Work Comp Connection

August 2018 Newsletter

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

OSCAR Account Enrollment & Training is Filled!

Registration to attend the Free OSCAR Account Enrollment and Training session at the Overland Park Convention Center on Sept. 26 is filled. We apologize for any inconvenience this may have caused. We will continue to accept a limited number of registrations for standby attendance should anyone cancel.

The OSCAR team is in the process of establishing future training dates and times specific by occupation. Training will be held at locations throughout the state.

Workers Compensation Division has spent the past three years undergoing a comprehensive digitization project. The implementation phase of the Online System for Claims Administration Research/Regulation (OSCAR) began in January 2017 and the system is scheduled to launch in November. OSCAR has been built to improve customer service; reduce administrative costs; increase efficiency and effectiveness and improve data quality and integrity.

You will use OSCAR to complete everyday functions such as accessing and viewing forms, submitting applications, filing motions, petitions and appeals, uploading exhibits and transcripts, voting on common dates and times for hearings using the calendar functions, extracting documents and more.

Employers, carrier representatives and third-party administrators will use various functions including viewing case information and dates for hearings, submitting records requests, submitting insurance elections, reporting paid-losses and processing assessment payments and interacting with the staff working in the Ombudsman/Claims Advisory Section, Fraud and Abuse Section, Coverage and Compliance Section and more.

We encourage you to follow the build process and monitor future training schedules at www.dol.ks.gov/WorkComp/Oscar/Oscar.aspx. This site will house interactive and self-directed Webinars, Web-based tutorials and an in-person training schedules. Training dates will also be reported in future *Work Comp Connection* newsletters.

Maximum Weekly Benefit July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2019 is $645

The Kansas Department of Labor (KDOL), Labor Market Information Services, has reported that the state's average weekly wage for calendar year 2017, in accordance with Section 44-704 of the Kansas Employment Security Law, was $859.76. Pursuant to K.S.A. 44-510c, the maximum workers compensation weekly benefit for the period of July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2019 will be $645.00. This maximum will apply to those accidents occurring between July 1, 2018 and June 30, 2019. The minimum weekly benefit rate for fatalities for the same period, pursuant to K.S.A. 44-510b, will be $430.00.

44th Annual WORKERS COMPENSATION SEMINAR
Network with our GOLD and SILVER Sponsors!
Sept. 25 & 26, 2018 - Overland Park Convention Center

OSCAR and EDI

Robert Soria, MPA, CPM, Manager, Research Analyst, Technology and Statistics Unit, KDOL Workers Compensation Division

OSCAR presents an opportunity to use injury report data from the Electronic Data Interchange (EDI) in a new way. OSCAR will integrate EDI data into the system to be used to create master data sets around claimant information. EDI reports will allow legal case filings to be matched up to a workplace injury claim; allow for easier employer, insurer and policy verification and assure OSCAR data quality by identifying data mismatches and missing injury claims. We know how EDI will impact OSCAR. However, how will OSCAR impact EDI and its requirements?

- Kansas EDI Trading Partners (insurers, claim administrators, third party administrators) will continue to report EDI to Kansas the same way they do now. OSCAR will not be used to file EDI reports.

- New Kansas EDI reporting requirements will be implemented November 29, 2018 at the same time OSCAR goes live to support OSCAR functionality. See www.dol.ks.gov/WorkComp/edinews.aspx for the new Kansas EDI reporting requirements.

- Claim administrators (and claims associates) can be set up in OSCAR and given permission to view EDI report history on a claim and view some FROI and SROI details. This can be useful whenever a claim administrator wants to check whether Kansas has received a report, status of the report and check accuracy of reported claim data. However, OSCAR is not meant to replace any claim administrator's system and only serves as an additional source of information.

A Kansas EDI trading partner (insurers, claim administrators, third-party administrators) will be able to register their company and set up access in OSCAR as a group, add/remove users and appoint a group administrator to manage their group of users. The group administrator will determine who in their group has access to view EDI data and/or to access other areas of OSCAR. KDOL Workers Compensation Division will send out a request to register for OSCAR group access in the coming weeks.

Thank you Rebecca Hamilton (Technical Director, Workers Compensation Claims Compliance, Nationwide) for submitting the OSCAR EDI question.

Guest writer, Robert Soria is co-presenting, *Workers Compensation Statistics* with Alexander McLellan, BS, MS, Research Analyst, Technology and Statistics Unit, KDOL Workers Compensation Division at the 44th Annual Workers Compensation Seminar on Wednesday, Sept. 26.
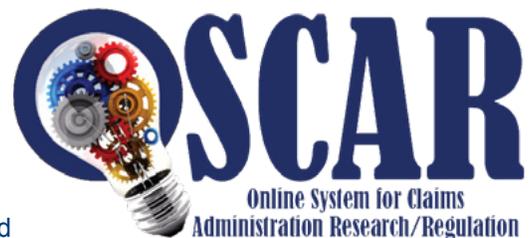
OSCAR Update

June 11 (Week 72) - CapTech and WorkComp Strategies worked on-site this week. Track 12 was in the second of a four-week development phase in which programming code is being written for user stories.

Track 12 includes role and permissions management, judicial mobile pages, additional self-insurance and records request functionality and case decision management. Track 12 was in mid-track review of the external home page and navigation, redesign, judges' decisions details and add/edit pages, employer seven-day letter compliance email, entry of appearance via mobile phone, Call To Action (CTA) administrative page and adding additional fields for self-insurance and employer pages.

Track 13 was in the final week of a five-week requirement gathering phase. Track 13 provides external and internal roles and permissions (paid-loss, self-insurance, records request, scanning and indexing, payment); external group member permissions (law firm, employer, insurer, claim administration, medical provider, state agency); mobile development (my form history, related cases, subpoena, assessments, case history, entry of appearance).

June 18 (Week 73) - CapTech and WorkComp Strategies worked in Topeka Monday through Wednesday and in Lenexa on Thursday.

Track 12 is in the third of a four-week phase of mid-track and track approvals. Five user stories are ready for programming and two are waiting for final review. User stories are the functional outcomes of requirements, documents, work flow and needs which describe what a user does or needs to do his/her job.

Track 13 completed handoff requirements. Requirements Handoff occurs when the project team receives the requirements for a track. The requirements are then handed-off to the OSCAR project team for review, feedback and approval.

June 25 (Week 74) - Track 12 was in the final week of a four-week phase of track approval.

Track 13 feedback review and sign off on requirements occurred at the end of Week 73.

Track 14 went into the second of a five-week requirements gathering phase. Also called Requirements Elicitation, this is an advanced programming practice of collecting the requirements of a system from users, customers and other stakeholders. Track 14 will include administration console, settlements and medical fee disputes.

WorkComp Strategies and CapTech returned on July 9 to conduct User Acceptance Testing (UAT) on Track 12. UAT are tests that must be successfully executed in order to validate a specific piece of functionality and meet the needs of the user.

July 2 and 9 (Weeks 75 and 76) - The week of July 2 the OSCAR team worked on UAT on Track 12.

Track 13 began the first of a four-week Development Phase. The Development Phase occurs when the CapTech builders are writing computer code.

Track 14 entered the fourth of a five-week requirement gathering phase.

WorkComp and CapTech returned to Topeka on July 23 for Track 14 requirements handoff and review.

Speaking for Lorax - Lorax is the name given to OSCAR's associated back scanning project. The project was named after *The Lorax* which is a Dr. Suess children's book that s*peaks for the trees*.

The Lorax project is concentrating on quality assurance. Business Technology Career Opportunities, Inc. (BTCO) will pick up dockets to be scanned on Aug. 9.

OSCAR Fast Facts

Tool Tips - The Online System for Claims Administration Research/Resources (OSCAR) will house small informational messages intended to guide you through a Web-form, identify errors at the time of submission and describe what a field might mean on a screen you are working in.

Web-Based Tutorials - CapTech and division staff will create a series of two to four-minute step by step tutorials to teach both external and internal users how to enter information and complete processes within the OSCAR system. The tutorials will feature OSCAR screen-shots and call-outs (a letter, word, number or symbol identifying an illustration or specific part of one) to help guide use.

Point of Need Training - The OSCAR Team is currently developing training to teach both internal and external users how to find answers to complete basic and complex tasks within the OSCAR system. These two-hour sessions are scheduled to debut in October (for internal staff) and in November for the public. Be sure to monitor the OSCAR Web page for more information.