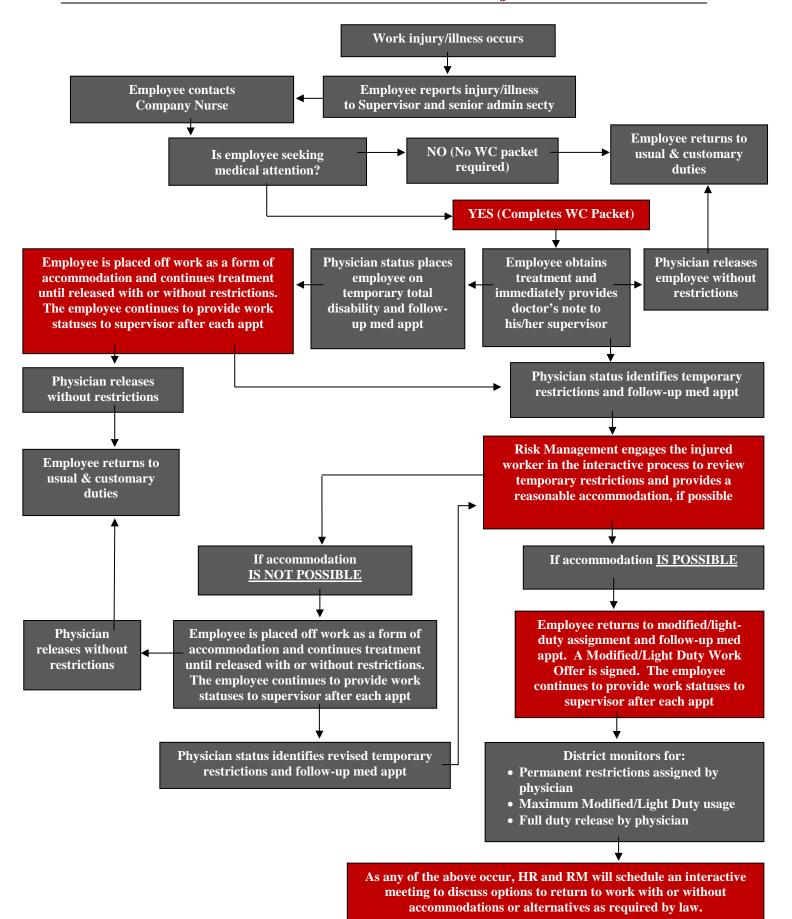
- A. Provide a means for an injured employee to return to the workplace as soon as safely possible.
- B. Provide a means of maintaining the employee's job skill, self-esteem and morale, while enabling him/her to progress back to his/her regular assignment.
- C. Maintain organizational productivity by allowing the employee to perform tasks that are part of the employee's normal assignment or assist in another department.
- D. Reduce the need for temporary help due to the absence of the injured worker.
- E. Improve communication with the injured employee and ensure them of their value at the District.
- F. Reduce extended periods of medical treatment and associated costs. Injured employee recovery periods are lessened if accommodated assignments are made available in lieu of remaining at home.

# **Operating Procedures**

# For industrial Injuries

- A. For emergencies, call 911.
- B. For urgent injuries/illnesses, inform supervisor immediately and see senior administrative secretary for Treatment Referral Form.
- C. For all other injuries/illnesses, inform supervisor immediate and see senior administrative secretary for reporting instructions.
- D. The employee will call Company Nurse, who will determine if medical treatment is appropriate. If no treatment is sought, employee will return to work. If treatment is deemed necessary, senior administrative secretary will provide employee a Workers' Compensation Packet to complete.
- E. If treatment is deemed necessary, Company Nurse will make a referral to an authorized medical provider within the network (MPN), and the authorized medical provider will be notified of the referral. If treatment is deemed not necessary and employee disagrees, employee will contact risk management technician.
- F. The employee will report to the medical provider for evaluation. The medical provider will evaluate the employee provide treatment within ACOEM guidelines and determine whether to return the employee to unrestricted regular duty or if temporary work restrictions are necessary.
- G. Immediately following the medical evaluation, the employee must provide the doctor's note to his/her site supervisor, so that the site may facilitate coverage, if necessary.
- H. If medical report lists restrictions:
  - 1. Risk Management along with the employee's supervisor and the employee will review medical report and the employee's job description to determine if the employee can safely return to their regular job within the restrictions with or without accommodation.
  - 2. If Risk Management in conjunction with the employee's supervisor and the employee determines the employee cannot safely return to their regular job within the restrictions, Risk Management will attempt to place the employee in a temporary modified/light-duty work assignment within the restrictions outlined in the physician's medical report.
  - 3. Risk Management in conjunction with the employee's supervisor and employee determines the employee cannot safely return to their regular job or to a temporary modified/light-duty work assignment within the restrictions, the employee will be placed on temporary disability, sick leave, or other available leave, as a form of accommodation, until the restrictions have been changed or are removed.
- I. If a modified/light-duty work offer is available, a letter listing the restrictions and defining the employee's responsibilities will be provided and signed by the employee and Risk Management Technician.
- J. If the employee refuses the offer of temporary modified/light-duty work assignment, no temporary disability payments are payable, and sick leave/other leaves will be subject to approval by the Human Resources Department.
- K. If the employee is given an "Off Work Order Temporary Total Disability" from the treating physician, this will be closely monitored by Risk Management for a possible return to a temporary modified/light-duty work assignment.

# Return to Work Flowchart Industrial Injuries/Illnesses



## MODIFIED/ALTERNATE WORK ACTIVITIES

#### <u>MAINTENANCE</u>

#### **CUSTODIAN**

Check & Replace Paper Towels Assist Locksmith w/Key Organizing System Breakdown Trash Check & Replace Toilet Paper **Building Inspections** Check for MSDS Sheets

Calibrate Thermostat Check Gates

Change Air Conditioner Filters Check Lights/Light Bulbs Check Clearance for Electrical Panels Check Parking Lot Lights Check Clearance for Water Heaters Check Restrooms

Clean Keyboards in the Computer Lab Check Drainage of Sinks Check Drains/Plumbing Clean Keyboards/Computer Labs Check Elevators for Permits Clean Unoccupied Classrooms

Check Emergency Exits for Clearance Clean up After Birds/Pressure Washing

Check Emergency Lighting Dust Furniture Check Exit Signs Dust/Polish Furniture

Check Fans in Restrooms Gum Abatement

Identify Faulty Furniture, Equipment, Etc. Check Fire Alarm Panels Check for Surge to Surge & Extension Cord Information Services

Check Function of Lighting Label Secondary Containers Check Sinks & Spikets for Leaks Monthly Hazard Waste

**Check Sprinklers** Painting Curbs, Playground Lines, Parking, etc

Check Toilet Operations Pick Up Trash

Check Wheel Chair Lifts for Permits Pick up Trash Interior/Exterior

Security- Campus Walk Checking door screws Checking Room Temperature Staff Welcome Tables Clean Air Returns Supplies Stocking

Clean Up Trash Against the Fence Sweeping

Concrete Checks Wash Windows/Doors

Cut Lock off in Locker rooms Weeding Window Cleaning Dispatch

**Emergency Evacuation Maps** 

Filters HVAC Check

Inventory – Surplus Items/Emergency

Inventory – VIN Match Lock Work

Maintenance of Fall Cushioning

Office Work – Work Orders (Depart & DW) Perimeter Monitor

Playground Inspections

Replace Damaged Ceiling Tiles

Run Errands Scraping Gum

General Cleaning

Self-Inspection Eyewash/Deluge Self-Inspection Fire Extinguishers

Self-Inspection Fire Sprinkler Risers

Tool Cleaning

Touch Up Paint/Graffiti Touch-up Painting Visual Inspections

Wash Windows (Department & District-Wide)

Wash/Maintain District Fleet (Gas Up)

### CLASSIFIED PERSONNEL/CLERICAL

**CAMPUS SECURITY** Another "Set of Eyes" Where Needed

Answering Phones

Clean Workroom & Restock

Data Entry Deliver Mail

Distribution of Non-Confidential Information

Follow up with work/employees

Label Documents

Laminate/Work on Special Projects

Library Assistance

Line Monitoring/Provide Directions

Photocopy

Put Together Packets Reception Desk Duty Review Hiring Packets

Room Inventory Update

Safety Inspection Scanning Documents Schedule Appointments

Sorting Mail Stuff Envelopes Tool Inventory Tool Labeling

Verify Emergency Card Data (CDC)

Additional Supervision Assignments (Where Needed)

Assist with Dispatch Background Checks Camera Duty

Check Blocked Exits/Entrances Check Emergency Buttons at Desks

Check Emergency Signs

Check Emergency Supplies/First Aid Kits

Check Fire Extinguishers Check Power Cords

Clean Sweep

Filing/Processing Reports Information Booth Lost/Found Sorter Maintain Fleet Monitor

Monitor Detention Facility Area

Monitor/Greeter Perimeter Checks Provide Escorts

Reducing Reports to Electronic

Run Shuttle Service Surveillance **Ticketing** 

Training for Campus Security

#### <u>INSTRUCTION</u>

### CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER

Assist in the Classroom Book Conference Room

Copying Data Entry

Evaluate SLO Assessments

Filing

Front Office Work

Inventory/Organize Department Supplies

Library Support One on One Tutoring

One on One Tutoring at the CDC

Packaging of Binders **Proctor Students** Research Grants

Researching Scholarships/Grants

Returning Phone Calls Review Course Syllable Review Courses

Review/Scan IEP's at the CDC

Training Aides

Triage Assistance for Counseling

Tutoring

Update Course Outline for Dept Curriculum

Verbal Surveys

Answer Phones

Assist in the Classroom Bathroom Supervision Check Earthquake Kits Check In/Out Students

Family Greeter

**Inventory Supply Room** 

Laundry

Monitor Camera at Children Assessment Area

One on One Tutoring Playground Maintenance Prepare Food Snacks

Prepare Lesson Plans/Supplies

Review and Scan IEP's

Review Files Safety Inspections Update Course Outline Verify Emergency Data Cards

Work w/Children

# Modified/Alternative Work Offer For Industrial Injuries

Anaheim Union High School District has developed a Return to Work Program to benefit all employees and the District. You are a valuable resource to the District and we are pleased that your treating physician has approved you for temporary transitional duty. You will be assigned to a temporary position that is within the medical abilities and limitations outlined by your treating physician. Effective immediately please report to the following:

Temporary Restrictions:	No lifting, pulling,	pushing >10 lbs.
Temporary Duties:	General front offic	e assistance; campus supervision
Location:	ABC HS	· ·
Supervisor:	Principal John Doe	Supervisor Phone: 714.555.5555
Effective Dates:	05/29/18 NOV	Hours: 6:30 - 2:00

If you are sick or unable to report to work for any reason, please contact the supervisor above immediately, as well as the Human Resources Department. If you become ill or are unable to report to work during your temporary transitional work assignment, we will charge your sick leave unless you provide our office with a doctor's off work notice indicating your illness was industrial related.

This is a transitional assignment that is subject to change. If, at any time, you feel you are unable to perform the transitional assignment or, if you should feel the physical requirements of the position exceed limitations placed by your physician, please immediately notify your supervisor.

The intent of this program is not to create a new permanent position. If your work restrictions change, we reserve the right to assign you to a new temporary transitional position or place you back on workers' compensation temporary disability.

We look forward to your participa	ation in our Return to Work Program. (initial belo	ow)
I have read and <b>ACCEPT</b>	this modified/alternative work offer	
	<b>E</b> this modified/alternative work offer bility to receive temporary disability benefits)	
Employee Signature	Name (Print)	Date
Employer Signature	Marciela Rowan, Risk Management Tech	- Date

**DATE** 

<EE ADDRESS>

LINE ONE LINE TWO

Name : <EE>
Employer : <ER>
Position : <Position>
D.O.I. : N/A

Claim Number : N/A

# LEAVE EXHAUSTION For industrial Injuries

Dear <EE>:

The District would like to meet with you to address your return to work with or without the need for reasonable accommodation. As of XX/XX/XXXX you will have exhausted all available leaves.

This meeting is being held in accordance with the requirements under the Fair Employment and Housing Act (FEHA). In this interactive meeting, we will discuss and document the possibility of the District providing you with modified or alternative work, taking into consideration your current work restrictions/functional limitations, as outlined by your medical provider.

Under the Fair Employment Housing Act (FEHA), your employer is required by law to do the following:

- Provide reasonable accommodation for employees who, because of their disability, are unable to perform the essential functions of their job.
- Engage in a timely, good faith interactive process with employees in need of reasonable accommodation.

This meeting is being scheduled to comply with both requirements listed above and to explore all reasonable accommodation options. An accommodation is deemed reasonable by law if it does not impose a significant difficulty or expense on your employer, present an undue hardship to your employer, or create a direct threat to yourself or others.

The determination of a reasonable accommodation is made on a case-by-case basis and your input in this process is very important.

During this scheduled meeting, you can expect the following steps to be followed as all parties explore reasonable accommodation options:

- 1. Identification of any and all job-related limitations through the review of your current medically documented work restrictions/functional limitations.
- 2. Review and identification of essential functions of your position which may be in conflict with the functional limitations/work restrictions listed.

- 3. Identification of possible reasonable accommodation options through discussion with you and your employer representatives, while assessing whether or not the proposed accommodations pose an undue hardship or direct threat concerns.
- 4. An opportunity will be provided for you and your employer to engage in open dialogue relating to all options that may exist to allow you to return to work/remain at work, performing the essential functions of your current job with or without reasonable accommodation.
- 5. If you cannot return to your current position, in accordance with the Fair Employment Housing Act, alternative work will be explored.

This interactive meeting is scheduled as follows:

Day/Date : <Date>
Time : <Time>
Location : <ER>
Address

We strongly encourage you to participate in this process. This meeting will allow you to have the opportunity to openly discuss and request possible means of reasonable accommodation.

Also, please note that you have the option to bring to this interactive meeting any representative you would like, and it will be your responsibility to notify them of the meeting details listed above. Should you decide to bring more than one representative, please contact me prior to the meeting so that I can ensure there is adequate space and handouts for all participants attending the meeting.

Should you have any questions regarding this meeting, feel free to contact me directly at phone number. Sincerely,

Name Title School District Name