

# Why Don't You Have A Prompt Return to Work Program?

## What is Prompt Return to Work?

Prompt Return to Work (**PRTW**) is a team approach to getting an injured worker back to work as soon as possible. The team consists of the worker's employer or supervisor, vocational rehabilitation counselor, LUBA's claims adjuster, injured worker and the assigned physician.

### Primary Goals:

- Retain employee
- Provide PRTW benefits to employees
- Safe and timely return of injured employee to meaningful work
- Reduce the costs related to workers' compensation injuries

## What are the benefits?

### *Avoided cost impact:*

- Cost of replacing the injured worker
- Cost of hiring temp employees
- Cost of training new staff
- Reduced productivity
- Poor morale

### *Injured worker's impact:*

- Limited loss of income
- No loss of self worth
- Builds loyalty
- Increases belief in the company's desire to do what is best for the employees.
- Prompt Return to Work can significantly impact your workers' comp premium.

## Key Components of the Program:

- Commitment to the program by management
- Consistent application
- Prompt medical care following injury
- Continuous communication between the employer or supervisor, vocational rehabilitation counselor, LUBA's claims adjuster, injured worker and the assigned physician
- Periodic evaluation of the program

## Extra Information:

- The *American Academy of Orthopedic Surgeons* and the *American College of Occupational and Environmental Medicine* both support safe prompt return to work programs.
- An injured employee off work longer than six months has a 50% chance of never returning to their job.

For more information about a *Prompt Return to Work Program* contact the LUBA Care Department at (888)-884-5822 or [lubacare@lubawc.com](mailto:lubacare@lubawc.com)

