

From: Ohio Bureau of Workers' Compensation
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BWC Provider eNews



Aug. 12, 2015

Seeking transitional work plan developers; training is Aug. 27 at OCOSH

Are you a BWC-certified case manager, physical or occupational therapist who enjoys working with employers at the job site? If yes, consider becoming a BWC-accredited transitional work grant program developer. Plan to attend a developer orientation class from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Thursday, Aug. 27, at the Ohio Center for Occupational Safety and Health, 13430 Yarmouth Drive in Pickerington.

Ohio employers may apply for and receive a transitional work grant from BWC to pay up to 75 percent of the total cost the employer pays to the transitional work developer for covered services. Employers use their grant to develop a customized plan designed specifically for their company. A BWC-accredited transitional work developer must develop these plans.

Requirements for developers

This progressive return-to-work program enables an employer's injured employee with temporary physical restrictions to transition back to his or her original job. Established criteria ensure a high level of consistency and quality among our certified providers.

Thus, BWC-certified providers must have:

- Documented transitional-work experience;
 - Completed a one-day BWC workshop;
 - One of the certifications or licensures listed below.
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- Certified rehabilitation counselor

- Certified disability management specialist
- Certified vocational evaluator
- Certification for American Board of Vocational Experts
- Certified case manager
- Certified occupational health nurse
- Certified rehabilitation registered nurse
- Licensed occupational therapist
- Licensed physical therapist

Interested providers must email the [Transitional Work Developer's Application \(TWD-115\)](#) to twsupport@bwc.state.oh.us.

Accredited transitional work developer

Once you complete the accreditation process, providers hold the distinction of being a BWC-accredited transitional work developer. We will include your name on the BWC-accredited developer list on our transitional work developer's [information page](#).

On-site transitional work therapy helps providers, injured workers

Did you know you can reduce medical and rehabilitation costs and shorten an injured worker's return to work? Transitional work is a reimbursable service. However, few physicians, employers and therapy providers take advantage of it.

Through transitional work, the employee returns to work safely and much sooner. This helps lower the employer's indemnity costs, and the worker maintains his or her position and workplace affiliations.

Occupational, physical therapists offer therapy

Occupational or physical therapists (OT, PT) provide transitional work in one- to two-periods. The therapist uses real work tasks to improve the worker's strength, flexibility and endurance during an eight week or less time frame.

The service primarily focuses on using the injured worker's functional work tasks as a part of therapy. You cannot duplicate this type of therapy in a clinical setting. The worker performs his or her work tasks as a part of therapy in a job setting doing relevant work activities. For example, raising and climbing ladders, loading and unloading parts, supplies and machine operations.

Making a request

As the employee's physician, you can request transitional work

services on a **Completing the Request for Medical Service Reimbursement or Recommendation for Additional Conditions for Industrial Injury or Occupational Disease (C-9)**. An injured worker may receive transitional work services as a part of the presumptive authorization program. This program allows 10 transitional-work sessions.

For example, you request a basic OT/PT evaluation and treatment. The therapist evaluates the employee and establishes the transitional work plan. The therapist is now the eyes on the job site for a safe and sustained return to work. There is communication between the physician, employer and worker. In addition, lost-time claims and complicated injuries may also benefit from transitional work services in a vocational rehabilitation plan.

Reimbursement

BWC reimburses for this service in 15-minute units for a maximum of 192 units (48 hours) along with travel and mileage expenses.

For more information

Email twsupport@bwc.state.oh.us to obtain more information about transitional work therapy and reimbursement.

BWC/Columbus State train our employees on ICD-10

To ensure BWC is ready for ICD-10 implementation, we contracted with Columbus State Community College (CSCC) to create a customized BWC ICD-10 training curriculum. To date, more than 500 of our staff members have successfully completed this training. They have provided very positive feedback about the program.

Classroom and e-learning modules

The training includes classroom and e-learning modules with training goals to advance our staff's knowledge and understanding of the ICD-10 coding convention. This includes the most frequent Ohio workers' compensation injuries and diseases, effective use of the ICD-10 manual for accurate coding selection, and a review of basic and advanced medical terminology.

Columbus State has agreed to make this same training opportunity available to managed care organizations and providers. However, you would be responsible for covering and negotiating the cost directly with CSCC.

For more information

If you would like to explore this training option, contact **Michael Bowers**, director, Center for Workforce Development, at 614-287-5509 or fax 614-287-5405.

Physicians and health professionals: Save March 10, 11 for free educational sessions

BWC's 2016 Ohio Safety Congress & Expo will feature a Pain Symposium conference and educational opportunities related to workers' compensation specific medical topics. This free continuing educational seminar will feature nationally known and Ohio speakers. All sessions will be held at the Greater Columbus Convention Center. Read upcoming Provider eNews issues for more details.

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