

Annual Review & Cost Cutting Strategies

John Wilton
Regional Business Consultant
216-584-0307
John.W.1@bwc.state.oh.us



NEW CLAIMS FILED

(reported quarterly)

98,464

12 months ended 06/30/19

98,913

12 months ended 06/30/18



ACTIVE CLAIMS

Claims with activity in the previous 24 months.

256,962

As of 06/30/19

263,366

As of 06/30/18

Safety and Wellness GRANTS

\$4
million



2012

\$20
million



2019

Injury CLAIMS Allowed



260,000

2000



85,000

2018

What am I looking at?



Claims Cost Control Strategies

- Handicap Reimbursements
- Settlements
- No Fault MVA rule
- 15k program
- Salary Continuation
- Vocational Rehabilitation
- Transitional Work
- Enhanced Care Program
- Better You Better Ohio
- Volunteer Waiver

Return to Work Programs- Transitional Work & Vocational Rehabilitation

- Effective way to return to work
 - 50% drop in workers returning to work after 12 weeks
 - 10% chance of worker returning to work after one year.
- RTW programs reduces the impact of lost time claims
- Early intervention helps reduce the impact and future loses

Handicap Reimbursements

- 26 recognized conditions
- The condition had to result in a delay in recovery
- Applies to lost time claims only, where TT or Salary Continuation was paid.
 - Example: If only compensation paid was a PPD- no handicap award
- Handicap reimbursement awards now will apply to settlements

Claims Settlements

- The settlement forever resolves all past, present, or future medical and compensation issues, and liabilities in the claim, whether known or unknown.
- Eliminates the reserves on the claim, but the claim will still remain on experience
- Losses paid from the BWC will appear on employer's experience
- Handicap Reimbursement awards can now be applied to settlements.

No-Fault Motor Vehicle Accidents

- Effective for claims July 1, 2017 or after
- The claim is based on a motor vehicle accident involving a third party;
- The third party is issued a citation or evidence of third party responsibility
- Employer files a request for consideration
- BWC determination within 180 days
- Charged to the surplus fund

Enhanced Care Program

- Claim is filed for a knee injury only
- MCO collects additional data on co-existing health issues
- BWC makes initial claim determination – allowed for specific condition(s)
- Lost Time claims will get 50% claim credit and handicap reimbursement awards can now be applied to the claim.

15K Medical Only Program

- Applies to only medical only claims
- Employers are allowed to pay claim cost
- Can help preserve group rates
- Doesn't have to apply to every claim

15K Example

Employer A (in 15k)

EMR Rate: .50

Premiums: \$31,859

15K Medical only costs: \$2,500

No impact to experience

Employer B (not in 15k)

EMR Rate: .55

Premiums: \$34,969

Premium difference for 1 year: \$3,110

Premium difference for 4 years: \$12,440.

Better You Better Ohio

- Over 15,000 participants have enrolled
- Onsite visits increased to 50 employers scheduled
- New option for employees that utilize personal physician for biometric testing
- Program will continue in the 2020 calendar year

Salary Continuation

- Pay claimant wages
- Indemnity payments don't hit experience
- Drawbacks

Recreation Waiver

- It's BWC's policy that an injury or disability incurred during voluntary participation in an employer sponsored recreation or fitness activity is **not** compensable **if** the injured worker signed a waiver of the right to workers' compensation benefits prior to engaging in the recreation or fitness activity
- Utilized the C-159 form
- Examples: Fitness programs, Company Outings

Annual Review & Cost Cutting Strategies

John Wilton
Regional Business Consultant
216-584-0307
John.W.1@bwc.state.oh.us