



Federal, tribal, and other insurers – how to file claims and bill the correct entity

Workers' compensation insurers' procedures and forms differ between carriers and legal jurisdictions, so it is important to file claims with the correct carrier. However, it can be complicated to identify the agency or program that provides insurance coverage. On some worksites, a federal program may cover one employee, while an employee working alongside may be covered by the Department of Labor & Industries (L&I) or a self-insured employer in Washington State.

L&I provides this document as guidance only to help doctors and patients file claims correctly and in a timely way. For definitive information, go directly to the appropriate agency's website.

Federal Claims – The Basics

[U.S. Department of Labor's Office of Workers' Compensation Programs](#)

The federal Department of Labor's Office of Workers' Compensation Programs office (OWCP) administers workers' compensation programs under four Acts:

- Federal Employees' Compensation Act (FECA)
- Longshore and Harbor Workers' Compensation Act (LHWCA)
- Division of Coal Mine Workers' Compensation (DCMWC) Federal Black Lung Benefits Act (FBLBA)
- Department of Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation Program Act (DEEOICA)

Provider accounts

[Register for an account](#)

Fee schedules

The OWCP Medical Fee Schedule Applies to FECA, LHWCA, and DEEOICA; a modified version is used for the FBLBA. See the [OWCP Medical Fee Schedule](#). [Global Surgery](#). [Anesthesia Fee Schedule](#). [Pharmacy Processing](#). [Pharmacy Schedule II](#). [Consultation Codes](#).

[Web bill processing portal](#)

Available for all OWCP programs (FECA, DCMWC, DEEOIC). Includes contact information for prescription benefits, processing questions, and electronic data interchange.

Return to work resources

In most federal programs, return-to-work resources are highly variable. It is frequently best to work directly with a federal worker's supervisor to determine what may be possible.

<p>Federal employees</p> <p>The worker's supervisor initiates the claim.</p>	<p>OWCP Division of Federal Employees' Compensation (DFEC)</p>	<p>Overview:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Division of Federal Employees' Compensation (DFEC)—enroll as a provider. ▪ Medical provider information on medical authorization, bill processing procedures, as well as eligibility for medical services. To speak to a customer service representative regarding medical authorizations or bills, call 844-493-1966, toll free. <p>Sign up to receive periodic updates.</p> <p>Worker submits Form CA-1 to supervisor or employer to file a claim for traumatic injury or for continuation of pay/compensation. They file a CA-2 for occupational disease. Forms.</p> <p>All federal claims are initiated by the worker's supervisor with the CA-1 or CA-2 form (ED Exception). The supervisor then gives the attending provider a CA-16, which guarantees payment of medical expenses, or LS-202 form which authorizes initiation of care. The provider then mails a copy of the form and their bill to:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">U.S. Department of Labor DFEC Central Mailroom PO Box 8300 London, KY 40742-8300</p> <p>Be sure to include the claim number on every page.</p> <p>Or fax the appropriate Medical Authorization form and supporting documentation to 800-215-4901.</p> <p>Additional details and frequently asked questions.</p>	<p>Employees of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, – Base exchange and commissary, – CIA and FBI, – Defense-based contractors, – Embassies, – Forestry, – US Depts. of Energy, National Parks, Postal Service, – US Marshalls, – TSA, and – others
Maritime	Jurisdiction	How to file a claim	Comments
<p>At sea and in port</p>	<p>Jones Act, also known as MEL (Marine Employees' Liability Insurance)</p>	<p>To identify the appropriate way to file a claim or to get care, you may need information from the employer or a lawyer.</p>	<p>Covers captains, engineers, crew members of commercial vessels, hard-hat divers, seamen, WA Dept. of Transportation ferry workers and able-</p>

	Dept. of Corrections covers all inmates who engage in this work.	File either: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ State Fund Report of Accident <u>www.Lni.wa.gov/FileFast</u> or <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Self-insured claim, use the Provider's Initial Report To find out if an employer is self-insured	Exception: City, county, and port districts are covered under L&I State Fund, or, if they self-insure, by the municipality. Ex: fireboat captains and crew, search and rescue workers, etc.
Work performed over water within 200 miles of continental US borders.	US Longshore and Harbor Workers Act	Worker submits form LS-201, employer submits LS 202. Forms. Medical Provider information and forms. Exception: File either: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ State Fund Report of Accident or <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Self-insured claim, use the Provider's Initial Report To find out if an employer is self-insured	Covers mechanics repairing vessels, shipyard workers, stevedores, and employees on bridges that open or control maritime traffic, locks, shipyard and dock workers, etc. Exception: City, county, and port districts are covered under L&I State Fund, or, if they self-insure, by the municipality. Ex: fireboat captains and crew, search and rescue workers, etc.
Work performed on land	L&I State Fund	File State Fund Report of Accident	Covers ship surveyors, office workers, drivers, mechanics, etc.
Sole proprietor for commercial ship work	U.S. Longshore and Harbor Workers Act OR Sole proprietor may select L&I or to be SIE (Self-Insured)	Same maritime information as above. OR File either: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ State Fund Report of Accident or <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Self-insured claim, use the Provider's Initial Report To find out if an employer is self-insured	Private vessel repair and maintenance.

Military	Jurisdiction	How to file a claim	Comments
On base maintenance	Both circumstances are insured within Washington State.	File either: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ State Fund Report of Accident or <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Self-insured claim, use the Provider's Initial Report To find out if an employer is self-insured	Electricians, HVAC, helicopter repair, etc.
On base, defense-based and other contractors		Contracted employers' workers	
In war zone	US Longshore and Harbor Workers Act	Worker submits form LS-201 at www.dol.gov/owcp/dlhwc/	
Tribal	Jurisdiction	How to file a claim	Comments
On tribal land	Coverage differs by tribe. Tribal One insurance may be present.	Call the tribal office or casino to learn how to file a claim.	
Not on tribal land	Coverage differs by tribe.	Call the tribal office or casino to learn how to file a claim.	
OTHER Jurisdictions		How to file a claim	
Railroad	Jones Act	A federal regulation and benefits program may exist. Individual railroad companies may vary. Contact the employer or a lawyer to learn the best way to file a claim to obtain care. May need to sue the Federal Employees Compensation Act (FECA) or the company for care.	
Self-employed sole proprietors	May select L&I or to pay their own medical bills	If insured by L&I, file a State Fund Report of Accident	