

PO Box 12050 | Austin, TX 78711 | 800-252-7031 | tdi.texas.gov/wc

# **APPLICATION FOR ATTORNEY FEES**

Online submission available through Web-Enabled Attorney Fee Processing System at:

https://txapps.texas.gov/NASApp/twcc/TwccAFManager

I. GENERAL INFORMATIO	DN					
1. DWC Claim Number (r	nm/dd/yyyy)	2. Dates of Service (mm/dd/yyyy) From To				
3. Indicate if benefit per	centage being requested is le	ss than 25%. %				
4. Are any fees for dispu	te where claimant prevailed o	on entitlement to or amount of supplemental income benefits (SIBs)?*				
5. Attorney 1 - Name (La	st, First, MI)	6. Attorney 1 - Bar Card Number				
7. Firm Name		8. Firm Mailing Address (Street or PO Box, City, State, ZIP)				
9. Firm Phone Number		<b>10. Attorney represents:</b> Employee        Insurance Carrier        Beneficiary				
11. Attorney 2 – Name (I	ast, First, MI)	12. Attorney 2 - Bar Card Number				
13. Attorney 3 – Name (I	.ast, First, MI)	14. Attorney 3 - Bar Card Number				
15. Injured Employee's N	lame (Last, First, MI)	16. Date of Injury				
17. Beneficiary's Name (	if applicable)	18. Beneficiary's SSN (if applicable)				
19. Beneficiary's Address	s (Street or PO Box, City, State, Z	IP) (if applicable)				
20. Beneficiary Type:	Spouse Common Law Spouse	Parent Grandchild Child Other   Step-parent Grandparent Sibling				
•	the SIBs issue, including fees rela	nental Income Benefits (SIBs) issue may be included on this application. Any fees ated to SIBs matters not at issue in the dispute proceeding, must be included on				

#### **II. REQUEST SUMMARY**

21. Provide the information requested below. Use the Attorney Services chart in Section III to total the hours for each							
attorney/legal assistant. Provide hourly rates and calculate the dollar amount for each attorney or legal assistant's time.							
	Hours		Rate	Amount			
Attorney 1 (A1)		\$	/hr.	\$			
Attorney 2 (A2)		\$	/hr.	\$			
Attorney 3 (A3)		\$	/hr.	\$			
Legal Assistant (LA)		\$	/hr.	\$			
Subtotals				\$			
	\$						
	\$						

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**22.** Provide the information requested in the chart below. Use the Table of Codes on page 3 as appropriate. Report time as whole hours and decimal fractions of hours (e.g. 1 hour 6 minutes = 01.1). If request exceeds guidelines in 28 Texas Administrative Code (TAC) §152.4, attach written justification.

	Date of Service (mm/dd/yyyy)	Category	Actor	Action	Recipient	Hours Requested
Ex.	01/01/2014	CC	A1	DL	С	01.1
a.						
b.						
с.						
d.						
e.						
f.						
g.						
h.						
i.						
j.						
k.						
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m.						
n.						
0.						
p.						
q.						
r.						
s.						
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w.						
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у.						
z.						
aa.						
bb.						
cc.						
dd.						
ee.						
ff.						

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**DWC152** 

	TABLE OF CODES							
	Category Codes		Action Performed Codes		Recipient Codes			
AL	Appeals	AD	Attend Deposition of	А	Court Reporter			
AS	Agreements and Settlements	AP	Attend Proceeding	В	Beneficiary			
BR	Benefit Review Conference	CF	Complete and File Claim Form	С	Claimant			
СС	Contested Case Hearing	DL	Draft Letter to	D	Disability Determination Officer			
CF	Communications	DP	Draft and File Pleadings/Documents	Е	Employer			
IR	Informal Resolution	П	Initial Interview	н	Administrative Law Judge			
IS	Initial Services	LR	Performed Legal Research	I.	Carrier			
TT	Travel Time	oc	Office Conference with	J	Adjuster			
		- PP	Prepare for Proceeding	0	Ombudsman			
	Actor Codes	RF	Review File	Р	Health Care Provider			
41	Attorney 1 (primary attorney)	RR	Receive/Review Documents	R	Benefit Review Officer			
42	Attorney 2 (secondary attorney)	SF	Set Up File	т	Other Division Staff			
43	Attorney 3 (tertiary attorney)	тс	Telephone Conference with	w	Witness			
LA	Legal Assistant		•	z	Other Carrier			

# IV. ATTORNEY EXPENSES (Attach additional pages as necessary.)

23.	23. Provide the information requested below.								
	Date (mm/dd/yyyy)	Expense Code	Actor	Amount	Mileage		Expense Code List		
a.				\$		AF	Air Fare	SP	Subpoena
b.				\$		AR	Auto Rental	тс	LD Call from Client
с.				\$		СС	LD Collect Call from Client	TD	Travel for BRC*
d.				\$		CR	Court Reporter	TE	Travel for CCH*
e.				\$		IN	Investigative Services	TF	Translator
f.				\$		LR	Legal Research	TH	LD Call to Health Provider
g.				\$		ML	Meals	ТР	LD Call to Other Party
h.				\$		00	Other Overnight	TR	LD Call to Other Party's Rep
i.				\$		РК	Parking	WF	Witness Fee
		TOTAL E	XPENSES	\$		RC	Record Copies	NOTE	: LD = Long Distance

\*Report only if the BRC or CCH is held at a location more than 25 miles from the attorney's nearest office.

# V. CERTIFICATION

# 24. I certify the following:

- I am an attorney for the client identified in this application.
- Regardless of the method used to submit this application (original signature, stamp signature, encryption or facsimile), it shall have the same effect as submission with an original signature.
- I am duly authorized and qualified in all respects to make this application.
- I am responsible and liable for any information contained in this submission.
- I have read this application and any attached document(s).
- Every statement, numerical figure and calculation contained herein is within my personal knowledge, is true and correct, and represents services, charges, and expenses provided by me or a legal assistant under my supervision.

25. Printed Name of Attorney 1	Signature of Attorney 1	Date (mm/dd/yyyy)
26. Printed Name of Attorney 2	Signature of Attorney 2	Date (mm/dd/yyyy)
27. Printed Name of Attorney 3	Signature of Attorney 3	Date (mm/dd/yyyy)

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## Frequently Asked Questions Application for Attorney Fees (DWC Form-152)

## What are the guidelines for attorney fees?

Claimant's attorney fees (generally): An injured employee's attorney fees are paid out of the claimant's recovery of benefits. The fees cannot exceed 25 percent of those benefits. In approving an attorney's fee or expense, the Texas Department of Insurance, Division of Workers' Compensation (TDI-DWC) considers the guidelines for legal services and the maximum hourly rate for legal services provided in 28 Texas Administrative Code (TAC) §152.4, as well as Labor Code §408.221 and §408.222.

Claimant's attorney fees (SIBs dispute): When an injured employee's attorney fees are related to a dispute where the injured employee prevailed on the issue of entitlement to or amount of SIBs, the fees are paid by the insurance carrier and are not limited to 25 percent of the injured employee's income benefits.

Insurance carrier's attorney fees: An insurance carrier's attorney fees must be reasonable and necessary, and they must be based on criteria similar to those applicable to an injured employee's attorney fees.

### How many attorneys may request fees on a single application?

Up to three attorneys and one legal assistant may request fees on a single application. If more than three attorneys and one legal assistant provided services, an additional DWC Form-152 must be submitted.

### Is written justification of fees required?

Additional case-specific justification in the form of a summary paragraph titled "Justification Text" is required if:

- the requested fees exceed the guidelines set out in 28 TAC §152.4;
- the services provided require additional detail or clarification to justify payment; or
- TDI-DWC requests additional justification.

### How do I file the DWC Form-152?

### Attorneys can send DWC Form-152 to TDI-DWC by:

- E-file at: <u>https://txapps.texas.gov/NASApp/twcc/TwccAFManager</u>
- Fax: 512-804-4011
- Mail: Texas Department of Insurance, Division of Workers' Compensation Hearings, Mail Code HRG PO Box 12050 Austin, TX 78711-2050

### What will TDI-DWC do?

TDI-DWC determines whether all or part of the request should be approved and issues an order approving, partially approving, or denying the application for attorney fees.

How do I appeal an order approving, partially approving, or denying my application for attorney fees? Information on the appeal process can be found in 28 TAC §152.3.

**Note:** With few exceptions, on your request, you are entitled to:

- be informed about the information DWC collects about you;
- receive and review the information (Government Code Sections 552.021 and 552.023); and
- have DWC correct information that is incorrect (Government Code Section 559.004).

For more information, contact <u>DWCLegalServices@tdi.texas.gov</u> or refer to the Corrections Procedure section at <u>www.tdi.texas.gov/commissioner/legal/lccorprc.html</u>