

Short Term Disability When Ill or Diagnosed With COVID-19.



Part of our mandate of Benefits of Film is to provide Short Term Disability for eligible members who are sick with an illness or otherwise disabled. Staying at home is not a disability, it is a significant inconvenience associated with the pandemic with Government support available.

During the COVID-19 crisis, we want the members to know that if they are quarantining at home due to COVID-19 with flu like symptoms and are sick that we are providing a streamlined access to Short Term Disability Benefits.

To qualify for Short Term Disability benefits, a member must have an active hour bank at the time of their illness. Contact the IATSE Local 891 Benefits of Film representative at benefitsoffilm@iatse.com if you are unsure if you qualify for benefits.

Are You Sick With COVID-19 Symptoms or You Have Been Diagnosed With COVID-19 Symptoms?

If you either have symptoms of COVID-19 or have been diagnosed with COVID-19, you should complete the Confirmation of Illness Form (including the Direct Deposit Authorization) and email the completed forms to: covid19dm@homewoodhealth.com. This form was created specifically so you could note the symptoms you are experiencing that are consistent with COVID-19.

A Case Manager from Homewood Health (HHI) will call you to discuss your symptoms and will then adjudicate the claim based on your self-reported symptoms.

If your claim is payable due to COVID-19 symptoms, benefits will be paid from the first day of illness, rather than after the usual waiting period for illness (7 days).

An STD claim for quarantine and mild symptoms that does not meet the standard definition of disability, does not qualify for benefits so the STD claim will be denied.

Have You Been Quarantined Due to COVID-19?

Employment Insurance may pay benefits during the quarantine period depending on your situation. Refer to the link to see if you qualify. If you do not qualify for EI, you may be able to claim under the new Canada Emergency Response Benefit.

An STD claim for quarantine advised by the government or a healthcare professional is not eligible for an STD claim.

Are You Sick With Other Symptoms but Are Unable to See a Physician?

You should complete the full Application for Short Term Disability forms (including the Employee's Authorization for Release of Information and Direct Deposit Authorization) and send the completed forms to disabilitymanagement@homewoodhealth.com.

The Attending Physician's Report pages should be left blank (if unable to see a physician), but in your application indicate that you were unable to do so. Homewood Health will adjudicate your disability based on member self-reporting and Homewood Health's assessment of function.

Stay safe! We'll beat this together.