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State of Wisconsin  
Department of Workforce Development

## Worker's Compensation Insurance Letter

<b>INS #</b>	478
<b>Date</b>	December 5, 2008
<b>Program</b>	Claims Management
<b>Type</b>	Informational
<b>Replaces</b>	Insurance Letter 471

**To:** Claims Handling Offices for Insurance Carriers and Self Insured Employers  
**From:** Frances Huntley-Cooper, Division Administrator  
**Subject:** Worker's Compensation 2009 Rate Changes

**Purpose:** Announce 2009 maximum rates effective January 1, 2009.

**Background:** Wisconsin's maximum Worker's Compensation rate will increase to \$808 per week for temporary total disability, permanent total disability and death benefits for injuries occurring on or after January 1, 2009 and before January 1, 2010. The new average weekly wage used to compute the maximum rate is \$1212.

Using this new wage raises the maximum death benefit for fatal injuries occurring on or after January 1, 2009 to \$242,400.

The maximum weekly indemnity rate for permanent partial disability will increase to \$282 for injuries occurring on or after January 1, 2009.

The 2009 maximum limit for private vocational rehabilitation services increased by 4.4% to \$1453. This new rate applies regardless of the date of injury. When the Department of Workforce Development's Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR) is unable to provide services to eligible injured workers, insurers are required to pay the reasonable and necessary vocational rehabilitation costs including the costs of services provided by the vocational rehabilitation specialists in the private sector.

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

**Inquiries:** A chart with detailed benefit payment information for 2009 is available on our web site at: <http://dwd.wisconsin.gov/dwd/publications/wc/WKC-9572-P.pdf>

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

**Reference:** Insurance Letters 471