



July 2009

THE IC

Medi Scene

Ohio | Industrial Commission

Keeping You Up-to-Date with the Industrial Commission

Transcription for In-house Examiners

For those of you who perform examinations at an Industrial Commission office, there will be some changes in the processing of your draft report, effective June, 2009.

When a report is dictated at an IC office, a word processor from either Dayton, Cincinnati or Columbus will transcribe the report, regardless of the exam location.

The assigned word processor will then fax the transcribed document to you for review. Reports will no longer be hand delivered for review.

If corrections are needed, you will be directed to fax the report and necessary edits to the typist within five business days of the date of the exam.

If no corrections are needed, you will be directed to fax the report to the assigned report processing location within ten business days of the date of the exam.

The cover letter that accompanies your report will direct you to correct location and fax number. Please note that misdirected faxes may delay processing.

What's New: Raising the Bar

Beginning January of 2009, the Industrial Commission has adopted new standards for credentialing for its specialist examiners.

Please carefully review the prerequisites listed below. Note that there is a provision for application for reappointment after five years, which will begin in January of 2014. All new applicants, as well as those applying for reappointment, will need to provide documentation of eight hours of continuing education credits specific to impairment rating within the prior five years. Additionally, there

are provisions for continued clinical practice within one's specialty, or recent retirement.

We believe these provisions are reasonably stringent for those providing medical specialty evaluations to assist the Industrial Commission in the important issue of its consideration of Injured Workers' application for a determination of Permanent Total Disability.

Please contact us at twelsh@ic.state.oh.us, 614-466-1266, or wmullins@ic.state.oh.us, 614-644-9234 if you have any questions.

Prerequisites for Appointment to the Medical Specialist Panel

1. A current unrestricted license to practice issued by the appropriate state licensing board.
2. Specialty Certification:
 - Medical Doctor (M.D.)--board certification as recognized by the American Board of Medical Specialties, the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons, Canada, or the Royal College of Surgeons of England
 - Doctor of Osteopathy (D.O.)--board certification as recognized by the American Osteopathic Association
 - Chiropractor (D.C.)--diplomate status in Orthopedics, Neurology, Internal Disorders, Sports Medicine or Occupational Health
 - Psychologist (Ph.D., Psy.D., Ed.D.)--three years experience in Health Psychology or Behavioral Medicine, or one year post doctoral training and two years clinical experience in Health Psychology or Behavioral Medicine
 - Doctor of Dental Surgery (D.D.S.)--board certification in Maxillofacial or Oral Surgery
 - Podiatrist (D.P.M.)--diplomate status by the American Board of Podiatric Surgery
 - Physicians providing electrodiagnostic studies must be board certified by the American Association of Neuromuscular and Electrodiagnostic Medicine
3. Unrestricted eligibility to participate in Medicare and Medicaid programs.
4. No suspension, public reprimand, or probation from professional practice within the past five years.
5. The specialist must maintain at her/his expense, professional liability insurance of \$1,000,000 per Incident and \$1,000,000 per annum.
6. The specialist must have two years of full time, clinical practice experience in her/his specialty.
7. The specialist must document eight hours of continuing medical education credits (CME) within the past five years, specific to impairment rating.
8. The specialist must practice direct patient care in her/his specialty at least eight hours per week on a recurring basis for forty weeks per year or have had an active clinical practice or office practice of at least five years duration voluntarily closed within the past seven years.

Did you Know?

The Ohio Supreme Court defines impairment as "the amount of the injured workers' anatomic and/or mental loss of function caused by the allowed condition."

Continuing education questions MediScene July 09

1. Impairment
 - A. Can be due to anatomic loss of function.
 - B. Represents the loss of ability to perform a type of work.
 - C. Can be due to mental loss of function.
 - D. All of the above.
 - E. A. and C.
2. Industrial Commission medical specialist examiners
 - A. Must have two years practice experience in their specialty.
 - B. Are required to apply for reappointment in two years.
 - C. Must be in active practice in their specialty or recently retired.
 - D. All of the above.
 - E. A. and C.
3. Continuing education requirements for Industrial Commission specialist examiners
 - A. Must be specific to impairment evaluation.
 - B. Can be category one or two.
 - C. Include eight hours of credit over five years.
 - D. All of the above.
 - E. A. and C.

(Answers: 1. E.; 2. E.; 3. D.)