

Some handy information on road accident claims

Do I have a claim?

If you are injured in a motor vehicle accident you may be able to make a claim for any injuries you incur from the accident.

Changes to the law in 2013 now allow for claims to be made where catastrophic injuries are sustained, even when another driver is found not to be at fault.

What am I entitled to?

Depending on the severity of your injuries and the date the accident occurred, you may be entitled to compensation for pain and suffering, medical expenses, lost income and superannuation, future economic loss, travel to appointments, assistance around the home and future medical expenses.

In some situations, your spouse may also be entitled to make a claim for 'loss of consortium'. This can apply when a spouse has been seriously injured in the accident.

There are certain thresholds which must be met before a compensation claim can be made for pain and suffering, future medical expenses, gratuitous assistance and consortium.

When should I see a lawyer?

It is important to contact a lawyer as soon as possible after the motor vehicle accident as strict deadlines apply to making a claim.

Where the circumstances of the accident are in dispute, it is important to obtain statements from witnesses as soon as possible after the accident whilst their memory is fresh. Your lawyer can assist you with finding witnesses and taking statements.

What will happen at the first appointment?

Mellor Olsson offer a free, no-obligation first appointment for all road accident claims. During this appointment, we will discuss the circumstances around your accident, explain your options for making a claim and provide you with an indication of the type of compensation you might be entitled to.

You should bring any medical reports or discharge summaries, any correspondence with the insurer and details of the circumstances of the accident and parties involved.

What will Mellor Olsson do for me?

By appointing us as your lawyer, we will take care of the management of your claim, ensuring all deadlines are met and that you are able to focus on what is most important, your health and wellbeing.

Specifically, we will:

- Contact the insurance company and notify them of your claim;
- Seek relevant medical reports on your behalf and request funding for medical treatment;
- Gather all the necessary information and documentation required by the insurance company; and
- Once your medical condition has stabilised, we will provide you with advice on the potential value of your claim and conduct negotiations with the insurance company on your behalf.

In most cases, we do not ask for payment of our fees until your case has been resolved. We will clearly outline how our fees are calculated and provide you with updated fee estimates throughout your claim.

Mellor Olsson has an experienced injury claims team and offers a FREE no-obligation first appointment for all road accident claims. Book your appointment today to find out how our team can help you.

To find out more about our services and experience visit www.molawyers.com.au