

SJDB Voucher & Life Pension

California §4658.7 SJDB voucher tiers and §4659 life pension parameters.

Supplemental Job Displacement Benefit (SJDB) Voucher

Labor Code §4658.7 for dates of injury on or after 1/1/2013.

| DATE OF INJURY | PD RATING | VOUCHER AMOUNT |
|-----------------------|-------------|----------------|
| 1/1/2013 – present | Any PD > 0% | \$6,000 |
| 1/1/2004 – 12/31/2012 | 1% – 14% | Up to \$4,000 |
| 1/1/2004 – 12/31/2012 | 15% – 24% | Up to \$6,000 |
| 1/1/2004 – 12/31/2012 | 25% – 49% | Up to \$8,000 |
| 1/1/2004 – 12/31/2012 | 50% – 99% | Up to \$10,000 |

The SJDB voucher pays for retraining, schooling, vocational counseling, tools, computer equipment, and licensing fees when the employer does not make a qualifying offer of regular, modified, or alternative work after the worker is permanent and stationary.

\$5,000 RTW Supplement. Separate from SJDB, an additional \$5,000 Return-to-Work Supplement is available under §139.48 for DOI on or after 1/1/2013 where the PD award is disproportionately low relative to lost earnings. Apply through DIR within one year of voucher issuance.

Life Pension

Labor Code §4659. Triggered when PD rating reaches 70%.

| COMPONENT | VALUE |
|-----------------------|----------------------------|
| Eligibility | PD rating ≥ 70% and < 100% |
| Weekly add-on minimum | \$77.31 |
| Weekly add-on maximum | \$301.50 |
| Duration | Lifetime |

| COMPONENT | VALUE |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Cost-of-living adjustments | Annual SAWW-indexed under §4659.1 |

The life pension is paid *after* the regular PD award is exhausted. For a 75% PD worker with a 30-year life expectancy, the stream of life-pension payments can exceed the initial PD award itself in total value.

About this reference. Compiled from California Division of Workers' Compensation publications and the California Labor Code, current as of June 2026. Provided for general informational purposes — not legal advice. For a determination of how these rates apply to your specific claim, call **(213) 380-9310** for a free consultation.

Sources: [DIR.ca.gov/dwc](https://dir.ca.gov/dwc) · [DWC Mileage Rate notices](#) · [California Labor Code Division 4](#) · [DWC Permanent Disability Rating Schedule](#).