# WORKERS' COMPENSATION &

## **RETURN TO WORK**

### OVERVIEW of WORKERS' COMPENSATION

- Title 23 Louisiana Revised Statutes requires all employers to provide workers' compensation coverage for their employees.
- Injured workers have the *RIGHT* to file a claim.

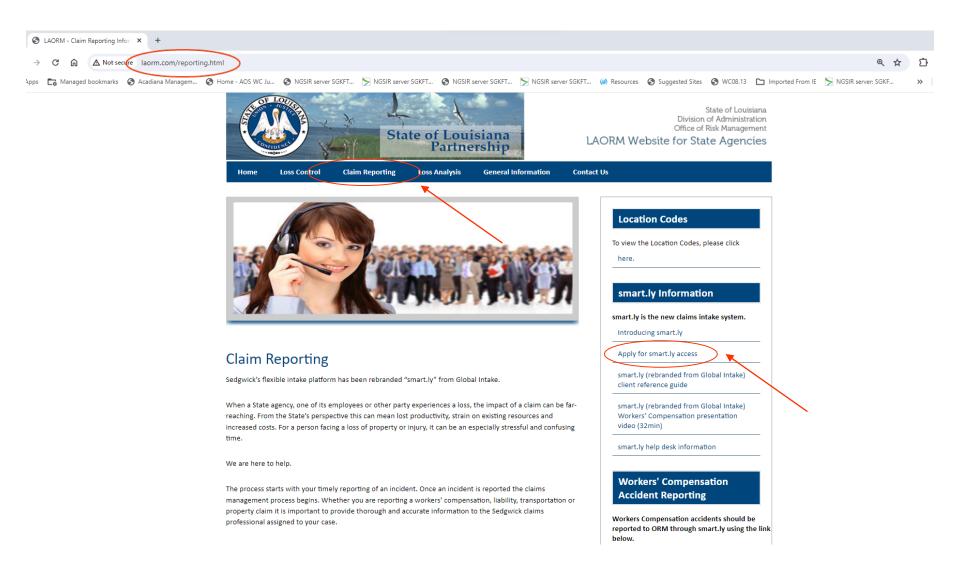
#### NOTICE of ACCIDENT R. S. 23:1302

- Injured workers must notify supervisor as soon as an accident occurs.
- Supervisor should immediately initiate the paperwork for the Employers' First Report of Injury (LWC-WC IA-1) claim to be sent to Sedgwick electronically via smart.ly.

### NOTICE OF ACCIDENT

- Report ALL incidents and near-misses to Sedgwick even if the incident does not result in lost time or incur medical expenses.
- To request access to smart.ly online reporting with Sedgwick:

http://www.laorm.com/reporting.html



### Information needed to process a claim

- Is the employee working or not?
- Witness Statements
- Surveillance
- Pay stubs and timesheets for 6 weeks prior to accident date

### Lost Wage Benefits

 All workers' compensation checks sent to your office for "leave buy back" should be handled within 48 hours.

## mySedgwick for Injured Workers



### TRANSITIONAL RETURN TO WORK PROGRAM

### Charmaine Wright, MRC, CRC, CCM Return to Work Specialist

**Employer Obligation** 

 Employers should make every effort to return the injured employee as soon as medically possible *even* if the employee can't return to full duty.

### No Return to Work (RTW) Duty Available?

- R. S. 23:1226 requires employers to provide rehabilitative services *if* the injured worker is unable to return to their previous job.
- Rehabilitative services include:
  - Job placement
  - Retraining

### Goals of Transitional Return to Work

- Reducing the amount of time the injured worker is out
- Providing options for returning to work
- Providing appropriate accommodations
- Providing a safe return to work
- Retaining qualified employees
- Reducing workers' compensation claim costs

### When to Return to Work?

 Once the treating physician(s) have released injured employee with restrictions or fully duty

#### **Physician's Modified Work Information Sheet**

#### To All Employees:

Please return this completed report directly to your supervisor within 24 hours of your injury or illness, and prior to the start of your next scheduled work shift.

#### Attending Physician:

The State of Louisiana, Office of Risk Management is committed to a modified/alternate duty work program to accommodate the timely return to productive, beneficial work that facilitates recovery. In order for the return to work to be successful, it is important that the accommodation fits the appropriate restriction(s) and limitation(s) that the employee should be observing. To assist us in identifying suitable duties, please indicate your patients work capabilities and any other comments you may have. The State of Louisiana has the ability to provide duties that accommodate almost all restrictions. Please fax a copy of the completed form to (859) 225-2000.

Johnny Doe DOB: 4/25/84 Injury/Illness date: 11/9/23 Employee Name:

Doctor Name (Printed): Dr. Ronald McDonald Phone Number: 318-798-5555

Claim#: 4A123ABCDEF-0001

RETURN TO WORK FULL DUTY WITH NO RESTRICTIONS? YES NO DATE:

	1 to 2 lbs	3 to 5 lbs	6 to 10 lbs	11 to 20 lbs		21 to 30 lbs		31 to 40 lbs	41 + lb:	41 + lbs	
Lifting											
Carrying											
Push/pull											
	•		•					•		· ·	
	Minimal	Under 1 Hr	1-2 Hrs	2-3 Hrs 3		4 Hrs 4-5 H		s 5-6 Hrs	8 hrs	12 hrs	
Sitting											
Standing											
Walking											
			YES	NC							
Squatting / Kneeling			115		,						
Bend/Twist at Waist											
Reaching	at traise										
Work above	e Shoulder										
Climbing											
ist any othe	r restrictions										
estrictions (	effective until (	date)									
		uute)									
Diagnosis:											
rootmont B	20.										
reatment P	an										

Date of Follow Up Appointment:

Return to Work (RTW) Process

The injured employee can be returned with:

Job Modification

Transitional Duty

## Modified Duty

 The injured employee is working same job prior to the injury, but with modifications/accommodations

- Modifications to job tasks, functions, hours in work day, frequency of breaks, alteration of the workstation or a any combination of these
- Can be implemented for up to six (6) months OR per agency policy

### Transitional Duty

- Specific jobs, tasks that CAN be performed until the injured employee is able to return full duty
- Allows injured working to perform job duties that are typically outside of his/her normal job description
- Available up to one (1) year

### Successful RTW Program

Agency involvement

Commitment

Communication

## Downside of Not Providing Transitional Return to Work

- The work piles up
- Decrease in the morale of staff

- Injured employee less likely to return
- Costs increase

### Return to Work Specialist

- Assist with developing Transitional Work Plans
- Assist with determining suitable modified or transitional job duties
- Attend RTW Meetings for returning injured employees back to work
- Liaison between you and the treating physicians and adjusters

### CONTACT US:

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# **QUESTIONS?**