

## Frequently Asked Questions About Filing A Short Term Disability Claim

The following questions and answers will help you file a Short Term Disability (STD) claim with Standard Insurance Company (The Standard). The Standard Benefit Administrators is acting as the claims administrator on behalf of Standard Insurance Company. The steps outlined below will enable you to access our efficient claims services quickly and easily.

### When Should I Report A Claim?

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Report a claim as soon as you believe you will be absent from work beyond 20 calendar days. If you are uncertain about how long you will be absent or whether you should file a claim or not, we suggest that you proceed with filing a claim right away. This offers you some peace of mind and allows for The Standard Benefit Administrators to begin its review and issue a timely payment if appropriate. You may report a claim up to four weeks in advance of a planned disability absence, such as childbirth or scheduled surgery.

### How Do I File A Claim?

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To file a claim by telephone, contact the Claim Intake Service Center at 800.378.2395.

To file a claim online, go to [www.standard.com](http://www.standard.com) and click on "File a Claim" to begin the claim process. Instructions will be provided through the entire claim submission process.

**Note:** If you submit your claim online, the claim submission system will indicate a requirement for a Disability Insurance Employer's Statement to be received before a decision may be made on your claim. Although this is a requirement, you do not need to take this to your employer. Upon receipt of your Employee Statement, The Standard Benefit Administrators will reach out to your employer to obtain the necessary information needed for your claim.

A typical application for disability benefits contains the following documents:

- Employee's Statement<sup>1</sup>
- Employer's Statement<sup>2</sup>
- Attending Physician's Statement (APS)<sup>3</sup>
- Authorization to Obtain and Release Information

### When I Report My Claim, What Information Will I Need To Provide?

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You will be asked to provide the following information — in addition to other questions about your absence:

- Employer Name: **Government of the District of Columbia**
- Group Policy number: **641332**
- Name and Social Security number
- Last day you were at work
- Nature of claim/medical information
- Physician's contact information (**name, address, phone and fax number**)<sup>3</sup>

## **What Are The Hours Of Operation For The Claim Intake Service Center?**

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If you choose to submit your claim by telephone, the Claim Intake Service Center representatives are available to assist you Monday through Friday 8:00 a.m. through 8:00 p.m., Eastern Time.

## **Where Do I Send The Completed Forms?**

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Completed forms may be mailed to:

The Standard Benefit Administrators  
P.O. Box 5031  
White Plains, NY 10602

Or if you prefer, you may fax completed forms to our office at 800.378.8361.

## **How Long Does It Normally Take To Make A Claim Decision?**

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Once The Standard Benefit Administrators receive the required paperwork, which includes the Employee's Statement, Employer's Statement, Attending Physician's Statement and Authorization to Obtain and Release Information, it will take approximately one week to make a claim decision. If we have not made a decision within one week, you will be notified with additional details.

## **If My Claim For Benefits Is Approved, How Long Will It Take To Receive My First Check?**

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After the 20 day benefit waiting period is served, STD benefit payments are paid in arrears on a weekly basis. In most cases, checks are mailed on Wednesday of each week. STD benefit payments that are payable for retroactive claims will be mailed following claim approval. STD checks will be mailed directly to your residence.

## **Who Should I Call With Questions About My Claim?**

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If you have already filed a claim, please call the toll-free Disability Benefits number, 800.426.4332. If you are looking for general information, please contact your benefits administrator at DCHR, 202.442.7627 or visit [www.standard.com/mybenefits/dc](http://www.standard.com/mybenefits/dc).

## **Who Is Responsible For Notifying Government of the District of Columbia Of My Absence?**

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It is your responsibility to follow the normal Government of the District of Columbia absence reporting procedures by notifying your manager or supervisor of your absence.

- <sup>1</sup> If you file online or by telephone, your submission serves as the Employee's Statement and we will instruct you on which other documents need to be completed.
- <sup>2</sup> The Standard Benefit Administrators will contact your Employer to obtain the information necessary on the Employer's Statement.
- <sup>3</sup> The Standard Benefit Administrators will fax an Attending Physician's Statement (APS) to your doctor for completion and will make up to three follow up attempts to obtain a completed APS from your doctor. We encourage you to contact your doctor and ask their assistance in completing the APS on your behalf.