Recover at Work – Host employment information for employers

The Recover at Work (RAW) program recognises industry leading employers and offers them the opportunity to positively influence industry claims cost experience. Claims costs are a major factor in premium rates and can be effectively controlled through early return to work. The RAW program capitalises on WorkCover’s industry and employer relationships to provide early return to work opportunities to injured workers who are unable to return to their pre-injury employer.

By strategically matching injured workers with employers, the RAW program provides benefits to employers and industry which includes:

- influencing industry premium rates
- recognition as an industry leader and mentor
- being socially conscious
- retaining skilled workers within an industry
- the ability to observe a worker’s performance on the job
- WorkCover funded labour with no obligation to employ
- protection against additional claim costs.

What is the RAW program?
The RAW program seeks to place injured workers in short term host employment with employers who have an established track record of successful return to work outcomes with their own workers.

What are the benefits to the host employer?

- WorkCover pays the worker’s wages when they participate in a suitable duties program with a host employer and the host employer benefits from the services of an additional skilled worker.
- The programs usually run for 3–6 weeks. At the end of the placement, there is no obligation to employ a person however if you do wish to recruit a new team member, hosting a worker can be an obligation-free way of trialing them while helping the worker with their return to work.
- If paid employment is provided following the Recover at Work placement, WorkCover may provide an exemption from the claim costs of a work-related aggravation of the original injury for up to 6 months (conditions apply).

What are the benefits to the injured worker?

- A quick and safe return to work
- The opportunity to develop a range of work skills and improve work fitness
- Less disruption to family, work and social life, as well as improved employment and financial security
- Less time spent recovering from an injury and potentially a reduced level of impairment.

What are the benefits to your industry?

By providing a Recover at Work opportunity for an injured worker from your industry, you will be assisting in reducing claims costs within your industry. Because WorkCover premium rates are tied to industry claims cost experience, you will be making a positive contribution to your overall industry experience by assisting with an earlier return to work.

Recover at Work placement goals

- Work fitness: The host employer provides a place of employment to perform work tasks. The worker builds their capacity to work as they recover from their injury and return to their pre-injury role.
- Vocational placement: If the worker is unable to return to their pre-injury role, WorkCover utilises a host employer who has a vacant job that the injured worker may be able to continue with once they are able to work again. The ideal outcome is that the worker remains at work even after their claim with WorkCover finishes.

If you think you would like to provide a host placement, please contact WorkCover on 1300 362 128 or your relationship manager.