

Lead Agency: County Management

Program Contact: Michelle Cross

Program Offer Type: Existing Operating

Related Programs:

Program Characteristics:

Executive Summary

The Safety and Health Section oversees the loss prevention efforts of Multnomah County. The section assists each department in meeting the loss prevention requirements for a workers' compensation self-insured employer and Oregon OSHA compliance.

The Workers' Compensation Section manages the work-related employee injury and illness process and assists employees in returning to their jobs after an injury or illness.

Program Description

The Safety and Health Section is aimed at reducing employee on-the-job injuries and employer liability due to injuries to non-employees. Safety and Health staff consult with County departments to assist them in providing a safe environment for both employees and the public. It helps identify and abate deficiencies related to occupational safety and health regulations. All loss prevention activity needed to maintain the workers' compensation self-insured status is managed by the Safety and Health staff.

Provides workers' compensation benefits in accordance with state law. Multnomah County has been self-insured for this mandatory program since 1978. Claims are administered through a contract with a third-party administrator (TPA). Staff work with employees, supervisors, physicians, the TPA, attorneys, managed care organizations, and other vendors to accurately and timely process claim benefits for the injured employee. Internal workers' compensation section employees focus on service, cost containment, and compliance efficiency. The Workers' Compensation Section is responsible for the County's return-to-work program and follows state requirements necessary to benefit from the Workers' Compensation Division's (WCD)Employer-At-Injury reimbursement program.

Performance Measures

Measure Type	Primary Measure	Previous Year Actual (FY11-12)	Current Year Purchased (FY12-13)	Current Year Estimate (FY12-13)	Next Year Offer (FY13-14)
Output	Number of site safety visits designed to meet loss prevention requirements.	29	24	24	24
Outcome	County Experience Rating Modifier less than industry average	30.0%	30.0%	25.0%	25.0%
Output	Review and update 12 RSK Administrative Procedures	0	0	0	12
Quality	Meeting timeliness requirements for notices and payments as measured by OR-WCD.	92.0%	95.0%	95.0%	95.0%

Performance Measure - Description

1) Perform site safety visits annually and assist Departments and Offices in abating identified deficiencies. Staff goal is to visit sites engaging in operations that present higher risk of injury. An example is field work conducted by groups including Vector Control, the Bridge Shop, and Road Maintenance.

2) A workers' compensation experience modifier below industry average demonstrates the County's ability to manage claims better than the insurance industry average. Premiums are calculated based on total payroll and the experience modifier is used when factoring amount of premium taxes owed to the State.

3) Administrative Procedures provide guidance to Departments and Offices on how to address select issues to prevent injuries. Some Admin Procedures (e.g. RSK-22 Respiratory Protection, RSK-25 AED Use) serve as the overall program for all County Departments and Offices.

4) Quarterly claims processing performance as reported by OR-WCD. Self-insured employers must be above 90% for timely claim filing, timely first payment of compensation, and compensability determinations. Maintaining this level or above demonstrates high quality of service.

Legal/Contractual Obligation

MCC 7.102 and 7.103 establishes the safety and loss prevention program in the County. The Oregon Safe Employment Act, ORS 654, establishes minimum safety standards for employers. Oregon OSHA, as outlined in OAR 437-001-1005 through 1020 and 1050 through 1060, requires each self-insured employer to have a written loss prevention plan for each location and to provide safety and health loss prevention services for each worksite.

Revenue/Expense Detail

	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds
Program Expenses	2013	2013	2014	2014
Personnel	\$0	\$682,276	\$0	\$741,161
Contracts	\$0	\$155,000	\$0	\$320,000
Materials & Supplies	\$0	\$3,524,284	\$0	\$3,669,000
Internal Services	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total GF/non-GF:	\$0	\$4,361,560	\$0	\$4,730,161
Program Total:	\$4,361,560		\$4,730,161	
Program FTE	0.00	6.00	0.00	6.00
Program Revenues				
Fees, Permits & Charges	\$0	\$4,211,560	\$0	\$4,420,161
Other / Miscellaneous	\$0	\$150,000	\$0	\$310,000
Total Revenue:	\$0	\$4,361,560	\$0	\$4,730,161

Explanation of Revenues

The Workers' Compensation Section receives reimbursement from the State of Oregon for claims cost when specific eligibility criteria is met. Claim processing overpayment reimbursements are also received as revenue. Safety and Health receives internal service reimbursements from departments whose staff attend the first aid/CPR/AED classes taught by Safety and Health instructors. The revenues received are to offset the cost paid to the Red Cross for course materials and completion certificates. The cost to Departments/Offices whose staff attend these internal classes are well below the cost of taking the class from an external provider.

Significant Program Changes

Last year this program was: #72014, FRM Worker's Compensation/Safety & Health