



AULTCOMP MCO

A WORKERS' COMPENSATION MANAGED CARE ORGANIZATION

AultComp MCO's Lifeline

April, 2017

Don't Learn Safety by Accident!

April 2017 Welcome

Happy April Everyone!

This month is the National Safety Council's Distracted Driving Awareness Month. Our safety tip focuses on ways to prevent distracted driving. To learn more about distracted driving, please click [here](#). This information from the National Safety Council's website contains many resources, including a link to help employers create a cell phone policy.

Also, I wanted to inform you that I will be leaving AultComp MCO within the next few days. I am sad to leave this wonderful company as I have thoroughly enjoyed working with you and serving as your Account Coordinator. While I am sad to leave, I am looking forward to the new adventures that await. I am excited to announce that Sam Randazzo will be taking over my

responsibilities as Employer Liaison. Please be assured that you will remain in good hands as Sam helps you with any questions or needs you may have. Sam can be reached by email: sam.r.1@aultcompmco.com, by office phone: 330-830-4919 ext. 103, or by cell phone: 330-324-6132.

Thank you for the opportunity to work with you; it was a pleasure to serve you.

Sincerely,
Robin Angel



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AultComp MCO is on Facebook!



Management Tip*: Deal with potential ADA/AA issues

The Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments Act (ADA/AA) applies to most Ohio employers.

If an employee with a workers' compensation injury meets the broad definition of a qualified person with a disability under the ADA/AA, you may be obligated to make a reasonable accommodation to enable him or her to work and stay employed.

Get your human resources department involved whenever an employee is given long-term restrictions (>90 days).

REMINDER - APRIL 12, 2017

OHIO BUREAU OF WORKERS' COMPENSATION & AULTCOMP MCO PRESENT:

CONTROLLING COSTS THROUGH CLAIMS MANAGEMENT



RSVP by April 7th, 2017

aultcompmco@aultcompmco.com

P: 330-830-4919 ext. 103

Who:
Lorrie Goodnight – Business Consultant, Ohio BWC

Sam Randazzo – Employer Liaison, AultComp MCO

When:
Wednesday April 12th 2017

Where:
Aultman North Health Education Building – (Entrance A) 6046 Whipple Ave NW North Canton, OH 44720

Time:
7:30 a.m. Registration
Training 8:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

Cost:
Free
Light breakfast will be provided

* For additional information, log on to www.bwc.ohio.gov

Safety Tip

Here are AAA's top 10 tips to avoid distraction while driving!

10. Fully focus on driving. Do not let anything divert your attention, actively scan the road, use your mirrors and watch out for pedestrians and cyclists.

9. Store loose gear, possessions and other distractions that could roll around in the car, so you do not feel tempted to reach for them on the floor or the seat.

8. Make adjustments before you begin your trip. Address vehicle systems like your GPS, seats, mirrors, climate controls and sound systems before hitting the road. Decide on your route and check traffic conditions ahead of time.

7. Finish dressing and personal grooming at home – before you get on the road.

6. Snack smart. If possible, eat meals or snacks before or after your trip, not while driving. On the road, avoid messy foods that can be difficult to manage.

5. Secure children and pets before getting underway. If they need your attention, pull off the road safely to care for them. Reaching into the backseat can cause you to lose control of the vehicle.

4. Put aside your electronic distractions. Don't use cell phones while driving – handheld or hands-free – except in absolute emergencies. Never use text messaging, email functions, video games or the internet with a wireless device, including those [built into the vehicle](#), while driving.

3. If you have passengers, enlist their help so you can focus safely on driving.

2. If another activity demands your attention, instead of trying to attempt it while driving, pull off the road and stop your vehicle in a safe place. To avoid temptation, power down or stow devices before heading out. Drivers should use caution while using voice-activated systems, even at seemingly safe moments when there is a lull in traffic or the car is stopped at an intersection, because potentially dangerous distractions can last longer than most drivers expect.

1. As a general rule, if you cannot devote your full attention to driving because of some other activity, it's a distraction. Take care of it before or after your trip, not while behind the wheel.



Ohio BWC Information

THE THIRD BILLION BACK – Ohio Workers' Comp Rebates

Giving Back to Ohio Business

Each year, the Ohio Bureau of Workers' Compensation helps nearly 250,000 employers protect their employees. The premiums paid by Ohio's businesses and public employers help provide safety services to reduce workplace incidents and care to get injured workers back to work and back to life. An improving safety climate, good fiscal management and better than expected investment returns have resulted in the State Insurance Fund having a net position of more than \$9 billion. So, for the third time in four years, BWC is poised to return more than \$1 billion dollars to Ohio's private and public employers. Combined with nearly 30 percent in average rate cuts and \$3 billion in previous rebates and credits, this rebate would mean BWC will have helped return more than \$6 billion to Ohio's economy.

What does the proposal include?

BWC is proposing a one-time rebate of approximately \$1 billion for private employers and public-taxing districts. This includes an estimated \$967 million to private employers and \$133 million to public employer taxing districts. In total more than 200,000 employers will receive rebates.

BWC is also considering an additional, significant investment in workplace wellness and safety. BWC has begun developing ideas to support this request and expects a proposal in April that will help significantly reduce workplace injuries.

To become effective, the proposal must go to the BWC Board of Directors for a first read on March 15, and then must have a second read and be approved by its board on April 28.

How much will employers receive and when?

If approved at the board's April 28 meeting, most rebates would equal 66% of the employer's premium for the policy year ending June 30, 2016 (calendar year 2015 for public employers). If approved, BWC expects to begin sending checks in early July. Private employers in the group-retro program will have their rebate amount calculated and paid following the 12-month premium calculation scheduled to occur in October 2017.

Who is eligible for the rebate?

Both private employers and public employer taxing districts that pay into the State Insurance Fund are eligible for the rebate. Details of eligibility will be posted to bwc.ohio.gov in the near future, but generally the employer must have been billed premium for the policy year ending June 30, 2016 (Dec. 31, 2015 for public employers), and be current in meeting their policy requirements. Employers with an outstanding BWC balance will have their rebate first applied to that balance. Employers that report through a Professional Employer Organization should receive their rebate from their PEO, which is required to pass a portion of the rebate on to their members.

How is it possible that BWC has \$1 billion to provide rebates?

Despite a nearly 30 percent reduction in rates since 2011, the net position of BWC continues to grow. The State Insurance Fund's net position stands at \$9.6 billion as of Jan. 31. This is primarily due to strong investment returns. Annualized return of investments was 7 percent over the last three fiscal years, including a total net return of 5.8 percent in FY2016. BWC's expected annual investment return is four percent. Prudent fiscal management and declining claims also factor into BWC's financial strength.

Will this impact BWC's ability to operate as normal and continue to care for injured workers?

No. Investments have performed so well, that even with the \$1 billion rebate, BWC's finances will remain very strong, so operations will continue as normal and injured workers will continue to receive the care they need to heal and return to work. In fact, we are developing a proposal to invest a significant amount into worker safety and wellness, which should benefit Ohio workers by further reducing workplace injuries. After the rebate, BWC will still have a net position of \$8.5 billion.

What else has BWC done to help Ohio businesses?

Since the beginning of 2011, BWC has saved Ohio businesses \$4.8 billion through rebates, credits and rate reductions. That includes:

- Giving rebates of \$1 billion in 2013 and another \$1 billion in 2014.
- Providing \$1.2 billion in credits to transition to a modern billing system at no cost to employers.
- Reducing rates for private employers an average of 28.2%. That means BWC collected \$1.7 billion less from employers than had 2010 rates remained steady.
- Reducing rates for public employers an average of 29.6%, or \$334 million less than had 2010 rates remained steady.
- Moving from the state with the third highest private employer rates in the country in 2008 to the 11th lowest.

Info from: Ohio Bureau of Workers' Compensation

Don't forget to follow us on [Facebook](#) & visit our new website AultCompMCO.com

