

L&I to adopt national data standards:

IAIABC standards will support the development of the new Self-Insurance Risk-Analysis System

The Department of Labor & Industries is pleased to announce our commitment to adopt the data standards of the International Association of Industrial Accident Boards and Commissions (IAIABC). The IAIABC standards will apply to Washington State's self-insurers; the goal of the change is to increase the accuracy and reliability of their data for workers' compensation claims. Having higher-quality data will expand the ability for self-insured employers to create benchmarks.

L&I will formally adopt the IAIABC standards for claims data on July 1, 2017; after that time, all of Washington's self-insurers will be required to report to L&I based on the new standards. (The change will be phased-in; read more below.) The incorporation of the new data standards will be part of the transition to the new Self-Insurance Risk-Analysis System, or SIRAS, that is currently in development.

The new Self-Insurance Risk-Analysis System (SIRAS) and its web-based data interchange

L&I and the self-insured employer community have agreed to partner in the development of a new data reporting system, the Self-Insurance Risk-Analysis System, or SIRAS. The new system will incorporate the IAIABC standards. SIRAS will help L&I to streamline our internal processes, with the goal of improving our response time in working with the SI community.

To make it easy for self-insured employers and TPAs to submit data into SIRAS, L&I staff will work with a third-party vendor to create a new web-based data interchange. Having a web portal also will make it easier for workers and other partners to report areas of concern.

Phased-in implementation

L&I plans to have SIRAS's electronic data interchange, or web portal, ready by April 2017. The first group to move to the new system will be third-party administrators (TPAs) that already submit IAIABC data elements in other states; thank you to this group of TPAs for volunteering to lead the transition to SIRAS. The last group to transition to SIRAS will be self-administered employers such as counties, hospitals and school districts; this will allow additional time to change your systems.

As we know more about dates for implementation, we will share that information with you.

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