



WORKERS' COMPENSATION BOARD OF BC

**Policy and Research Division**

**Mailing Address**

PO Box 5350 Stn Terminal  
Vancouver BC V6B 5L5

**Location**

6951 Westminster Highway  
Richmond BC

Telephone 604 276-5160  
Fax 604 279-7599

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Update 2004 – 6

**TO: HOLDERS OF THE *REHABILITATION SERVICES & CLAIMS MANUAL – VOLUME I***

This update of the *Rehabilitation Services & Claims Manual* contains amendments to the *Manual* implemented since update 2004 – 5.

This amendment includes:

- CPI Adjustments effective January 1, 2005

A summary of the amendments is attached and the amended pages are included as part of the package.

If you have any questions regarding subscription information for updates to the *Rehabilitation Services & Claims Manual*, please call WCB Customer Service at the following:

Local phone: 604 232-9704  
Toll-free: 1-866-319-9704

Local fax: 604-232-9703  
Toll-free fax: 1-888-232-9714

Margaret Eckenfelder  
Vice-President  
Policy and Research Division

Attachments

***Rehabilitation Services & Claims Manual, Volume I***

**SUMMARY OF AMENDMENTS – Update 2004 – 6**

Chapter 8	Pages 15 – 16	Policy item #56.50
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## **#56.20 Dependent Widows and Invalid Widowers with Dependent Children**

Where the dependants are a widow or an invalid widower and one or more children, a monthly payment of one hundred and seventy-five dollars and fifty-two cents is made, together with

- (a) an additional monthly payment of fifty-seven dollars and fourteen cents for each child under the age of 16 years and for each invalid child of any age for whom no payment is made under paragraph (b) or (c); and
- (b) an additional monthly payment of sixty-four dollars and twenty-nine cents for each child while regularly attending an academic, technical or vocational school at any time between the child's 16th and 18th birthdays; and
- (c) an additional monthly payment of seventy-one dollars and forty-two cents for each child while regularly attending an academic, technical, or vocational school at any time between the child's 18th and 21st birthdays. (19)

The dollar amounts set out above apply in respect of deaths occurring on or after January 1, 1974. Different amounts applied to prior periods. "Invalid child" is defined in #59.13.

## **#56.30 Dependent Widows and Invalid Widowers with No Dependent Children**

Where the dependant is a widow or an invalid widower without any dependent children, a monthly payment of one hundred and seventy-five dollars and fifty-two cents is made during the life of the surviving spouse. (20) Different dollar amounts applied in respect of deaths occurring prior to January 1, 1974.

## **#56.40 Widow or Widower Separated from Deceased**

There are no special rules for widows or widowers living separate from the deceased in the case of deaths occurring prior to July 1, 1974.

Spouses who are not residing in Canada at the date of death are discussed in #62.00.

## #56.50 Additional Payments

Section 18(1) of the *Act* provides that “Where, on July 1, 1974,

- (a) compensation is being paid to dependants in respect of deaths occurring prior to that date;
- (b) those dependants are not receiving or entitled to receive benefits under the Canada Pension Plan; and
- (c) the dependant is a widow who is 50 years of age or over, or is an invalid spouse, or the dependants are children, or a widow and children,

there must be added to the monthly payments . . .” the sums set out below for each such dependent spouse and each dependent child. These dollar amounts are subject to Consumer Price Index adjustments.

	<b>Spouse</b>	<b>Child</b>
January 1, 2004 — December 31, 2004	\$374.33	\$116.18
January 1, 2005 — December 31, 2005	382.89	118.84

If required, earlier figures may be obtained by contacting the Board.

Where dependants would qualify for the increases set out in Section 18(1) but for the fact that they are receiving or entitled to receive benefits under the Canada Pension Plan, and where the amount of benefits under the Canada Pension Plan is less than the amounts set out in Section 18(1), the monthly payments payable to those dependants are increased by the amount by which the benefits under the Canada Pension Plan are less. (21)

The phrase “benefits under the Canada Pension Plan” in Section 18(1)(b) means benefits payable under the Canada Pension Plan and to which the dependants or any of them are entitled as a result of the death, together with any benefits to which the widow is entitled as a result of having retired or reached retirement age. But it does not include any disability benefit payable to a dependant.

## #56.60 Termination of Benefits

### #56.61 Remarriage

If a dependent widow or common-law wife of the deceased married before July 1, 1974, the monthly payments to her ceased, but she was entitled in lieu of them to a sum equal to the monthly payments for two years, but not to exceed