

S.C.A.P.

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Accident payouts mount up

More than \$651,000 has been paid out in 40 cases involving death and 222 cases involving injury under the "no fault" traffic accident victims assistance scheme since it began in May.

The Social Welfare Department is now processing another 221 applications for payment.

To qualify for a payout, people must have been off work for at least seven days because of their accident injuries.

The head of the section operating the scheme, Mrs Diana Lee, said yesterday that payments for deaths totalled \$196,300 and those for injuries, \$455,000.

She said the grants for injuries included second payments in 47 cases after the applicants had been medically certified to require extended sick leave.

The highest payment was \$12,800 made after a death. Other payments ranged from \$800 to \$11,800.

"At present, 221 other applications are being processed as quickly as possible and the applicants should be able to receive payments in a fairly short time," she said.

Enquiries about the scheme can be made at the third floor of the Fire Brigade Building at 46 Connaught Road Central or by dialling 5-222392 and 5-223254.

The scheme aims to provide quick relief for accident victims or their dependants. Applications must be made within six months of the accident.