

**From:** Ohio Bureau of Workers' Compensation  
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# BWC eNews



August 2014

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

- [Another Billion Back for employers and worker safety](#)
- [Learn how BWC helps businesses increase workplace safety – for free](#)
- [Reminder: Private employer premiums due Sept. 2](#)
- [Health-care summit discusses opportunities for enhanced care](#)

## BWC eBriefs

### **New oil & gas safety class offered**

BWC is offering a new class: PEC (Petroleum Education Council) Core Compliance (Oil & Gas Industry Safety). This three-day class covers more than 25 safety topics related to the onshore oil and gas industry. Upon completion, students will receive authorized PEC cards. Tuition is free. To enroll, visit [bwclearningcenter.com](http://bwclearningcenter.com).

## **Another Billion Back for employers and worker safety**

Gov. John Kasich and BWC Administrator/CEO Steve Buehrer made a big announcement last week. They introduced Another Billion Back, a proposal to distribute \$1 billion in rebates to Ohio private employers and public taxing districts. The plan will also make an unprecedented investment in workplace safety.



This proposed rebate, which will be reviewed by BWC's Board of Directors Aug. 22, is the result of investments in BWC's portfolio that continue to perform extremely well. If approved at the board's Sept. 26 meeting, eligible private employers will receive checks amounting to 60 percent of what they were billed during the last policy period (July 1, 2012 to June 30, 2013 for private employers; Jan. 1, 2012 to Dec. 31, 2012 for public taxing districts). BWC would begin issuing checks in October.

In addition to the proposed rebate, Another Billion Back would include these safety initiatives:

- Provide \$15 million to fund safety grants for fiscal years 2016 and 2017;
- Develop safety curricula and fund skilled labor training programs;
- Partner with higher-education institutions and organizations to support research and promote innovations in the area of workplace safety and health;
- Expand BWC's Safety Council Program to incorporate health and wellness;
- Fund firefighter safety training.

## Safety Update

More than 74 occupational safety, health and ergonomic courses are available for Ohio employees to attend. These classes are held online and throughout the state at BWC's regional service offices. Classes are free for those who work for employers with active workers' compensation coverage. Learn about this and more in our monthly [Safety Update](#).

### Did you know?

Wellness affects safety in the workplace. Learn more and find resources for health maintenance and improvement by [clicking here](#).

A summary of the proposal and safety initiatives is available [here](#).

BWC returned \$1 billion through a similar rebate last year to private and public employer taxing districts.

## Learn how BWC helps businesses increase workplace safety – for free

Did you know that eye injuries resulting in time away from work cost an average of \$29,000?



Bureau of Workers' Compensation

Protective eyewear can prevent these types of injuries from happening in the first place.

Employers can compare average rates and average costs per claim in their industry at BWC's new microsite, [bwc.ohio.gov/besafeohio](http://bwc.ohio.gov/besafeohio). The page also links employers directly to BWC safety consultants, who can survey worksites and provide advice on how to prevent occupational illnesses and injuries in the workplace.

We've begun a new campaign, Better Business Starts with Safety, Safety Starts at BWC, to highlight services BWC offers to employers free of charge.

We invite you to learn more by checking out our [microsite](#).

## Reminder: Private employer premiums due Sept. 2

Ohio private employers have until Sept. 2, 2014 to file payroll reports and submit workers' compensation premiums for the period covering Jan. 1 to June 30, 2014. BWC offers a number of options for reporting payroll and submitting payments: Pay online at [bwc.ohio.gov](http://bwc.ohio.gov), in person at any [BWC location](#), or call 1-800-644-6292. Thank you!

## Health-care summit discusses opportunities for enhanced care

BWC recently held a weeklong summit to build a conceptual health-care model based on stakeholder input. The conversation included representatives from businesses, labor organizations, managed care organizations, the health-care field and trial attorneys. They're in the process of recommending improvements to our current health-care delivery model. From there, we'll develop an actionable plan to make meaningful improvements.

We'll continue to evaluate opportunities to enhance quality and coordinated care.

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