



THE FINANCIAL RAMIFICATION OF A PERSONAL INJURY

The financial costs of a personal injury are far reaching and complicated.

People injured due to someone else's negligence are often faced with several difficult problems.

- 1.** You were taken to the hospital in an ambulance and given emergency medical care – which is expensive
- 2.** You can't return to work for weeks or months – which means you're not getting paid
- 3.** Your normal living expenses are piling up

The pain, suffering and inconvenience of personal injuries are serious, but the financial ramifications are often the most pressing and disruptive effects of a severe injury.

MEDICAL BILLS AND HEALTH CARE COSTS

Some people who are injured have health insurance; others don't. If you don't have any health care coverage you will likely need to pay for all the emergency care you received out of pocket. Emergency medical bills can be particularly high.

If you do have health insurance, and your injuries were someone else's fault, it's not uncommon for your insurer to want to be paid back. Part of your negotiated settlement or personal injury verdict will likely need to be paid to your health insurance company (if they covered your initial injury treatments).

BILLS AND UNEXPECTED COSTS

Bills and expenses can become an impossible burden when you are bedridden or stuck in a hospital.

Your rent doesn't get put on hold after an injury. You may have a family you still need to feed. You likely have electric, water and phone bills to pay.

You may also incur unexpected new costs, like having to pay for in-home care or childcare that's only necessary because you're unable to perform everyday tasks yourself.

LOST WAGES

People who are seriously injured may require weeks, months or even years to fully recover and return to full productivity. Workers with white collar jobs may be able to return to work more quickly than those working in service sector or manufacturing jobs that require them to be onsite and physically fit.

Serious injuries may cause a worker to miss months of income that they need to cover their increasing medical costs and pay bills.

LONG-TERM DAMAGE TO EARNING POTENTIAL

Suffering a debilitating injury in a car accident, workplace accident or slip and fall may prevent you from working for years. Your future promotions or upward mobility in your profession could be permanently hampered due to a new disability.

Personal injury lawyers can help you calculate the long-term financial damage to your earning potential caused by these types of injuries.

PSYCHOLOGICAL AND EMOTIONAL DAMAGES

Physical injuries and disabilities aren't the only challenges that may prevent an injured person from returning to gainful employment. People who have suffered through traumatic events may struggle with depression, difficulty concentrating and other psychological challenges that prevent them from being productive or holding down a job.



PROPERTY COSTS AND HOME MODIFICATIONS

Getting your vehicle replaced isn't always the only cost associated with car accident injuries. People who suffer catastrophic injuries are often forced to adjust to life with limited mobility.

Living with a disability often requires modifications of a person's home or vehicles. They may need to widen doorways, add ramps or wheelchair lifts in their home and make accessibility modifications to bathrooms.

All of these modifications are expensive.

GETTING COMPENSATION

The best way to pay for these costs is to get a fast and fair negotiated settlement from the insurance company. Getting fair compensation is often easier said than done.

There may be temporary financing options available if you are facing a long trial and need money to pay for expenses until you finally receive money from a settlement or jury verdict. Your personal injury lawyer may be able to help you find ways to cover costs related to your injury.