

Preferred Worker Program: Oregon's Best Kept Secret

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Department of Consumer
and Business Services

Objective

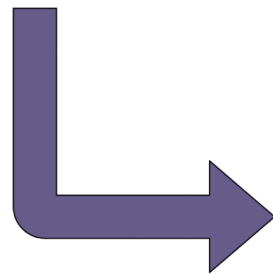
Encourage **safe and suitable employment** for **Oregon workers** whose **on-the-job injury** has resulted in **work restrictions** by offering assistance to eligible workers and the businesses that employ them.



Funding



Worker
1.0¢ / hour worked



The Workers' Benefit Fund (WBF)

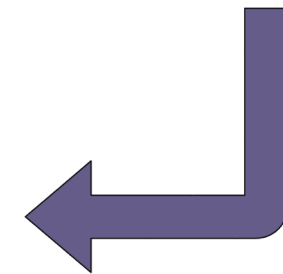
OAR 436-105-0006

A payroll assessment calculated on the basis of hours worked by all paid workers, owners, and officers covered by workers' compensation insurance in Oregon, and by all workers subject to Oregon's workers' compensation laws.

2.0¢ / hour worked into the WBF



Employer
1.0¢ / hour worked



<https://www.oregon.gov/dcbs/Pages/wbf-program.aspx>

WBF Funded Expenditures

ORS 656.210
Supplemental
disability
payments

ORS 656.628
Workers with
Disabilities
Program

ORS 656.622
Re-
employment
Assistance
Program

ORS 656.625
Reopened
Claims
Program

ORS 656.506
Retroactive
Program

**ORS 656.054
& 656.735**
Noncomplying
employer
payments



Expenses of the Oregon
Institute of Occupational
Health Sciences of OHSU

ORS 656.630

Payments due to workers who
have not received payment
from an insurer in default

ORS 656.445

BOLI expenses for activities
related to alleged injured
worker discrimination
investigation

ORS 656.605

PWP Eligibility OAR 436-110-0310



A person is designated a preferred worker because they have **permanent work restrictions** due to an accepted disabling Oregon workers' compensation claim that **prevents return to their job at injury.**

PWP Benefits OAR 436-110-0345



Clothing

A clothing benefit is available to ensure that a worker will have the necessary work clothes.

(\$500, \$1,000)

Tools and equipment

This benefit provides the tools and equipment that an employer requires their workers to have.

(\$2,500, \$5,000)



Training

Funding for training and certifications is available to give the worker the skills to get the job done.

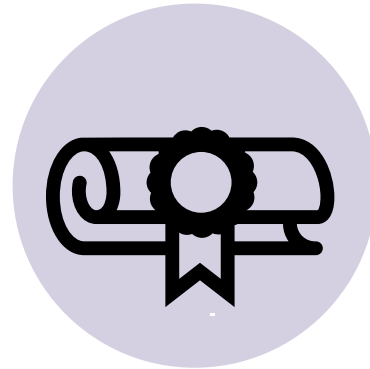
(\$1,000, \$2,000)

All categories can be used as often as necessary until the lifetime maximum is reached!

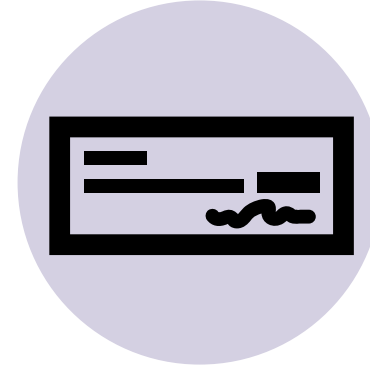
Other Possible Assistance OAR 436-110-0345



Moving



Occupational
certifications
(\$500, \$1,000)



Union dues
(\$1000)



Miscellaneous
(\$2,500)



Transportation
(\$1,000)

All categories can be used as often as necessary until the lifetime maximum is reached!

Employer Benefits



Premium exemption

OAR 436-110-0325

An employer does not pay workers' compensation premiums or premium assessments on a preferred worker for **three years**.



Claims cost reimbursement

OAR 436-110-0330

Protects the employer from the costs of a new claim if the preferred worker has a new injury during the **three year** exemption period.

Wage Subsidy OAR 436-110-0335

\$40,000 lifetime maximum
to provide up to **50%** of their gross wages
reimbursed for up to **6 months**.

Worksite Creation OAR 436-110-0345(2)(i)



If a worker is hired into a new position with an eligible employer, we can help create the worksite.
(\$5,000, \$10,000)

Worksite Modification OAR 436-110-0350

Worksite modification will enable a worker to perform their job within their permanent restrictions caused by a compensable injury or occupational disease.
(\$35,000, \$50,000)



For More Information

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