

Tort Claim FAQ:

What is a tort claim?

A tort claim is a request for payment for a loss, injury or damages that you may have incurred in an incident/accident. The Port of Seattle reviews all tort claims. Records you submit may be subject to public disclosure laws.

How long do I have to file a claim?

You must file your tort claim within the state statute of limitations. A Tort Claim Form must be presented to the Port of Seattle at least 60 days prior to filing a lawsuit.

I filled out a report when I was involved in the accident; do I still need to file a claim?

Yes, if you wish to pursue a claim against the Port of Seattle, a Tort Claim Form is required.

I was injured. Who is going to pay my medical expenses?

The Port does not automatically pay for medical expenses the way a traditional insurance company may handle a claim. You are responsible for all medical expenses that you incur. If you believe the Port of Seattle is liable for your injuries, you must file a Tort Claim Form for damages.

How do I check the status of my claim?

An adjuster will be assigned to your file, they are the best person to provide a claim status. If you do not have your adjuster's contact information, call the Port of Seattle Risk Management at (206) 787-6162 during normal business hours (Monday through Friday 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.). Every effort will be made to return calls within 1-2 business days of receipt.

What if my claim is denied and I disagree with that outcome?

If you have additional information to substantiate your claim, please present any new evidence to your adjuster who can determine if the reopening of your file is warranted. You may also consult an attorney at your own expense regarding other options.

What happens if my claim is tendered to a third party?

The adjuster may determine that the allegations you have cited on your claim form fall under the responsibility and oversight of a different entity, separate from the Port of Seattle. The adjuster will tender your file to that entity for handling. Once the Port's tender has been accepted by the third-party entity, the Port will advise you of your new point of contact. The third party will take over the investigation and make the final determination regarding your claim.

Where can I get translation help?

Call the Port of Seattle Risk Management at (206) 787-6162 during normal business hours (Monday through Friday 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.). Every effort will be made to return calls within 1-2 business days of receipt.