

1 **Section 1**

2 **176.101 COMPENSATION SCHEDULE.**

3 Subd. 2a. **Permanent partial disability.**

4 (a) Compensation for permanent partial disability is as provided in this subdivision. Permanent
5 partial disability must be rated as a percentage of the whole body in accordance with rules
6 adopted by the commissioner under section 176.105. During the 2026 regular legislative session,
7 and every even-year legislative session thereafter, the Workers' Compensation Advisory Council
8 must consider whether the permanent partial disability schedule in paragraph (b) represents
9 adequate compensation for permanent impairment.

10 (b) The percentage determined pursuant to the rules adopted under section 176.105 must be
11 multiplied by the corresponding amount in the following table ~~at the time permanent partial~~
12 ~~disability is payable according to paragraph (c):~~

13 Impairment Rating...

14 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

15
16 **Section 2**

17 **176.104 REHABILITATION PRIOR TO DETERMINATION OF LIABILITY.**

18 Subdivision 1. **Dispute.**

19 If there exists a dispute regarding medical causation or whether an injury arose out of and in the
20 course and scope of employment and an employee is otherwise eligible for rehabilitation services
21 under section 176.102 prior to determination of liability, the employee shall be referred by the
22 commissioner to the department's Vocational Rehabilitation Unit which shall provide
23 rehabilitation consultation if appropriate. If the sole dispute is regarding discontinuance of
24 compensation, an employee eligible for rehabilitation services may be referred to the Vocational
25 Rehabilitation Unit only after the employee or employer has filed an objection under section
26 176.238, subd. 6, to the administrative decision on discontinuance.

27 The services provided by the department's Vocational Rehabilitation Unit and the scope and term
28 of the rehabilitation are governed by section 176.102 and rules adopted pursuant to that section.
29 Rehabilitation costs and services under this subdivision shall be monitored by the commissioner.

30 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective August 1, 2024.

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35 **Section 3**

36 **176.129 CREATION OF SPECIAL COMPENSATION FUND.**

37 Subd. 10. **Penalty.**

38 Sums paid to the commissioner pursuant to this section shall be in the manner prescribed by the
39 commissioner. The commissioner may impose a penalty payable to the commissioner for deposit
40 in the assigned risk safety account of up to 15 percent of the amount due under this section but
41 not less than \$1,000 in the event payment is not made or reports are not submitted in the manner
42 prescribed. In addition to a penalty under this subdivision, in the event payment is not made
43 within six months of the due date, the commissioner shall refer the self-insured employer or
44 insurer's file to the Department of Commerce for consideration of license or permit revocation.

45 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for due dates on or after the day following
46 final enactment.

47

48 **Section 4**

49 **176.231 REPORT OF DEATH OR INJURY TO COMMISSIONER OF DEPARTMENT**
50 **OF LABOR AND INDUSTRY.**

51 Subd. 9a. **Access to division file without an authorization; attorney access.**

52 (c) If the attorney's access is not limited by an authorization, notice of representation, or the
53 represented person or entity's access under paragraph (a), the attorney's access continues until
54 one of the following occurs in Campus, whichever is later:

55 (1) one year after an authorization is filed;

56 (2) ~~five~~ three years after the date a retainer agreement or notice of representation was
57 filed where no dispute has been initiated; or

58 (3) five years after the date ~~the attorney filed a document initiating, responding to, or~~
59 ~~intervening in a workers' compensation dispute under this chapter a retainer agreement or~~
60 ~~notice of representation was filed where a dispute has been initiated by filing a document~~
61 ~~specified in section 176.2611, subd. 4.~~

62 (4) ~~five years after the date an award on stipulation was served and filed if the award was~~
63 ~~related to a dispute in which the attorney represented a party in paragraph (a); or~~

64 (5) ~~five years after the date a final order or final penalty assessment was issued as defined~~
65 ~~in subdivision 9c, paragraph (a), clause (3), if the final order or penalty assessment was~~
66 ~~related to a dispute in which the attorney represented a party listed in paragraph (a).~~

67 Notwithstanding the time frames in clauses (1) to (~~5-3~~), an attorney no longer has access to the
68 division file as of the date the attorney files a notice of withdrawal from the case, or the date the
69 department receives written notice that the authorization is withdrawn or that the attorney no
70 longer represents the person. However, if a dispute over an attorney's fees is pending at the

71 office, the attorney has continued access to the division file until a final order or award on
72 stipulation resolving the attorney fee dispute is received by the commissioner.

73 **EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective August 1, 2024.**
74

75 **Section 5**

76 **176.275 FILING OF PAPERS; PROOF OF SERVICE.**

77 Subdivision 1. **Filing.**

78 If a document is required to be filed by this chapter or any rules adopted pursuant to authority
79 granted by this chapter, the filing shall be completed upon acceptance of the document by the
80 agency. Any document that lacks information required by statute or rule, or is not filed in the
81 manner and format required by this chapter, may be rejected. A document rejected for any of
82 these reasons is not considered filed. An agency is not required to maintain, and may destroy, a
83 duplicate of a document that has already been filed. If a workers' compensation identification
84 number has been assigned by the department, it must be substituted for the Social Security
85 number on a document. **The commissioner may request additional proof of an injured worker's**
86 **identity before assigning an identification number.**

87 A notice or other document required to be served or filed at either the department, the office, or
88 the court of appeals which is inadvertently served or filed at the wrong one of these agencies by
89 an unrepresented employee shall be deemed to have been served or filed with the proper agency.
90 The receiving agency shall note the date of receipt of a document and shall forward the
91 documents to the proper agency no later than two working days following receipt.

92 **EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective the day following final enactment.**