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## State of Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development

## Worker's Compensation Insurance Letter

INS#	498
Date	December 6, 2013
Program	Claims Management
Type	Informational
Replaces	Insurance Letter 494

NAME ADDRESS1 ADDRESS2 CITY STATE ZIP

**To:** Claims Handling Offices for Insurance Carriers and Self Insured Employers

rom: John Metcalf, Division Administrator

Subject: Worker's Compensation 2014 Rate Changes

**Purpose:** Announce 2014 maximum rates effective January 1, 2014.

<u>Background</u>: Wisconsin's maximum Worker's Compensation rate will increase to \$892 per week for temporary total disability, permanent total disability and death benefits for injuries occurring on or after January 1, 2014. The new average weekly wage used to compute the maximum rate is \$1338.00.

Using this new wage raises the maximum death benefit for fatal injuries occurring on or after January 1, 2014 to \$267,600.

As of this date, the maximum weekly indemnity rate for permanent partial disability will remain \$322 for injuries occurring on or after January 1, 2014. If this benefit is changed through the Worker's Compensation Advisory Council's (WCAC) "agreed bill" process, a new Insurance Letter will be sent.

In accordance with Wisconsin Administrative Code, DWD 80.49(7)(e), the 2014 limit for private vocational rehabilitation services increased by 2.42% to \$1585. This change is based on the average annual percentage change in the U.S. Consumer price index for all urban consumers. The new limit applies regardless of the date of injury.

Action Requested: Please inform all claim handlers of these changes.

<u>Inquiries</u>: A chart with detailed benefit payment information for 2014 is available on our web site at: <a href="http://dwd.wisconsin.gov/dwd/publications/wc/WKC-9572-P.pdf">http://dwd.wisconsin.gov/dwd/publications/wc/WKC-9572-P.pdf</a>.

If you have any questions, please contact us at (608) 266-1340.

Reference: Insurance Letter 494.