

DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AND BUSINESS SERVICES
WORKERS' COMPENSATION DIVISION



**Procedural Rules for
Rulemaking and Hearings
Oregon Administrative Rules
Chapter 436, Division 001**

Effective July 1, 2008

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Rule		Page
436-001-0003	Applicability and Purpose of these Rules	1
436-001-0004	Definitions	1
Rulemaking	2
436-001-0005	Model Rules of Procedure Governing For Rulemaking	2
436-001-0009	Notice of Agency Action Concerning Rules Division Rulemaking	2
Hearings	3
436-001-0019	Requests for Hearing.....	3
436-001-0023	Other Filings and Submissions	4
436-001-0027	Timeliness; Calculation of Time.....	5
436-001-0030	Role of the Workers' Compensation Division.....	5
436-001-0170	Duties and Powers of the Administrative Law Judge	6
436-001-0225	Scope of Review/Limitations on the Record	6
436-001-0240	Exhibits and Evidence.....	7
436-001-0246	Proposed and Final Orders - Exceptions, Correction, Director Review	8
436-001-0252	Stay of Director and Administrative Review in Consolidated Matters	8
436-001-0259	Ex Parte Communication	9
436-001-0265	Attorney Fees	9
436-001-0296	Settlements and Dismissals	10
436-001-0300	Alternative Dispute Resolution.....	11

Proposed amendments are marked as follows:

Deleted text has a "strike-through" style, as in

~~Deleted~~

Added text is bold and underlined, as in

Added

HISTORY LINES: These rules include only the most recent "History" lines. The history line shows when the rule was last revised (or "filed" if the rule has never been revised) and its effective date. To obtain a comprehensive history for OAR chapter 436, please call the Workers' Compensation Division, (503) 947-7627, or visit the division's Web site: http://www.wcd.oregon.gov/policy/rules/full_set.html

Blank page for two-sided printing

DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AND BUSINESS SERVICES
WORKERS' COMPENSATION DIVISION
PROCEDURAL RULES GOVERNING FOR RULEMAKING AND HEARINGS

EXHIBIT "A"
OREGON ADMINISTRATIVE RULES
CHAPTER 436, DIVISION 001

General Provisions

436-001-0003 Applicability and Purpose of these Rules

(1) This rule division establishes supplemental procedures ~~governing~~ for rulemaking and hearings, and carries out the provisions of ORS chapters 183 and 656.

(2) **Except as provided in section (4), These ~~these~~ rules apply to hearings on matters within the director's jurisdiction that are held on or after ~~January 2, 2006~~ July 1, 2008. Matters within the director's jurisdiction are matters other than those concerning a claim, as defined by ORS 656.704.**

(3) In general, the rules of the Workers' Compensation Board, in OAR chapter 438, apply to the conduct of hearings, unless these rules provide otherwise.

(4) These rules do not apply to hearings requested under ORS 656.740.

(~~3~~) **(5)** These rules apply to all division rulemaking on or after ~~January 17, 2006~~ July 1, 2008.

(~~4~~) **(6)** Unless otherwise obligated by statute, the director may waive any procedural rules as justice so requires.

Stat. Auth.: ORS 656.726(4)
Stats. Implemented: ORS 656.704, ORS ch. 183, ~~OL 2005 ch 26~~
Hist: Amended 1/13/06 as WCD Admin. Order 06-050, eff 1/17/06
Amended 6/12/08 as WCD Admin. Order 08-050, eff. 7/1/08

436-001-0004 Definitions

(1) The following definitions apply to these rules, unless the context requires otherwise.

(~~1~~) **(a)** "Administrative law judge" ~~or "ALJ"~~ means an administrative law judge appointed by the Workers' Compensation Board, as defined in OAR 438-005-0040.

(~~2~~) **(b)** "Administrator" means the administrator of the Workers' Compensation Division or the administrator's designee.

(~~3~~) **(c)** "Board" means the Workers' Compensation Board and includes its Hearings Division.

(~~4~~) **(d)** "Delivered" means physical delivery to the division's Salem office during regular business hours.

(~~5~~) **(e)** "Department" means the Department of Consumer and Business Services.

(~~6~~) **(f)** "Director" means the director of the Department of Consumer and Business Services or the director's designee.

(~~7~~) **(g)** "Division" means the department's Workers' Compensation Division.

(~~8~~) **(h)** "Filed" means mailed, faxed, e-mailed, ~~or delivered,~~ or otherwise submitted to

**DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AND BUSINESS SERVICES
WORKERS' COMPENSATION DIVISION
PROCEDURAL RULES GOVERNING FOR RULEMAKING AND HEARINGS**

the division **in a method allowable under these rules.**

(9) **(i)** "Final order" means a final, written action of the director.

(10) **(j)** "Mailed" means correctly addressed, with sufficient postage and placed in the custody of the U. S. Postal Service.

(11) **(k)** "Party" may include, but is not limited to, a worker, an employer, an insurer, a self-insured employer, a managed care organization, a medical provider, or the division.

(12) **(l)** "Proposed and final order" means an order subject to revision by the director which becomes final unless exceptions are timely filed or the director issues a notice of intent to review the proposed and final order.

~~(13) Matters within the director's jurisdiction are matters other than those concerning a claim, as defined by ORS 656.704.~~

(14) **(2)** Other words and phrases have the same meaning as given in ORS 183.310, where applicable.

Stat. Auth.: ORS 656.726(4)
Stats. Implemented: ORS 656.704, ORS ch. 183, ~~OL 2005 ch 26~~
Hist: Amended 10/19/05 as WCD Admin. Order 05-061, eff. 1/2/06
Amended 6/12/08 as WCD Admin. Order 08-050, eff. 7/1/08

Rulemaking

436-001-0005 Model Rules of Procedure ~~Governing For~~ Rulemaking

The Model Rules of Procedure, OAR 137-001-0005 through 137-001-0100, in effect on January 1, ~~2006~~ **2008**, as promulgated by the Attorney General of the State of Oregon under the Administrative Procedures Act, are adopted as the rules of procedure for rulemaking actions of the Workers' Compensation Division.

{**ED. NOTE:** The full text of the Attorney General's Model Rules of Procedures is available from the Office of the Attorney General or the Workers' Compensation Division.}

Stat. Auth.: ORS 656.726(4)
Stats. Implemented: ORS 183.325 through 183.410
Hist: Amended 1/13/06 as WCD Admin. Order 06-050, eff 1/17/06
Amended 6/12/08 as WCD Admin. Order 08-050, eff. 7/1/08

436-001-0009 ~~Notice of Agency Action Concerning Rules~~ Division Rulemaking

(1) Except when adopting a temporary rule, the division will give prior public notice of the proposed adoption, amendment, or repeal of any rule by:

(a) Publishing notice of the proposed **rulemaking** action in the Secretary of State's Oregon Bulletin at least 21 days prior to the effective date of the ~~action, and~~ **rule**;

(b) Notifying interested persons and organizations on the division's notification lists of proposed rulemaking actions under ORS 183.335-; **and**

(c) Providing notice to legislators as required by ORS 183.335(15).

(2) The division will add a person or organization to its notification list if the person or organization:

**DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AND BUSINESS SERVICES
WORKERS' COMPENSATION DIVISION
PROCEDURAL RULES GOVERNING FOR RULEMAKING AND HEARINGS**

(a) Subscribes to the division's e-mail notification service, through the division's Web site at wcd.oregon.gov, or

(b) Requests in writing to receive hard-copy notification, and includes the person or organization's full name and mailing address.

Stat. Auth.: ORS 656.726 (4)

Stats. Implemented: ORS 183.335 and 84.022

Hist: Amended and renumbered from 436-001-0000, 10/19/05 as WCD Admin. Order 05-061, eff. 1/2/06

Amended 6/12/08 as WCD Admin. Order 08-050, eff. 7/1/08

Hearings

436-001-0019 Requests for Hearing

(1) A request for hearing on a matter within the director's jurisdiction must be filed with the administrator no later than the filing deadline. ~~The date and time of receipt for electronic filings is determined under ORS 84.043. Filing deadlines will not be extended except as provided in section (6) (7) of this rule. The requesting party must send a copy of the request to all known parties and their legal representatives, if any.~~

(2) A request for hearing must be in writing. A party may use the division's Form 2839. A request for hearing must include the following information, as applicable:

(a) The ~~identity~~, name, address, and phone number of the party making the request;

(b) Whether the party making the request is the worker, insurer, medical provider, employer, any other party, or an attorney on behalf of a party;

~~(b) (c)~~ **The division's administrative order number of the administrative order being appealed;**

~~(c) (d)~~ **The worker's name, address, and phone number;**

~~(d) (e)~~ **The name, address, and phone number of the worker's attorney, if any;**

~~(e) (f)~~ **The date of injury;**

~~(f) (g)~~ **The insurer's or self-insured employer's claim number;**

~~(g) (h)~~ **The division's (WCD) file number; and**

~~(h) (i)~~ **The reason for requesting a hearing.**

(3) Requests for hearing may be filed in any of the following ways:

(a) By mail.

(b) By hand-delivery.

(c) By fax, if the document transmitted indicates that it has been delivered by fax, is sent to the correct fax number, and indicates the date the document was sent.

(d) By e-mail ~~A request for hearing may be e-mailed to wcd.hearings@state.or.us, the division's hearing electronic mail address. If the request for hearing is an attachment to the e-mail, it must be in a format that Microsoft Word 2000® (.doc, .txt, .rtf) or Adobe Reader® (.pdf)~~

**DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AND BUSINESS SERVICES
WORKERS' COMPENSATION DIVISION
PROCEDURAL RULES GOVERNING FOR RULEMAKING AND HEARINGS**

can open. Image formats that can be viewed in Internet Explorer® (.tif, .jpg) are also acceptable. ~~The division will acknowledge receipt of the e-mail. A party filing a request for hearing by e-mail consents and agrees to conduct the request for hearing transaction electronically. The party's electronic mailing address qualifies as its electronic signature.~~

(e) By using the on-line form available on the division's Web site at wcd.oregon.gov.

~~(4) A request for hearing may be faxed, provided the document transmitted indicates that it has been delivered by fax, is sent to the correct fax number, and indicates the date the document was sent.~~

(4) The requesting party must send a copy of the request to all known parties and their legal representatives, if any.

(5) Timeliness of requests for hearing will be determined under OAR 436-001-0027.

~~(5)~~ **(6)** The director will refer timely requests for hearing to the board for a hearing before an administrative law judge. The director may withdraw a matter that has been referred if the request for hearing is premature, if the issues in dispute become moot, or if the director otherwise determines that the matter is not appropriate for hearing at that time.

~~(6)~~ **(7)** The director will deny requests for hearing that are filed after the filing deadline. The party may request a limited hearing on the denial of the request for hearing within 30 days after the mailing date of the denial. The request must be filed with the administrator. At the limited hearing, the administrative law judge may only consider whether:

(a) The denied request for hearing was filed timely; or

(b) If good cause existed that prevented the party from timely requesting a hearing on the merits. For the purpose of this rule, "good cause" includes, but is not limited to, mistake, inadvertence, surprise, or excusable neglect.

Stat. Auth.: ORS 656.726(4) and ORS 84.013

Stats. Implemented: ORS 656.704, ~~OL 2005 ch 26~~

Hist: Amended and renumbered from 436-001-0155, 10/19/05 as WCD Admin. Order 05-061, eff. 1/2/06

Amended 6/12/08 as WCD Admin. Order 08-050, eff. 7/1/08

436-001-0023 Other Filings and Submissions

(1) Except as provided in section (3) of this rule, any filing, motion, request, document, or correspondence filed or submitted in a matter within the director's jurisdiction must be filed or submitted:

(a) To the division before the dispute is referred to the board;

(b) To the administrative law judge after the dispute is referred to the board but before the ~~ALJ~~ **administrative law judge** issues a proposed and final order; and

(c) To the division after the ~~ALJ~~ **administrative law judge** issues a proposed and final order, unless it is a request for correction of errors in the proposed and final order under OAR 436-001-0246(6).

(2) A copy of any filing, motion, request, document, or correspondence must be sent to the other parties, or their legal representatives, at the same time it is filed or submitted to the

**DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AND BUSINESS SERVICES
WORKERS' COMPENSATION DIVISION
PROCEDURAL RULES GOVERNING FOR RULEMAKING AND HEARINGS**

division or administrative law judge.

(3) A party must notify the division and the other parties of any changes in the party's mailing address or legal representation.

Stat. Auth.: ORS 656.726(4)
Stats. Implemented: ORS 656.704, ~~OL 2005 ch 26~~
Hist: Adopted 10/19/05 as WCD Admin. Order 05-061, eff. 1/2/06
Amended 6/12/08 as WCD Admin. Order 08-050, eff. 7/1/08

436-001-0027 Timeliness; Calculation of Time

(1) Timeliness of any document required by these rules to be filed or submitted to the division is determined as follows:

(a) If a document is mailed, it will be considered filed on the date it is postmarked.

(b) If a document is faxed or e-mailed, it must be received by the division by 11:59 p.m. Pacific time to be considered filed on that date.

(c) If a document is delivered, it must be delivered during regular business hours to be considered filed on that date.

(2) The date and time of receipt for electronic filings is determined under ORS 84.043.

(2) ~~(3)~~ Time periods allowed for a filing or submission to the division are calculated in calendar days. The first day is not included. The last day is included unless it is a Saturday, Sunday, or legal holiday. In that case, the period runs until the end of the next day that is not a Saturday, Sunday, or legal holiday. Legal holidays are those listed in ORS 187.010 and 187.020.

Stat. Auth.: ORS 656.726(4)
Stats. Implemented: ORS 656.704, ~~OL 2005 ch 26~~
Hist: Adopted 10/19/05 as WCD Admin. Order 05-061, eff. 1/2/06
Amended 6/12/08 as WCD Admin. Order 08-050, eff. 7/1/08

436-001-0030 Role of the Workers' Compensation Division

(1) In any hearing, the director may request to:

(a) Receive notice of all matters;

(b) Receive copies of all documents; and

(c) Present evidence, testimony, and argument.

(2) The director may appear **in a matter** by ~~providing the administrative law judge and parties with~~ **filing** an entry of appearance ~~in the hearing~~. The director may be represented by an agency representative, assistant attorney general, or special assistant attorney general as authorized by the Department of Justice. If the director enters an appearance, all notices and documents in the hearing must be provided to the director's representative.

Stat. Auth.: ORS 656.726(4)
Stats. Implemented: ORS 180.220(2), 180.235, and 656.704
Hist: Amended 10/19/05 as WCD Admin. Order 05-061, eff. 1/2/06
Amended 6/12/08 as WCD Admin. Order 08-050, eff. 7/1/08

**DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AND BUSINESS SERVICES
WORKERS' COMPENSATION DIVISION
PROCEDURAL RULES GOVERNING FOR RULEMAKING AND HEARINGS**

436-001-0170 Duties and Powers of the Administrative Law Judge

(1) The administrative law judge may conduct the hearing in any manner, consistent with these rules, that will achieve substantial justice.

(2) Unless provided otherwise by statute or administrative rule, any order issued by an administrative law judge regarding a matter within the director's jurisdiction is a proposed and final order subject to review by the director under OAR 436-001-0246.

~~(3) Notwithstanding section (2), an administrative law judge may issue a final order of dismissal when the requesting party withdraws the request for hearing and no cross request for hearing has been filed.~~ **The administrative law judge may dismiss requests for hearing as provided in OAR 436-001-0296.**

~~(4) If the parties settle as provided in OAR 436-001-0296(3), the administrative law judge may issue a proposed and final order of dismissal. If the parties settle as provided in OAR 436-001-0296(1) or (2), the director will dismiss the request for hearing.~~

~~(5)~~ **(4)** Where appropriate, the administrative law judge may remand a dispute to the director for further administrative action.

~~(6)~~ **(5)** The administrative law judge may consolidate matters in which there are common parties or common issues of law or fact.

~~(7)~~ **(6)** The administrative law judge may separate matters ~~which will~~ **to** promote efficient disposition of the matters.

~~(8)~~ **(7)** Consolidation of matters under section ~~(6)~~ **(5)** of this rule or under ORS 656.704(3)(c) is only for the purpose of hearing. The administrative law judge must issue a separate order for matters other than those concerning a claim.

~~(9)~~ **(8)** On the motion of a party, the division, or the administrative law judge, the ~~ALJ~~ **administrative law judge** may continue a hearing to allow the presentation of oral or written legal argument by the Department of Justice.

~~(10)~~ **(9)** The administrative law judge may send the division a written question regarding which rules or statutes apply to ~~the a~~ **a** matter, or regarding the division's interpretation of the rules and statutes. If the administrative law judge sends such a question, the ~~ALJ~~ **administrative law judge** must provide a written summary of the context in which the question arises, provide a reasonable time for the division to respond, and send a copy to all parties.

~~(11)~~ **(10)** The administrative law judge may conduct a hearing by telephone if all parties agree.

Stat. Auth.: ORS 656.726(4)
Stats. Implemented: ORS 656.704, ~~OL 2005 ch 26~~
Hist: Amended 10/19/05 as WCD Admin. Order 05-061, eff. 1/2/06
Amended 6/12/08 as WCD Admin. Order 08-050, eff. 7/1/08

436-001-0225 Scope of Review/Limitations on the Record

(1) Except for the matters listed in sections (2) and (3), the administrative law judge reviews all matters within the director's jurisdiction de novo, unless otherwise provided by statute or administrative rule.

**DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AND BUSINESS SERVICES
WORKERS' COMPENSATION DIVISION
PROCEDURAL RULES GOVERNING FOR RULEMAKING AND HEARINGS**

(2) In medical service and medical treatment disputes under ORS 656.245, 656.247(3)(a), and 656.327, and managed care disputes under ORS 656.260(16), the administrative law judge may modify the director's order only if it is not supported by substantial evidence in the record or if it reflects an error of law. New medical evidence or issues may not be admitted or considered.

(3) In vocational assistance disputes under ORS 656.340, new evidence may be admitted and considered. Under ORS 656.283(2), the administrative law judge may modify the director's order only if it:

- (a) Violates a statute or rule;
- (b) Exceeds the director's statutory authority;
- (c) Was made upon unlawful procedure; or
- (d) Was characterized by abuse of discretion or clearly unwarranted exercise of discretion.

Stat. Auth.: ORS 656.726(4)

Stats. Implemented: ORS 656.245, 656.247, 656.260, 656.283, 656.327, 656.704

Hist: Amended 10/19/05 as WCD Admin. Order 05-061, eff. 1/2/06

436-001-0240 Exhibits and Evidence

(1) Within 21 days after referral of the request for hearing to the board, the division will provide the parties and the administrative law judge ~~legible~~ copies of all ~~exhibits~~ **documents** that were relied upon in the underlying action or order, ~~together~~ with an index.

(2) Not less than 28 days before the hearing, or within seven days of receipt of the division's document index and documents, whichever is later, the petitioner(s) must provide ~~legible~~ copies of any additional exhibits ~~that~~ they will offer at hearing to the other parties, ~~the director's representative, and the administrative law judge,~~ **and the director's representative, if the director has filed an entry of appearance.** The ~~additional~~ exhibits must be marked and ~~accompanied by~~ **include** a supplemental ~~exhibit~~ index, numbered to coincide in chronological order with the division's exhibits and exhibit list. For example, an exhibit ~~which~~ **that** is chronologically between the division's exhibits 5 and 6 would be marked as "Exhibit 5a" or "Ex. 5a."

(3) Not less than 14 days before the hearing, the respondent(s)/cross-petitioner(s) must provide ~~legible copies~~ **copies** of any additional exhibits ~~that~~ they will offer at hearing to the other parties, ~~the director's representative, and the administrative law judge,~~ **and the director's representative, if the director has filed an entry of appearance.** The exhibits must be marked and indexed in the same manner as provided in section (2).

(4) Unless withdrawn, all exhibits offered will be ~~part of the record in the case~~ **included in the hearing file**, whether or not **they are** admitted into **the evidence evidentiary record.**

(5) At the discretion of the administrative law judge, an accurate description or photograph of an object or real evidence may be substituted for the object or real evidence. The party offering the evidence is responsible for providing the description or photograph, and for retaining custody of the object until the case is closed.

**DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AND BUSINESS SERVICES
WORKERS' COMPENSATION DIVISION
PROCEDURAL RULES GOVERNING FOR RULEMAKING AND HEARINGS**

Stat. Auth.: ORS 656.726(4)
 Stats. Implemented: ORS 656.704, OL 2005-ch 26
 Hist: Amended 10/19/05 as WCD Admin. Order 05-061, eff. 1/2/06
Amended 6/12/08 as WCD Admin. Order 08-050, eff. 7/1/08

436-001-0246 Proposed and Final Orders - Exceptions, Correction, Director Review

(1) Under ORS 656.704(2)(a), a party must seek director review of a proposed and final order before petitioning for judicial review under ORS 183.482.

(2) The parties or the division may initiate director review of a proposed and final order by filing exceptions as follows:

(a) Written exceptions, including any argument, must be filed with the administrator within 30 days of the mailing date of the proposed and final order;

(b) A written response to the exceptions must be filed within 20 days of the date the exceptions were filed;

(c) A written reply to the response, if any, must be filed within 10 days of the date the response(s) was filed.

(3) If exceptions are timely filed, the director may issue a final order or an amended proposed and final order, request the administrative law judge to hold further hearing, or remand the matter for further administrative action.

(4) Within 30 days of the mailing date of the proposed and final order, the director may issue a notice of intent to review the proposed and final order, even if no exceptions are filed.

(5) All proposed and final orders must contain language notifying the parties of their right to file exceptions, how to file, and the timeframes.

(6) The administrative law judge may withdraw a proposed and final order for correction of errors within 10 calendar days of the mailing date of the order. The time for filing exceptions begins on the date the corrected proposed and final order is mailed.

(7) If no exceptions are timely filed or if no notice of intent to review is issued, the proposed and final order will become final 30 days after the mailing date of the order.

(8) Any requests for review or requests for reconsideration of a proposed and final order filed with the board or administrative law judge ~~or board~~ within 30 days of the mailing date of the order will be forwarded to the director and treated as timely exceptions under this rule.

Stat. Auth.: ORS 656.726(4)
 Stats. Implemented: ORS 656.704, OL 2005-ch 26
 Hist: Amended and renumbered from OAR 436-001-0275, 10/19/05 as WCD Admin. Order 05-061, eff. 1/2/06
Amended 6/12/08 as WCD Admin. Order 08-050, eff. 7/1/08

436-001-0252 Stay of Director and Administrative Review ~~in Consolidated Matters~~

(1) A party may request that director review be stayed if exceptions are timely filed and there is a pending matter concerning a claim that may make the matter within the director's jurisdiction moot.

(~~1~~) **(2)** If matters are consolidated under ORS 656.704(3)(c), and a party requests board review of the order for those matters concerning a claim, and a party files exceptions on the

**DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AND BUSINESS SERVICES
WORKERS' COMPENSATION DIVISION
PROCEDURAL RULES GOVERNING FOR RULEMAKING AND HEARINGS**

proposed and final order for matters other than those concerning a claim, the director may stay director review of the proposed and final order. If director review is stayed, the parties will be provided the opportunity to file a written response and reply as provided in OAR 436-001-0246, and director review will then be stayed until the board issues an order for those matters concerning a claim.

(2) **(3)** If matters are consolidated under ORS 656.704(3)(c), and a party requests board review of the order for those matters concerning a claim, and the administrative law judge remands the matters other than those concerning a claim to the director for further administrative action, the director may stay further administrative action until the board issues an order for those matters concerning a claim.

Stat. Auth.: ORS656.726(4)
 Stats. Implemented: ORS656.704, ~~OL 2005 ch 26~~
 Hist: Adopted 10/19/05 as WCD Admin. Order 05-061 eff. 1/2/06
Amended 6/12/08 as WCD Admin. Order 08-050, eff. 7/1/08

436-001-0259 Ex Parte Communication

An ex parte communication is an oral or written communication to the administrator or administrator's designee during director review of the matter not made in the presence of all parties to the dispute, concerning a fact in issue, but does not include communication from division staff or the Department of Justice about legal issues or facts in the record. Ex parte communications received during director review will be promptly disclosed to all parties, and the parties will be allowed a reasonable opportunity to respond.

Stat. Auth.: ORS656.726(4)
 Stats. Implemented: ORS656.704, OL 2005 ch 26
 Hist: Adopted 10/19/05 as WCD Admin. Order 05-061 eff. 1/2/06

436-001-0265 Attorney Fees

(1) In cases where the director or administrative law judge is required to assess an attorney fee under ORS 656.385(1):

(a) The fee must be based on the factors listed in ORS 656.385(1).

(b) Absent a showing of extraordinary circumstances or unless otherwise agreed by the parties, the fee may not exceed \$2,000 nor fall outside the ranges provided in the following matrix:

Estimated Benefit Achieved	Professional Hours Devoted				
	1-2 hours	2.1-4 hours	4.1-6 hours	6.1-8 hours	Over 8 hours
\$1-\$2000	\$100-400	\$200-700	\$300-750	\$600-1000	\$800-1250
\$2001-\$4000	\$200-500	\$400-800	\$600-900	\$800-1300	\$1050-1500
\$4001-\$6000	\$300-700	\$600-1000	\$800-1250	\$1000-1450	\$1300-1750
Over \$6000	\$400-900	\$800-1300	\$1050-1600	\$1350-1800	\$1550-2000

(c) Extraordinary circumstances are not established by merely exceeding eight hours or exceeding a benefit of \$6000.

(d) In cases under ORS 656.245, 656.247, 656.260, or 656.327, the factors listed in OAR

**DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AND BUSINESS SERVICES
WORKERS' COMPENSATION DIVISION
PROCEDURAL RULES GOVERNING FOR RULEMAKING AND HEARINGS**

~~436-010-0008(13)~~ **436-010-0008(12)** may also be considered.

(e) In cases under ORS 656.340, the factors listed in OAR 436-120-0008(2) may also be considered.

(2) Except as provided in section (3), in cases where the administrative law judge or director assesses an attorney fee, the following factors may also be considered:

- (a) The complexity of the issue(s) involved;
- (b) The quality of the legal representation;
- (c) The value of the interest involved;
- (d) The nature of the proceedings;
- (e) The risk in a particular case that an attorney's efforts may go uncompensated;
- (f) The assertion of frivolous issues or defenses;
- (g) A statement of services, if submitted **before an order is issued** ~~within seven days of the hearing date, unless the administrative law judge instructs otherwise;~~ and
- (h) Any other relevant consideration deemed appropriate by the administrative law judge or director.

(3) In cases under ORS 656.262(11) where the issue is solely the assessment and payment of a penalty and attorney fee, OAR 438-015-0110 applies.

(4) If an attorney fee has been assessed by an administrative law judge in a proposed order, the opposing parties may file written exceptions to the fee under OAR ~~436-001-0275~~ **436-001-0246**.

Stat. Auth.: ORS 656.385(1), 656.726(4)
Stats. Implemented: ORS 656.262, 656.385, 656.388, and 656.704
Hist: Amended 10/19/05 as WCD Admin. Order 05-061 eff. 1/2/06
Amended 6/12/08 as WCD Admin. Order 08-050, eff. 7/1/08

436-001-0296 Settlements and Dismissals

(1) If, after a request for hearing is filed but before a proposed and final order is issued, an agreement under ORS 656.236 or 656.289(4) is approved that resolves all issues in the matter within the director's jurisdiction, ~~the party that filed the request for hearing must notify the director in writing that the request for hearing may be dismissed by the director~~ **the administrative law judge may issue a proposed and final order dismissing the request for hearing.**

(2) If, after a request for hearing is filed but before a proposed and final order is issued, the parties reach agreement on all issues in the matter within the director's jurisdiction, ~~and only those issues, the parties must submit a written settlement agreement, signed by the parties, to the director for approval~~ **the administrative law judge may issue a proposed and final order approving the agreement and dismissing the request for hearing.**

(3) If the matter within the director's jurisdiction is consolidated with matters concerning a claim and the parties reach agreement on all issues in the matter within the director's jurisdiction prior to issuance of a proposed and final order, the administrative law judge may

**DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AND BUSINESS SERVICES
WORKERS' COMPENSATION DIVISION
PROCEDURAL RULES GOVERNING FOR RULEMAKING AND HEARINGS**

issue a proposed and final order approving the agreement and dismissing the request for hearing.

(4) Notwithstanding OAR 436-001-0170(2), the administrative law judge may issue a final order of dismissal when the requesting party withdraws the request for hearing and no cross-request for hearing has been filed.

Stat. Auth.: ORS656.726(4)

Stats. Implemented: ORS656.704, ~~OL 2005 ch 26~~

Hist: Adopted 10/19/05 as WCD Admin. Order 05-061 eff. 1/2/06

Amended 6/12/08 as WCD Admin. Order 08-050, eff. 7/1/08

436-001-0300 Alternative Dispute Resolution

(1) The director may offer the parties to a matter within the director's jurisdiction alternative dispute resolution as a way to resolve the matter prior to a hearing.

(2) If the parties ~~consent~~ **agree** to attempt alternative dispute resolution before the director after referral of the matter to the board for hearing, the director will notify the administrative law judge that the parties have agreed to attempt resolution, and that the hearing should be deferred until the process is complete. If the parties do not settle, the director will notify the administrative law judge to proceed with the hearing.

(3) If the parties settle the matter within the director's jurisdiction through alternative dispute resolution before the director, the director will issue an order dismissing the request for hearing.

(4) Nothing in this rule prevents the parties from participating in the board's mediation program for those matters within the director's jurisdiction.

Stat. Auth.: ORS656.726(4)

Stats. Implemented: ORS183.502, 656.704, ~~OL 2005 ch 26~~

Hist: Amended 10/19/05 as WCD Admin. Order 05-061 eff. 1/2/06

Amended 6/12/08 as WCD Admin. Order 08-050, eff. 7/1/08