

Work Comp Connection



May 2014 Newsletter

Division of Workers Compensation:
Serving Kansas for more than 100 years

Forms Updates

The Applications and Research section will no longer accept applications for hearings or requests for records via email, because of security concerns. The same applies to elections forms. Please fax or mail these forms to the number or address provided on the form.

Electronic Data Interchange Updates

Effective April 2013, Kansas mandated the use of the International Association of Industrial Accidents Boards and Commissions (IAIABC) Electronic Data Interchange (EDI) Release 3 Standards to submit First Reports of Injury (FROI) and Subsequent Reports of Injury (SROI) to the Kansas Division of Workers Compensation. The IAIABC EDI Release 3 mandate applies to all insurance carriers, group pools and self-insurers filing FROI and SROI to the Division. Implementation of the mandate was completed in a tiered approach.

All insurance carriers, group pools and self-insurers are now required to use EDI to report FROI and SROI using the Release 3 Standards. This means the paper FROI form, K-WC 1101-A, **is no longer accepted and will be mailed back to the sender if received, without being processed.**

If you are an insurance carrier, group pool or self-insurer and are not currently a trading partner (required to submit reports through EDI), you are encouraged to submit the [trading partner documents](#) available online and complete testing as soon as possible.

To schedule a testing date or obtain information about becoming a trading partner, contact the Kansas EDI Coordinator at Ebix by calling (866) 448-1776 or email KS-EDICoordinator@Ebixrisk.com. You can also view details about the [trading partner testing process](#) on the Kansas EDI [website](#).

NOTE: Not reporting a FROI or SROI in a timely manner could result in fines for late reporting and not being a trading partner could result in fines for non-compliance with the mandate.

Fast Facts

[Annual Workers Compensation Seminars](#) are funded by sponsor contributions and exhibitor and attendee fees. They are not supported by taxpayer dollars.

Depending on your occupation, it could be several years before you need to report continuing education documentation for credit received at a Workers Compensation Seminar. Recertification can be done for up to five years from the date you attended. Contact WCSeminar@dol.ks.gov to request past documentation.

Current and historic benefit levels can be found at www.dol.ks.gov/WorkComp/current.aspx.



Judicial Section and Appeals Board

The Division has 10 Administrative Law Judges throughout Kansas. Their primary function is to conduct timely hearings in contested workers compensation claims and render decisions based on the facts presented, as applied to the Workers Compensation Act. For an initial determination of benefits, preliminary hearings are set on a priority basis and preliminary decisions are issued within five days of the hearing.

A list of workers compensation [Administrative Law Judges](#) and their [contact information](#) is available online.

A listing of the [counties served](#) by each judge, a [district map](#) showing the areas of coverage, and a [survey of attorneys](#) who practice in front of the Administrative Law Judges are also available. The survey rates the judges on fairness, knowledge of the law and courtroom decorum.

The Workers Compensation Appeals Board was established in 1993 to decide appeals of orders and awards from the Workers Compensation Administrative Law Judges. The Legislature created the Board of Appeals to replace the state district court judges' place in the appeals process, hoping to obtain more uniform decisions throughout the state.

Appeals board members conduct de novo review of decisions. Their review is on the record. All five Board members decide final orders, awards and modifications of final awards. Review of preliminary hearings orders are decided by a single Board member.

Decisions from the Board are due within 30 days of the date arguments are presented. Decisions are posted online on the [Recent Board Decisions](#) and [Search and Access Board Decisions](#) Web pages.

Se Habla Español

Rachel Griego and Rosalio Cardona work as Ombudsmen/Claims Advisors and are the Division's Spanish Interpreters. Rachel provides claims information about job-related injuries and illnesses to claimants, employers, attorneys physicians and insurance agents.

Rosalio is the point of contact for describing death benefits to those who have lost family members in job-related accidents. He also helps with the written translation of agency materials into Spanish and assists claimants, employers, attorneys, physicians and insurance agents with information about job-related injuries and illnesses.

To find out more contact WC@dol.ks.gov.

