

› Vocational Rehabilitation

More ways to control your annual premium cost

Ohio Workers' Compensation costs can add up quickly. The Ohio Bureau of Workers' Compensation (BWC) offers a number of specialized vocational rehabilitation programs and services to help eligible injured workers safely maintain their employment or return-to-work. Vocational rehabilitation programs are voluntary and individually tailored to injured workers and their work environment.

For most types of vocational rehabilitation plans, if a claim is eligible, ongoing costs are charged to the Ohio BWC surplus fund. *Why is this important?* Rather than compensation and medical costs being charged to the employer's experience, it is offset through the BWC Surplus Fund, translating to fewer costs in the claim and potentially a lower premium for the employer.

Vocational Rehabilitation Programs Include:

Remain at Work (RAW)

This program is for injured workers released to modified or light duty who remained on the job or returned to work (medical only claims), but are experiencing difficulties and are in jeopardy of going off work. (Not paid from surplus fund.)

Job Retention

This program is for injured workers released to modified or light duty who remained on the job or returned to work but missed eight or more days (lost-time claims), are experiencing difficulties and are in jeopardy of going off work.

Vocational Rehabilitation Return-to-Work (RTW)

Vocational rehabilitation focuses on returning injured workers, who are not working, back to their original job, at their original employer. If that is not possible, rehabilitation services can help the injured worker identify skills and abilities to secure a new job with another employer. The goal is to help restore injured workers to the level of work and earnings they had prior to their injury.

The goal of any vocational rehabilitation program is to return an injured worker to their original position, at full capacity.

Return-to Work Hierarchy for Vocational Rehabilitation:

1. Same Job Same Employer
2. Different Job Same Employer
3. Same Job Different Employer
4. Different Job Different Employer

For more information on vocational rehabilitation programs please contact your MCO team. For more information on eligibility, visit <https://info.bwc.ohio.gov>

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