

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT DIVISION
Workforce Policy and Service Delivery Branch
Technical Assistance Bulletin 212

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Subject: Work Search Requirements for Texas Department of Insurance Supplemental Income Benefits' Applicants

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This Technical Assistance (TA) Bulletin provides Local Workforce Development Boards (Boards) with information on the Texas Department of Insurance's (TDI) requirement that injured employees applying for supplemental income benefits (SIB) conduct work searches.

TDI rules, 28 TAC §§130.101–130.109, implement new work search requirements for SIB applicants. These requirements are similar to the Texas Workforce Commission's (TWC's) work search requirements for unemployment insurance claimants.

TDI's adopted rules became effective July 1, 2009, and apply to injured employees with SIB qualifying periods beginning on or after July 1, 2009.

New Supplemental Income Benefits' Work Search Requirements

SIB applicants must now demonstrate an active effort to comply with the new work search requirements. Applicants must show that they meet one or more of the following work search requirements each week during their 13-week qualifying period:

- Returned to work in a position that is consistent with their ability to work
- Actively participated in a vocational rehabilitation program (such as those offered by the Department of Assistive and Rehabilitative Services or a private vocational rehabilitation program)
- Have been unable to perform any type of work in any capacity as documented by a doctor
- Actively participated in work search efforts through TWC, appropriate for their county, or conducted another documented job search that meets or exceeds the required number of work searches set by Board action or Commission rule.

Serving Supplemental Income Benefits' Applicants at Texas Workforce Centers

- Office of Injured Employee Counsel (OIEC) may contact a Texas Workforce Center to:
 - establish a point of contact at the Texas Workforce Center;
 - gather information on services; or
 - tour the facilities.
- Injured employees may contact Texas Workforce Centers for:
 - assistance with WorkInTexas.com registration;
 - job or work search assistance; or

- access to other available resources, such as résumé writing and interviewing skills classes.

It is important that these inquiries be addressed locally and in the same manner as other contacts from a partner agency or job seeker.

Please distribute this information to appropriate staff. Direct inquiries regarding this TA Bulletin to wfpolicy.clarifications@twc.state.tx.us.