

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Ohio Bureau of Workers' Compensation will hold a public hearing on August 15, 2024 at 10:00 A.M. in Room 1, Level 2, 30 West Spring Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215, to consider the following rules as summarized below.

4123-18-01 Provision of vocational rehabilitation services. Proposed changes are grammatical in nature and do not change the intent or meaning of the rule.

4123-18-03 Guidelines for referral to and acceptance into vocational rehabilitation. This rule is proposed as amended to remove vocational rehabilitation eligibility criteria, the requirement for a certified claim, and language content changes to provide clarity.

4123-18-04 Living maintenance allowance. This rule is amended to provide language content clarity, and to decrease the maximum length of a medical hold from two years to six months.

4123-18-05 Individualized written vocational rehabilitation plan. The rule is amended to clarify that the rule applies to claims managed by the MCO.

4123-18-08 Payment for rehabilitation services and related expenses from the surplus fund. The proposed changes are to increase the amount that can be reimbursed for relocation expenses and non-allowed conditions and to remove the 60-day service limit.

4123-18-11 Incentive payments to employers who hire or retain injured workers who have completed a rehabilitation program. The rule is proposed as amended for clarity and language content changes.

4123-18-14 Injured workers suffering compensable injuries, occupational diseases or death while in an approved vocational rehabilitation plan. The rule is proposed as amended for clarity and language content changes.



4123-18-16 Self-insuring employer's obligation to provide vocational rehabilitation services. Proposed changes are grammatical in nature and do not change the intent or meaning of the rule.

4123-18-21 Wage loss payments to injured workers who complete rehabilitation plans. Proposed as amended to explain present earnings and to identify earnings for calculation purposes.

The full and complete text of the proposed rules is available on the Register of Ohio (<http://www.registerofohio.state.oh.us>) and Ohio Bureau of Workers' Compensation Rules Under Review (<https://info.bwc.ohio.gov/about-bwc/agency-overview/ohio-administrative-code/OAC-rules-under-review>) websites, and is on file in the office of the Secretary of State (180 East Broad Street, 15th Floor, Columbus, Ohio), the Legislative Service Commission (77 South High Street, 9th Floor, Columbus, Ohio), the office of the Joint Committee on Agency Rule Review (77 South High Street, Concourse Level, Columbus, Ohio), and the Bureau of Workers' Compensation, Legal Division (30 West Spring Street, 26th Floor, Columbus, Ohio).

All interested parties will be given an opportunity to be heard. Any interested party unable to attend the public hearing may submit written comments to the undersigned prior to the public hearing at enotification@bwc.state.oh.us.

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