

# Work Comp Connection

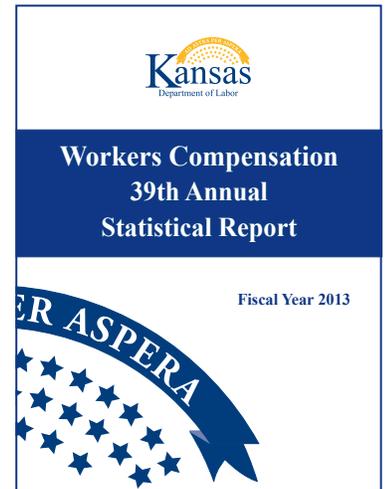


March 2014 Newsletter

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

## 2013 Annual Statistical Report Online

The Annual Report is a summary of the services provided to those impacted by an injury in the workplace during the previous calendar year. View and download the report [online](#). Send questions to [Robert.Soria@dol.ks.gov](mailto:Robert.Soria@dol.ks.gov).

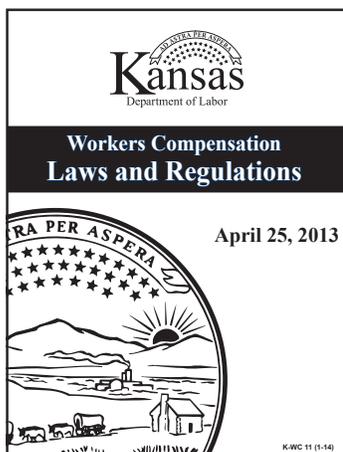


## Annual Assessments

The Business and Self-insurance unit within the Operations section of the Division is responsible for the taxing function of levying assessments. An assessment is a tax levied by the Division every year on each insurance carrier writing workers' compensation insurance, self-insured employer and group-funded workers' compensation pools (similar to a group of smaller employers that collectively self-insure) in Kansas. The revenue raised by the assessments funds the Division's operations, services and salaries for all employees.

The law allows the Division of Workers Compensation to levy up to 3 percent of any carrier, pool or self-insured's reported paid losses from the previous calendar year. Losses refer to any medical, indemnity benefits and other costs associated with workers' compensation claims. By March of each year, all reported losses are calculated and reported to the Director of Workers Compensation to calculate an exact assessment levy percentage and prepare a budget for the Division for the next fiscal year.

The Division provides the reported losses by employer to the Kansas Insurance Department (KID). KID can also charge an assessment to these employers, as needed, annually to replenish the workers compensation fund, also known as the workers' compensation second-injury fund. Send questions to [WorkersComp@dol.ks.gov](mailto:WorkersComp@dol.ks.gov).



## Fast Facts

**Law Book Online Now:** The updated Workers Compensation Law Book is now online. Visit the [forms and publications page](#) to order or download the new book.

**Self-Insured:** The Division's Business and Accounting section reviews applications from individual employers who wish to operate as a self-insured entity. For assistance with self-insurance, email [WCSelfInsurance@dol.ks.gov](mailto:WCSelfInsurance@dol.ks.gov).

**Elections:** Statutes written in the Kansas Workers Compensation Act allow certain employers to elect in or out of coverage. The election process is detailed. Read the general rules for elections and find instructions on how to complete them on the [website](#). Send questions to [WCEmployerServices@dol.ks.gov](mailto:WCEmployerServices@dol.ks.gov).

## What's Happening in Division News?

Find the Latest News about legislative updates, Division Web launches, notices to insurance providers, injured workers, employers and other news on the Workers Compensation [website](#). Monitor the right column of this site to find out what's new.



## Who's Working for You?

**Joel Schuckman** began working for the state of Kansas in the Department of Revenue. He moved to the Division of Workers Compensation's Business and Accounting section in the Business and Self-Insurance unit during 2009. Joel is responsible for calculating the assessment tax levied on insurance carriers writing workers' compensation insurance, self-insured employers and group-funded workers' compensation pools, based on their reported paid losses. The revenue raised by assessments funds the Division's operations, services and salaries each year.

Joel is responsible for the review of applications submitted for participation in the Self-Insurance Program. He reviews bank fact sheets, prepares security determination and development factor worksheets, and reviews new or revised letters of credit and surety bonds. Joel corresponds with company representatives to verify accuracy and answers technical questions involved in the application process.

He acts as liaison for Division employees experiencing telephone, printer and/or general computer problems. He interprets the problem, creates, prepares and submits the requests for repair. Joel has a degree in German from the University of Kansas.

### Tip:

The 6th Edition American Medical Association (AMA) *Guides to the Evaluation of Permanent Impairment* will be adopted by the state of Kansas in 2015. The guides recognize the importance of environmental factors and contain a new system of categorization. The 6th Edition is a general session topic at the 40th Annual Workers Compensation Seminar in September.

## 40th Annual Seminar Costs and Handouts

The Division of Workers Compensation has maintained the \$140 cost of two-day registration since 2005. After nearly a decade at this price, the Division will raise the cost to \$160 this year to cover increased overhead costs. Single-day registration costs will remain at \$100.

Attendees who purchase registration online using MasterCard, Visa or Discover will be issued a confirmation of registration at the time of purchase. The confirmation will contain a Group Identification (ID) number needed to download handouts. Attendees purchasing registration through the mail will receive an emailed notification of registration that will contain their Group ID number. Each attendee involved in a group purchase, using the same form of payment, will receive an online confirmation or an automatic notification of registration via email. All attendees will have a unique Group ID number for the purpose of downloading handouts.

Download Handouts will open the morning after registration ends. Hard copy handouts will not be made available on site. Staff will be unable to provide assistance with downloads from 4 p.m. Sept. 26 to 1 p.m. Oct. 2, 2014.



**Kansas**  
Department of Labor

40th Annual  
**WORKERS  
COMPENSATION  
SEMINAR**

Sept. 30 – Oct. 1, 2014

**OVERLAND PARK**  
KANSAS  
CONVENTION CENTER

40 years of  
education-  
based  
training.

Not just ANY Workers Compensation  
Seminar . . . the smart choice  
for trusted information.

Email article ideas to:  
**Shirley.Hastings@dol.ks.gov**