



NOTICE TO OREGON EMPLOYERS

Oct. 23, 2017

What Employers Will Pay for Workers' Compensation in 2018

Please share this notice with your payroll and risk management staff

- **Insurance premium:** The pure premium rate for 2018 **will decrease by an average 14 percent** compared with 2017. Pure premiums are the base rates, before insurer costs are added. The impact on your company's rate depends on a variety of factors, including industry and individual claim records. Your next policy renewal with your insurer will reflect this change.
- **Premium assessment:** Insurance companies (on your behalf), self-insured employers, and self-insured employer groups pay an assessment to the state to administer workers' compensation and workplace safety programs. The assessment **will increase from 6.8 percent to 7.4 percent** of premiums paid. Self-insured employers and self-insured employer groups pay an additional amount into a reserve fund to pay claims in the event of an insolvency.

Self-insured employers pay 7.6 percent in 2018. Public-sector self-insured employer groups pay 7.6 percent. Private-sector self-insured employer groups pay 8.4 percent.

Employer Payroll Information

Workers' Benefit Fund (cents-per-hour) assessment: Employers and employees split this assessment, which employers collect through payroll. This assessment **will remain at 2.8 cents** per hour or partial hour worked by each individual that an employer must cover or chooses to provide with workers' compensation coverage.

Employers must pay at least half the amount (1.4 cents per hour) and deduct no more than half from workers' wages.

Each quarter, employers use Forms OQ and OTC to report and pay the assessment through Oregon's Combined Payroll Tax Reporting System. For information about calculating the assessment, visit oregon.gov/DCBS/Pages/wbf.aspx, email wbfassess.fabs@oregon.gov, or call 503-378-2372.

This fund pays for benefits to injured workers and their beneficiaries. The fund also provides money to employers to help injured workers return to work.

For more information about workers' compensation costs:

- Contact your insurer.
- Call the Oregon Department of Consumer and Business Services at 800-452-0288 (toll-free) or visit <http://www.oregon.gov/DCBS/cost/Pages/index.aspx>.



Oregon Department of
Consumer and Business Services
350 Winter St. NE
P.O. Box 14480
Salem, OR 97309-0405

**2018 Workers' Compensation
Premium Rate Notice Enclosed**

New Retirement Savings Program

The Oregon State Treasury is launching a new program, **OregonSaves**, offering workers a convenient way to save for retirement.

The program allows them to save a part of each paycheck through payroll deductions facilitated by their employer and to invest their savings in professionally-managed investment options in a Roth individual retirement account. The account is portable, allowing workers to take it with them from job to job.

Any business with employees that does not provide an employer sponsored retirement plan will need to register to facilitate OregonSaves for its employees.

Employers can choose to offer their own retirement plans to some or all of their employees instead of participating in the program.

The program will roll out in phases. The first registration deadline – Nov. 15, 2017 – applies to employers with 100 or more employees.

For more information, including more details about employer registration, visit www.oregonsaves.com or call 844-661-1256.