



Workers'
Compensation
Division **101**

At a
glance



Mission:

“To continuously improve Oregon’s workers’ compensation system for workers and employers.”

Who we are

The Workers' Compensation Division administers and regulates laws and rules that affect the participants in the Oregon workers' compensation system, including workers, employers, insurers, claims examiners, attorneys, medical providers, and others. Workers' compensation payroll and premium assessments, fees, and investment income fund our services. WCD is part of the Department of Consumer and Business Services (DCBS), Oregon's largest business regulatory and consumer protection agency.

The division oversees programs and services that help ensure timely and appropriate medical treatment and time-loss benefits to injured workers, while helping keep costs and burdens low for Oregon employers. The division administers return-to-work programs that help injured workers return to their previous job or find new employment.





How we serve you

- ◆ Enforcing workers' compensation insurance coverage laws so that employers maintain coverage for their subject workers.
- ◆ Ensuring that injured workers receive timely and accurate benefits and quality medical care.
- ◆ Facilitating injured workers' early return to work through incentive programs to employers.
- ◆ Providing consultation, training, and technical assistance to workers, employers, insurers, claims examiners, attorneys, medical providers, and others.
- ◆ Administering and overseeing the Workers' Benefit Fund programs.

A woman with long brown hair, wearing a maroon long-sleeved shirt and a blue denim apron, is looking down at a bouquet of pink roses she is holding. The background is a blurred indoor setting, possibly a greenhouse or a florist's shop, with various plants and structures visible. The image is presented in a diamond-shaped frame that is tilted to the right.

Since 1991, Oregon's workers' compensation costs have declined more than 60 percent, and Oregon employers have saved billions as a result. Worker benefits are at or above the median nationwide and workplace injury and illness rates in the state have declined more than 50 percent since the late 1980s. Litigation has decreased dramatically and injured workers today are much more likely to return to work than their predecessors. Perhaps most significant, the system continues to be driven by the parties it affects the most: workers and employers.



The Management-Labor Advisory Committee, which originated in 1990, remains the forum in Oregon to discuss and resolve workers' compensation issues.

The division works continuously to improve the Oregon workers' compensation system for its participants.

We are proud to share our values with you:

- ◆ **Community:** We serve by building positive relationships and working together to improve outcomes.
- ◆ **Integrity:** We tell the truth and honor commitments.
- ◆ **Respect:** We encourage and value all perspectives.
- ◆ **Adaptability:** We initiate change and respond to the needs of our community.
- ◆ **Accountability:** We use public resources ethically and responsibly.
- ◆ **Expertise:** We strive to learn and grow to achieve better performance.

By law, Oregon employers must carry workers' compensation insurance or be self-insured. Workers' compensation insurance protects workers by paying for medical treatment and lost wages and protects employers by shielding them from liability lawsuits that might result from work-related injuries or illnesses.



Employers pay premiums to workers' compensation insurance companies. Those premiums finance most of the benefits received by workers if they are injured or suffer an occupational disease on the job. The Legislature makes laws determining the level of benefits and who qualifies for benefits. The division carries out policy for the governor, regulates Oregon's workers' compensation system, makes certain that employers provide insurance, and ensures that injured or ill workers receive the benefits due to them.



Who to call

For more information, contact:

Workers' Compensation Division
350 Winter St. NE
P.O. Box 14480
Salem, OR 97309-0405

Workers' compensation infoline:
800-452-0288 (toll-free)
503-947-7585 (general questions)
503-947-7810 (central reception)
503-947-7581 (fax)

Web: wcd.oregon.gov

Email: workcomp.questions@oregon.gov



community
Workers' Compensation

DEPARTMENT OF
CONSUMER
& BUSINESS
SERVICES

