



Oregon

Theodore R. Kulongoski, Governor

Department of Consumer and Business Services

Workers' Compensation Division

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To: Oregon Insurers, Self-Insured Employers, and Third-Party Administrators

Subject: Reporting Claims to WCD and Fourth Quarter 2003 Claims Processing Performance Audit

Beginning January 1, 2004, the Workers' Compensation Division no longer will accept the filing of "deferred" claims. This will apply to all claims, regardless of the date of injury.

Senate Bill 914 eliminated the requirement to report claims to WCD within 21 days of the employer's date of knowledge. The new law still requires reporting of claims, but does not provide a timeframe. The temporary Division 60 rules, filed December 15, 2003, and effective January 1, 2004, require initial and aggravation claims for disabling injuries and denied claims to be reported to WCD within 14 days of the acceptance or denial date. Effective January 1, 2004, the division will acknowledge receipt of a claim only if it has been accepted or denied. WCD will not accept deferred claims. Any deferred claim mailed to WCD on or after January 1, 2004, including forms 801 and 1502, will be destroyed. An 801 and "first report" 1502 will be required when the acceptance or denial is reported to the director of the Department of Consumer & Business Services. For "deferred" claims reported prior to January 1, 2004, a "status change" 1502 will be required upon acceptance or denial of the claim.

When requesting department action on a "deferred" claim (e.g., request for suspension of benefits), an 801 or 1502 will not be necessary. However, please include in your request pertinent worker identification: name, Social Security number, date of injury, and claim number.

The Quarterly Claims Processing Performance (QCPP) audit for the fourth quarter will not include the category "timely reporting to WCD." The category will be reinstated for the first quarter of 2004, enforcing the new requirement that reports be made to WCD within 14 days from the date of acceptance or denial.

Please ensure that your internal policies and processes incorporate these changes. If you have any questions regarding this notice, please contact Jennifer Flood, (503) 947-7687, or send e-mail to jennifer.r.flood@state.or.us.

John L. Shilts, Administrator
Workers' Compensation Division

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