2019 Labor and Industries Assessment Rate Changes

The 2019 Labor and Industries rate notice for the Supplemental Pension Fund, Asbestos Fund, and Overpayment Reimbursement Fund Assessments has been received by our office and will be submitted to each district shortly. The upcoming rate changes must be updated in the WESPaC system effective January 1, 2019, and reflected on your January 2019 payroll.

Only half of the Supplemental Pension Fund and Asbestos Fund Assessment rates may be withheld from employees’ wages; the Overpayment Reimbursement Fund Assessment rate may be deducted in whole from employees’ wages.

Please don’t hesitate to contact us with any questions.

Meet Carina Rivera

Carina Rivera is among the last of the 2018 additions to the ESD 105 team, joining the group at the south end of the Allen Building on Nov. 26 as a Workers’ Compensation Support Specialist. Her role involves assisting the Workers’ Comp group by scanning documents, collecting mail, entering new claims, making payments on claimant invoices, and developing reporting documents. Carina grew up in Yakima, graduated from Eisenhower High School and completed an associate’s degree in the administrative assistant field at Yakima Valley College in 2016. She has one child, strawberries, and two dogs, and they are the parents of four. The most lately rescued dog nurses, with her specially being desert snail. Foxtrot that ruled her by sanity, mailbox.

Upcoming Safety and Health Assessments

In the past few years we’ve seen an increase in Labor and Industries compliance inspections in school districts throughout the state. To assist our local districts with their continued success in workplace safety programs, injury reductions, and compliance with state requirements, we’ll be conducting safety and health program assessments in 2019. This will include a review of Labor and Industries required programs, as well as a safety walk through of the district. Recommendations will be made for areas that need improvement and assistance will be provided. Examples of areas that will be reviewed include your Safety Committees, written Accident Prevention Programs and New Employee Safety Orientation training, to name a few.

Safety Tips When Walking on Snow or Ice:

1. Plan ahead, and give yourself sufficient time and plan your route.
   - Plan your route. Time won’t be enough.
   - Don’t assume a clear path for driving and walking will be available.

2. Wear shoes or boots that provide traction on snow and ice.
   - footwear made of rubber and composite material provide better traction than plastic and rubber.
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3. Use special care when entering and exiting vehicles, climbing or descending stairs, and entering or leaving buildings.
   - Proceed slowly and with caution.
   - Remove snow/water from shoes when entering buildings.
   - Use handrails for support.
   - Try to keep your center of gravity over your support leg.
   - Keep your hands out of your pockets.

4. Walk on designated walkways as much as possible.
   - Don’t take shortcuts across lawns or where snow and ice removal is not feasible.
   - Look ahead when walking. A sidewalk completely covered with snow may require regular snow and ice removal.
   - Look ahead, read or talk on the cell phone when walking.

5. Walk safely on snow or ice.
   - Take short steps or shuffle for stability.
   - Bend slightly forward and walk flat-footed, with your center of gravity directly over your feet as much as possible.
   - Keep your hands out of your pockets.
   - Be prepared to fall. Avoid using outstretched arms to brace yourself.
   - Bend your back and head forward to avoid hitting your head against the ground.

WE SUGGEST YOU WEAR THE FOLLOWING DURING WINTER:

ESD 105 will be closed for the holidays during December 24th - December 25th and December 31st - January 1st. WE WISH YOU HAPPY AND SAFE HOLIDAYS! — Robyn, Mareli, Amalia, Carina & Orlando