

FILE FOR HANDICAP REIMBURSEMENT ON A CLAIM

WORKERS' COMPENSATION CLAIMS MANAGEMENT TOOLS FOR OHIO MANUFACTURERS

The state of Ohio encourages hiring and retaining employees with identified "handicap conditions." As an incentive under the Handicap Workers' Provision, the state (under Ohio Revised Code section 4123.343) will share the cost of a lost-time claim (defined as a case involving eight or more lost workdays) with the employer by charging a portion of the cost to the Bureau of Workers' Compensation (BWC) Surplus Fund. When granted, handicap reimbursement can potentially save thousands of dollars each year that the claim is in the employer's experience and can reduce an employer's experience modifier (EM) and thus, premiums.

The request must be supported by evidence (medical records or physician statements) that the injured worker suffered from one or more of the BWC's qualifying handicap conditions prior to the date of injury, and that the handicap condition either caused the injury, contributed to the cost of the claim, was aggravated by the claim, or delayed recovery.

Your OMA Account Manager reviews your claims annually to determine the potential of a handicap condition and, if identified, completes and submits necessary documentation to the BWC on your behalf. Your Account Manager will attend the informal BWC conference on your behalf to negotiate the greatest financial relief.

- (01) Epilepsy;
- (02) Diabetes;
- (03) Cardiac disease;
- (04) Arthritis;
- (05) Amputated foot, leg, arm, or hand;
- (06) Loss of sight of one or both eyes or a partial loss of uncorrected vision of more than 75 percent bilaterally;
- (07) Residual disability from poliomyelitis;
- (08) Cerebral palsy;
- (09) Multiple sclerosis;
- (10) Parkinson's disease;
- (11) Cerebral vascular accident;
- (12) Tuberculosis;
- (13) Silicosis;
- (14) Psycho-neurotic disability following treatment in a recognized medical or mental institution;
- (15) Hemophilia;
- (16) Chronic osteomyelitis;
- (17) Ankylosis of joints;
- (18) Hyper insulinism;
- (19) Muscular dystrophies;
- (20) Arterio-sclerosis;
- (21) Thrombo-phlebitis;
- (22) Varicose veins;
- (23) Cardiovascular, pulmonary, or respiratory diseases of a firefighter or police officer employed by a municipal corporation or township as a regular member of a lawfully constituted police department or fire department;
- (24) Coal miners' pneumoconiosis, commonly referred to as "black lung disease";
- (25) Disability with respect to which an individual has completed a rehabilitation program conducted pursuant to sections [4121.61](#) to [4121.69](#) of the Revised Code.

Handicap reimbursement is a BWC provision designed to allow employers to gain claim-cost relief where certain pre-existing medical conditions among injured workers add recovery time and cost to a claim.