

MINNESOTA WORKERS' COMPENSATION RATES- 2018 UPDATE

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2018 Statewide AWW and Percentage Change Announced

Each year the Minnesota Department of Labor and Industry (DOLI) updates the benefit, provider fee levels, and fee schedules for the coming year, which go into effect on October 1. These updates are based on the statewide average weekly wage (SAWW) which, per Minn. Stat. § 176.011, subd. 1b, is calculated by taking payroll and employment figures – supplied by the Department of Employment and Economic Development (DEED) – of the preceding year (January to December). Once calculated, the change in SAWW serves as the basis for the remainder of the new rates and adjustments.

The current SAWW, effective October 1, 2018, is \$1,077 – a 3.46% increase from the current SAWW of \$1,041. The maximum temporary total compensation rate is 102% of the SAWW; 102% of \$1,077 is \$1,098.54, the new maximum rate (see table below).

Maximum under M.S. § 176.101, subd. 1(b)(1)		
<i>105% of SAWW</i>		
10-01-92		\$481.95
10-01-93		\$508.20
10-01-94		\$516.60
	<i>Set by statute</i>	
10-01-95		\$615.00
10-01-00		\$750.00
10-01-08		\$850.00
	<i>102% of SAWW</i>	
10-01-13		\$963.90
10-01-14		\$980.22
10-01-15		\$1,008.78
10-01-16		\$1,046.52
10-01-17		\$1,061.82
10-01-18		\$1,098.54

Annual maximum hourly rehabilitation fee adjustment

Effective October 1, 2018, pursuant to Minn. R., part 5220.1900, subpart 1b, the maximum qualified rehabilitation consultant (QRC) hourly rate, currently set as \$103.10, will increase by 3% to **\$106.19** for all services provided on or after October 1.

The maximum hourly rate for rehabilitation job development and placement services will also increase by 3%, from the current rate of \$82.58 to **\$85.06**.

Relative value medical fee schedule adjustments

Per Minnesota Statutes § 176.136, subd. 1a, paragraph (c) (1), the annual adjustment of the medical fee schedule conversion factors can increase by no more than the percent change in the SAWW. The change for this year is 0.45%; therefore, for services provided on or after

October 1, 2018, the new conversion factors will be:

- Medical/surgical services as described in Minn. R. 5221.4030 - **\$69.93**
- Pathology and laboratory services described in Minn. R. 5221.4040 - **\$57.07**
- Physical medicine/rehabilitation services described in Minn. R. 5221.4050 - **\$55.93**
- Chiropractic services described in Minn. R. 5221.4060 - **\$49.66.**

Additional information is located on DOLI's website (<https://www.dli.mn.gov/business/workers-compensation/work-comp-rate-information-statewide-average-weekly-wage-saww>).