



Information Sheet

National Strike Fund Regulations: Strike Pay

The National Strike Fund provides support for strikes or lockouts.

Who is eligible for strike pay?

To be eligible for strike pay, you must:

- Be a member in good standing before the strike begins.
- Be on the employer's active payroll and paying dues.
- Sign Form E: *Strike Pay Application*.
- Picket and/or carry out other strike duties assigned by the Strike Committee.

How much picketing will I have to do?

A normal picket schedule is 5 days and a minimum of 20 hours per week.

In some situations, the Strike Committee may create a different schedule in order to cover the employer's locations, shifts, etc. In other words, the Strike Committee may need you to work more than 20 hours a week.

Part-time and casual members, or members who have other jobs, can request shorter picket duty and/or double shifts on one day. These exceptions to regular picket duty must be pre-approved by the National Secretary-Treasurer.

When do I start earning strike pay?

Members begin to earn strike pay on the first calendar day of the strike.

If you are on a rotating strike, you will begin to earn strike pay on the first day of participation in the strike.

How much will I get paid?

The National Strike Fund pays a maximum of \$300 weekly for a minimum of 20 hours of picketing or other assigned strike duties.

Starting with the 8th week of the strike, strike pay is increased to \$350 per week, for a minimum of 20 hours of picketing or other assigned duties.

Starting with the 12th week of the strike, strike pay is increased to \$375 per week, for a minimum of 20 hours of picketing or other assigned duties.

Starting with the 16th week of the strike, strike pay is increased to \$400 per week, for a minimum of 20 hours of picketing or other assigned duties.

If you are pre-approved to do fewer than 20 hours per week of regular picket duty, the National Strike fund will pay you \$15 per hour of strike duties. **Please note:** the hourly rate will increase

proportionally at strike/lockout milestones noted above (8 weeks, 12 weeks and 16 weeks.)

How often will I get paid?

Once you start receiving strike pay, you will be paid weekly.

How do I get strike pay?

To get strike pay, you must sign in and out each day.

Your Picket Captain and the Strike Committee will complete and submit the forms needed to make sure you receive strike pay.

What about health benefits?

In some cases, employers pay premiums, and members continue to have benefit coverage.

If the employer refuses to pay its share of premiums, the National Strike Fund will pay group life insurance and extended health benefit premiums, starting on the first day of a strike or lockout.

If the employer refuses to allow CUPE to pay premiums, The National Strike Fund can cover some emergency dental work and drugs.

Make sure you complete urgent dental work and refill prescriptions before the strike starts.

What happens to members on short or long-term disability?

If a member's short or long term disability coverage gets cut off by the insurance company because of a strike, CUPE will compensate the member with weekly strike pay.



CUPE's priority is to make sure picket lines stay strong – and to win the strike.

View the National Strike Fund Regulations:

<http://cupe.ca/national-strike-fund-regulations>

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