PERA PF & MSRS Trooper – PTSD Duty Disability Pension Process – WORKING DOCUMENT

(There are 25 Steps in this Process)

- Part I – PERA PF & MSRS Trooper Psychological Treatment Program *(Step 1 – Step 8)*
    - 1. MH Provider Form to apply for the 24-Week Psychological Treatment Program
        - (PROVIDER) – credentialing standard?
    - 2. First Report of Injury Submission
        - 14-day denial period for WC … we have mentioned this as an on-going issue since the initial WC presentation to the workgroup by DOLI
    - 3. Submit PERA/MSRS Paperwork
    - 4. PERA/MSRS approval for 24-week psychological treatment program
    - 5. Attend psychological treatment appointments
        - Employee benefits / Employer benefits during treatment period
            - SCK/PTO usage vs. wage continuation
            - PSOB funding reimbursement to employer
        - Some history of WC denial at 24-week psychological treatment period end
        - (PROVIDER) – credentialing standard?
    - 6. Complete 24 weeks of Psychological Treatment and Final Assessment
        - Options
            - Return to Work
            - 8 more weeks of psychological treatment (maybe 10% do extra 8 weeks)
            - Unlikely to Recover
        - (PROVIDER) – credentialing standard?
            - Same providers sometimes will not sign or make a determination after seeing the patient for the 24 weeks
    - 7. Submit completed paperwork to PERA/MSRS to apply for permission to apply for duty disability pension benefits
    - 8. PERA/MSRA reviews and grants permission to apply for duty disability pension benefits

- Part II – Applying for Benefits *(Step 9 – Step 13)*
    - 9. Meet w/ 2 Medical Providers (DR & Approved MH Provider)
        - (PROVIDER) – credentialing standard?
        - This provider requirement has different standards than those in Steps 1, 5, and 6
    - 10. Gather medical recommendations and other documents
    - 11. Submit Duty Disability Pension application to PERA/MSRS

WORKING DOCUMENT

- 12. PERA/MSRS reviews for completeness and Employer Verification Form
- 13. MMRO Review

- Part III – Medical Review Process *(Step 14 – Step 20)*

  - 14. MMRO Nurse case manager reviews claim
  - 15. Nurse case manager sends to Board Psychiatrist
  - 16. Psychiatrist may request more documentation or refer to an independent evaluator
  - 17. If required, attend independent evaluator MH exam
    - In the past, "adverse review" setting, but this has changed over the past several years
  - 18. MMRO makes recommendation to Approve/Deny
  - 19. PERA/MSRS reviews MMRO recommendation and decides to Approve/Deny
  - 20. PERA/MSRS sends letter of Approval or Denial

- Part IV – If PTSD Duty Disability Pension Approved *(Step 21 – Step 24)*

  - 21. PERA/MSRS sends letter to Employer of approval and 299A Health Care Continuation eligibility
  - 22. Separate from Employer to receive benefits
    - WC sometimes considers this separation "Voluntary" for WC denial purposes
  - 23. PERA/MSRS to verify last date of employment / date paid
    - PERA/MSRS initiates monthly duty disability pension benefits
  - 24. Contact employer's HR to initiate enrollment in 299A Health Care Continuation program

- Part V – On-going Reapplication Process *(Step 25)*

  - 25. Reapply every year for first 5 years and every 3 years after that

<u>ADDITIONAL NOTES / COMMENTS:</u>

- The steps listed in Part I above are essentially "Eligibility" criteria to even apply for the duty disability pension.
- Step 2 through Step 6 above are the handful of steps in this whole process that the PSOB account covers for the Psychological Treatment program. (These steps in the duty disability pension application process are covered by WC for a physical injury.)
- The PERA/MSRS process detailed above can take 9 months, and the WC process can take 12-18 months after that.

WORKING DOCUMENT