

## Should you get a pre-settlement advance to pay bills?

You have been badly injured, you cannot work, and the bills are piling up. The reality of debt collection has surfaced and every day the mail seems to hold another notice. You need to pay your bills, but you still do not have a settlement from your injury, still cannot work, and your savings has run out. If you have suffered a terrible injury you may not have the luxury of waiting for a settlement from a lawsuit – which can sometimes take years. For this reason you may consider contacting a company that offers pre-settlement lawsuit funding.

Pre-settlement lawsuit funding is money provided to a person expecting a settlement at a later date. The cash advance does not need to be paid back if the lawsuit is unsuccessful, so companies that offer this service will investigate a claim before offering the money. Usually, the company will contact the lawyer to get estimates about how much the case is worth, although no one can ever say for sure how much a settlement will be, and then offer an advance.

The catch is that the money must be repaid after the settlement is final. Pre-settlement lawsuit funding in most cases is not considered a traditional loan. If the companies were to consider it a loan they would be subject to laws restricting high interest rates, as [this ExpertLaw article](#) explains.

Should you seek funding before your settlement?

Here are a few things to consider:

- Evaluate the pro's and con's – Can you afford the fee? Do you need the money right away?
- Shop around – make sure you are getting the best deal. Some companies will charge more than others, so watch out for fees and interest rates.
- Do you qualify? – Businesses dealing in pre-settlement lawsuit funding will heavily evaluate your case to see if the case is worth the funding. Since this is a gamble for the company they will want to assess the probability of a favorable outcome.

Pre-settlement lawsuits are expensive and sometimes risky. Make sure you are in true need of the money before seeking advance compensation and also make sure you can afford the fees involved. If you are unsure of your eligibility, [how much your case is worth](#), or need help with assessing the risks consult with your Oregon accident attorney.