

An improved workers' compensation system for doctors

The Texas workers' compensation system has improved in big ways over the past few years. This in part is due to legislative reforms and the Texas Department of Insurance, Division of Workers' Compensation's (DWC) efforts to streamline the delivery of medical services. It's easier than ever to become a treating doctor, and the reimbursement for non-network medical services is extremely competitive with other payor systems.



Competitive reimbursement rates

Workers' compensation can be an attractive revenue stream for doctors. Reimbursement for 2024 non-network medical services performed in the office is not only competitive, but two times higher than Medicare rates. Also, for professional surgeon bills for surgeries performed in a facility, reimbursement is two and a half times higher than Medicare rates. This is better than most private payors. These rates are adjusted annually by the Medicare Economic Index which was 4.6% for 2024.

You can also join a certified workers' compensation health care network (network) to negotiate rates for treating injured employees who are subject to their employer's network. About half of all injuries in the workers' compensation system are network claims.

No training or testing requirements

Some doctors may remember the Approved Doctors List, which required all doctors to register, train, and test to treat workers' compensation patients. That is no longer the case.

Since September 2007, you are no longer required to train or test to be a treating, referral, or consulting doctor. Only designated doctors or doctors who are authorized to perform impairment ratings and other similar workers' compensation exams are required to train and take a test.

Easy to create a profile in TXCOMP

Doctors can create a profile in DWC's health care provider database, called TXCOMP, so their information is available to those looking for doctors accepting workers' compensation patients. Keep in mind that creating a profile does not obligate you to take workers' compensation patients. You may still decide which workers' compensation cases you want to accept. Doctors must file a financial disclosure (if any) in their TXCOMP profile to participate in the Texas workers' compensation system.

Visit TXCOMP:



Learn more about
financial disclosures:



Free DWC resources

DWC has worked hard to provide training resources to support health care providers and their staff. Our website is easy to navigate, and our health care provider webpage has many resources for doctors. In addition, DWC's CompConnection is a health care provider helpline to answer any questions about providing medical services to injured employees. From questions on billing, coding, reimbursement, or form completion—you name it—CompConnection can answer it.



DWC's health care provider outreach and education team offers live webinars, including a very popular Boot Camp series, to prepare your staff to process medical billing for workers' compensation claims and other topics. You can also find on-demand videos to brush up on workers' compensation health care provider topics.

Email us at CompConnection@tdi.texas.gov or call CompConnection at 800-252-7031, option 3. We will be glad to assist you in becoming a Texas workers' compensation doctor.

**Visit our health care
provider webpage:**

