

85.39 Examination of injured employees.

1. After an injury, the employee, if requested by the employer, shall submit for examination at some reasonable time and place and as often as reasonably requested, to a physician or physicians authorized to practice under the laws of this state or another state, without cost to the employee; but if the employee requests, the employee, at the employee's own cost, is entitled to have a physician or physicians of the employee's own selection present to participate in the examination. If an employee is required to leave work for which the employee is being paid wages to attend the requested examination, the employee shall be compensated at the employee's regular rate for the time the employee is required to leave work, and the employer shall be furnished transportation to and from the place of examination, or the employer may elect to pay the employee the reasonable cost of the transportation. The refusal of the employee to submit to the examination shall forfeit the employee's right to any compensation for the period of the refusal. Compensation shall not be payable for the period of refusal.

2. If an evaluation of permanent disability has been made by a physician retained by the employer and the employee believes this evaluation to be too low, the employee shall, upon application to the commissioner and upon delivery of a copy of the application to the employer and its insurance carrier, be reimbursed by the employer the reasonable fee for a subsequent examination by a physician of the employee's own choice, and reasonably necessary transportation expenses incurred for the examination. The physician chosen by the employee has the right to confer with and obtain from the employer-retained physician sufficient history of the injury to make a proper examination. An employer is only liable to reimburse an employee for the cost of an examination conducted pursuant to [this subsection](#) if the injury for which the employee is being examined is determined to be compensable under [this chapter](#) or chapter [85A](#) or [85B](#). An employer is not liable for the cost of such an examination if the injury for which the employee is being examined is determined not to be a compensable injury. A determination of the reasonableness of a fee for an examination made pursuant to [this subsection](#), shall be based on the typical fee charged by a medical provider to perform an impairment rating in the local area where the examination is conducted.

[S13, §2477-m11; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §1399; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, §85.39; C66, 71, 73, 75, §85.34(2), 85.39; C77, 79, 81, §85.39; [82 Acts, ch 1161, §15](#)]

[2017 Acts, ch 23, §15, 24](#)

2017 amendment applies to injuries occurring on or after July 1, 2017; [2017 Acts, ch 23, §24](#)