January 2019

Last month our office provided your district with the 2019 Assessment rate changes from the Department of Labor and Industries. The rate changes must be updated in the WESPaC system effective January 1, 2019, and reflected on your January 2019 payroll. Please contact us immediately if your school inter did not receive this information.

Workers' Compensation Claims in Parking Areas

Workers' Compensation claims filed for injuries in parking areas are generally not covered unless the employee’s job duties include work in the parking area. (RCW 51.08.013). Also, an employee on their way to or from work is usually not considered in the course of their employment. (An exception would be if an employee is on company business.)

Winter Safety Tips

Please ensure that your employees are wearing the proper footwear and that the parking and sidewalk areas are being maintained.

Clear parking lots, sidewalks, entrances and steps of snow and ice.

Ensure the buildings have walk off mats inside the building to minimize the amount of moisture brought into the building.

Add rock salt or ice melt in slippery areas as needed.

Consider keeping containers of ice melt in accessible locations near entrances and exit doors. This will help prevent slips and falls in high traffic areas during fast changing outdoor weather and temperatures.

Walk Like a Penguin

(Reduce your chances of falling)

Bend forward slightly and walk flat footed.

Point your feet out slightly like a penguin.

For better balance, keep your center of gravity over your feet as much as possible.

Watch where you are stepping.

Take shorter, shuffle like steps.

Keep your arms at your sides (not in your pockets).

Concentrate on keeping your balance.

Avoid rushing.

Happy New Year!

-Robyn, Mareli, Amalia, Carina & Orlando

For additional Workers’ Compensation and Safety resources, please visit: https://www.esd105.org/domain/25

Questions? Contact Orlando Cerrillo at 509-454-3108 or orlando.cerrillo@esd105.org.