

Workers' Compensation Board

Our mission

The mission of the Workers' Compensation Board (WCB) is to provide timely and impartial resolution of disputes arising under Workers' Compensation Law and the Oregon Safe Employment Act.

Who we are

The Oregon Legislature created WCB as an independent agency in 1965. In 1987, the Legislature continued WCB as an independent agency within the Department of Insurance and Finance (now the Oregon Department of Consumer and Business Services).

WCB includes the Hearings, Board Review, and Administrative Services divisions, as well as Information Technology (IT) and Research Support. The Hearings Division contains legal staff and administrative law judges (ALJs), who conduct contested case hearings and provide alternative dispute resolution. Board Review staff members support five board members. Administrative Services provides central support for all divisions, and IT and Research provides computer support and reviews agency performance.

The five-member board is appointed by the governor to serve four-year terms, subject to Senate confirmation. The board functions as an appellate body that reviews ALJs' workers' compensation orders on appeal, exercises Own Motion jurisdiction, and reviews Claim Disposition Agreements (settlement, compromise and release

of workers' benefits). In addition, WCB conducts hearings regarding applications for compensation under the Crime Victim Assistance Program, and also resolves disputes between workers and workers' compensation insurance companies arising from workers' civil actions against potentially liable third parties.

Our staff consists of:

- ◆ Board members
- ◆ Administrative law judges
- ◆ Staff attorneys
- ◆ Judicial assistants
- ◆ Administrative and office support specialists

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440-5658d (2/25/COM)

Main office location:
2601 25th St. SE, Suite 150
Salem, OR 97302-1280

503-378-3308
877-311-8061
866-880-2078
[oregon.gov/wcb](https://www.oregon.gov/wcb)

