

IN THIS ISSUE:

CHANGES TO THE
GROUP RATING
MAXIMUM DISCOUNT

INSPECTOR GENERAL
VALIDATES PHARMACY
PROGRAM

MANDATORY TRAINING
REQUIREMENTS FOR
GROUP RATING
PARTICIPANTS

DATES TO REMEMBER

**Compensation
Solutions, Inc.**

5990 Ventura Dr. Suite D
Dublin, Ohio 43017
614-799-8439
Toll Free 888-776-7723
Toll Free Fax 888-776-7741

Powered by Chatterbox
Communications
chatterbox-
communications.com

Changes to the Group Rating Maximum Discount

The Ohio Bureau of Workers Compensation board has voted to reduce the maximum discount that employers can receive in the bureau's group rating experience program. Effective July 1, 2010, the maximum available discount will be 65 percent which is down from the 2009 rate of 77%. The Board of Directors also approved modifications to the break even factor (BEF). The BEF adjusts the discount level based on the overall risk of the group. This means that with the BEF, the highest discount attainable in the 2010 – 2011 Group Rating program is 51%. The move will affect approximately 95,000 employers which participate in the program.

This change was part of an ongoing effort by the BWC to close the premium gap between employers which are group rated and those employers which are not. The BWC has noted that this move is not enough to close the gap and one more change to the group rating program will be necessary.

Inspector General Report Validates Pharmacy Program

Upon arrival at the BWC, Marsha Ryan and Chief of Medical Services, Bob Coury, recognized the disarray of the agency's pharmacy program and commissioned a professional, external study by Mercer Consulting.

Mercer Consulting presented the final report on the program in June of 2008 and many of the recommendations have been implemented over the past one and a half to two years. On October 28, 2009, the Ohio Inspector General's office has validated the BWC's improvements over the past two years.

Recent successes related to BWC's pharmacy program include:

- Professional staff additions including a pharmacy program director and a new medical director;
- Implementation of a rebate collection program;
- Thorough review of pharmacy formulary; and

Selection of SXC Health Solutions Corporation as the new pharmacy benefits manager (PBM) effective Nov. 1, 2009.



Mandatory Training for Group Rating Employers

The Ohio Bureau of Workers Compensation is now requiring group rated employers which have experienced at least one allowed claim in the 2007 or 2008 premium year to attend two hours of mandatory safety training by June 30, 2010.

Private employers with a claim in the calendar year 2007 or 2008 must have 2 hours of safety training completed by June 30, 2010. Public employers with at least one allowed claim in the calendar year 2008 or 2009 must have 2 hours of safety training completed by December 31, 2010.

Employers can attend classes offered by the Ohio BWC, the sponsoring organization, their third party administrator or reliable and credible safety training sources. Live training, online or webinar formats are acceptable. Employers are required to provide their group rating sponsor with documentation (a certificate of participation or a signed class roster) of attendance regardless of where the training is obtained.

For more information on the classes available through the Ohio BWC, please visit their website: www.ohiobwc.com

DATES TO REMEMBER

November 30

Deadline to apply for Retrospective Rating - public employers

December 31

Rates are set for private employers

Payroll reports mailed - private employers - 2nd Half 2009

DFWP enrollment deadline for January start date

January 1

Beginning of public employer policy year

Did You Know.....

Drug and Alcohol abusers are 3.6 times more likely to have a workplace accident than non users and cost American companies about \$81 billion in lost productivity?

The Ohio BWC's Drug Free Workplace Program can also help non group rated employers lower their discounts by offering up to a 20% discount on an employer's workers compensation premium.

The deadline for application for the Drug Free Workplace Program for a January 1, 2010 start date is December 31, 2009.

To see if the Drug Free Workplace Program would benefit your company, please contact our offices.



Compensation Solutions Inc.

5990 Venture Dr. Suite D
Dublin, Ohio 43017

Local Phone 614 799-8439
Toll-Free Phone 888 776-7723
Toll-Free Fax 888 776-7741