



## N E W S L I N E

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### **DWC Posts Draft Interpreter Fee Schedule Regulations to Online Forum for Public Comment**

The Division of Workers' Compensation (DWC) has posted draft interpreter fee schedule regulations to the [online forum](#) where members of the public may review and comment on the proposals. The draft regulations include:

- *A new fee structure.* The fee structure is based upon a number of factors including whether the interpreter is certified, the language to be interpreted, and the forum where the interpreting occurs. The base rate for a certified Spanish interpreter is derived from the Federal Court rate. Higher rates are paid for certified interpreters of other languages. Lower rates are paid to provisional and non-certified interpreters.
- *Establishes objective, uniform rates* resulting in faster bill payment without liens and protracted litigation. Independent bill review procedure will resolve residual disputes.
- *Emphasis on a qualified interpreter.* The regulations require use of certified interpreters in all forums wherever possible, with restrictions on use of provisionally certified interpreters. This is to guarantee the injured worker is provided with a qualified interpreter.
- *Detailed billing information and billing codes.* The regulations require interpreters to provide detailed billing information, and set forth specific billing codes, to be compensated. The billing information and codes require the interpreter to identify the event billed, the time charged, the language, and qualifications of the interpreter, in addition to other information specific to the particular situation.
- *Selection and arrangement of interpreters.* The regulations provide clarity on the selection of, and arrangement for interpreters.

The forum can be found online on the DWC forums web page under "[current forums](#)." Comments will be accepted on the forum until 5 p.m. on Thursday, May 7, 2015.

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