



13 October 2023

Kia ora [REDACTED]

Your Official Information Act request, reference: GOV-027964

Thank you for your request to the Ministry of Social Development's (MSD's) Official Information Act Services. On 22 September 2023, the following part of your request was transferred to ACC to respond to under the Official Information Act 1982:

My neighbour just told me "I'm not working at the moment. I'm on ACC." while earning money buying/selling cars. Are ACC payments in lieu of not working considered as a Benefit, or something else? If you have this data, can you please include it into my request below. If you don't have this data, can you please advise how the ACC payments work and I'll ask them.

The financial assistance available to an individual depends on their personal circumstances

ACC's provides payments (weekly compensation) to individuals who meet the criteria specified in its governing legislation, the Accident Compensation Act 2001, which is available online here: www.legislation.govt.nz/act/public/2001/0049/latest/DLM99494.html. The Ministry of Social Development provides benefits as appropriate under the Social Security Act 2018. This can be accessed here: www.legislation.govt.nz/act/public/2018/0032/latest/whole.html#DLM6783143.

As such, weekly compensation is an entitlement under the Accident Compensation Act 2001, and is not considered a benefit.

Eligibility for weekly compensation

Weekly compensation is paid to clients who meet the eligibility requirements at a maximum rate of 80% of a client's pre-incapacity income. Further information about these requirements can be found on our website, here: www.acc.co.nz/im-injured/financial-support/weekly-compensation/. Regarding the scenario you have described, there are various circumstances which enable a client to receive weekly compensation, as well as earnings from other sources. For example, ACC is able to adjust the level of weekly compensation in the case that the client is able to partly return to work.

In cases where someone believes a client is misleading ACC about their ability to work, they can raise this with ACC: www.acc.co.nz/contact/report-fraud/

If you have any questions about this response, please get in touch

You can email me at GovernmentServices@acc.co.nz.

Ngā mihi

Sara Freitag
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Government Engagement