

Program Overview & Updates

OWCP | Division of Energy Employees
Occupational Illness Compensation



OWCP

Office of Workers' Compensation Programs
Protecting Injured Workers Responsibly and Compassionately



We provide critically needed **compensation and medical benefits** to nuclear weapons workers with medical conditions linked to radiation or toxic substance exposure in the course of their work.

What is the DEEOIC?

- The Program provides **compensation and medical benefits to current and former nuclear weapons workers.**
- **Survivors of qualified workers may also be entitled** to lump-sum compensation benefits.
- The program is formally known as the **Division of Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation (DEEOIC)** and is part of the U.S. Department of Labor within the Office of Workers' Compensation Programs (OWCP).
- The program was enacted by a law called the Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation Program Act (EEOICPA).

What agencies work together on this program?



Department of Labor



Department of Energy



Department of Health and Human Services



Department of Justice

Overview of DEEOIC Program Benefits

Compensation Benefits



Medical Benefits



Lump-sum monetary compensation for covered employees or survivors



Partial wage replacement or compensation for physical impairment



Medical care, prescriptions, and therapies for covered conditions



Durable medical equipment and home or vehicle modifications to address medical needs.



Coverage for home health care or extended care facilities

SPECIFIC BENEFITS ARE DEPENDENT ON WHETHER ELIGIBILITY IS UNDER PART B OR PART E OF THE PROGRAM.



Requirements to approve benefits

Covered Employment

Nuclear weapons workers must have worked in a role and facility covered by the program.



Covered Medical Condition

Workers must have medical conditions resulting from exposure to radiation or other toxic substances during their work at a covered facility.



Evidence of Causation

There must be a causal link between the occupational exposure during covered employment and the diagnosed medical condition.

SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS ARE DEPENDENT ON WHETHER ELIGIBILITY IS UNDER PART B OR PART E OF THE PROGRAM.



DEEOIC Program Benefits

	Part B – Enacted 2000	Part E – Enacted 2004
Compensation Benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$150,000 awarded to Employee or Survivors • Additional \$50,000 from RECA awarded to Employee or Survivors 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$2,500 per % Impairment awarded to Employee • Annual Wage Loss of \$10,000 or \$15,000 per year awarded to Employee (or Survivors in certain circumstances) • \$125,000 awarded to Survivors
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Capped at \$400,000 for combined Part B and Part E compensation benefits awarded 	
Medical Benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Employee Medical Care for Accepted Conditions 	



Covered Employment

	Part B – Enacted 2000	Part E – Enacted 2004
DOE Contractors and Subcontractors	Yes	Yes
DOE Federal Employees	Yes	No
Atomic Weapons Employer (AWE)	Yes	No
Beryllium Vendors	Yes	No
Radiation Exposure Compensation Act (RECA)	*Yes	Yes





Types of employment

- A **DOE Contractor** is an entity engaged in a contractual business arrangement with DOE to provide services, produce material, or manage operations.
- A **DOE Subcontractor** is an entity engaged in a contractual business arrangement with a DOE contractor to provide a service on-site.
- The mere presence of an employee at a facility does not confer covered employment.
- Detailed information on DOE Covered Facility type designation, location, description, covered time period, and contractor information can be found at:
<https://ehss.energy.gov/Search/Facility/findfacility.aspx>



Covered Medical Conditions

Part B – Enacted 2000	Part E – Enacted 2004
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cancer• Chronic Beryllium Disease• Beryllium Sensitivity• Chronic Silicosis• Medical conditions approved under RECA Section 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Any condition causally linked to toxic substance exposure



Covered Survivors

Part B – Enacted 2000	Part E – Enacted 2004
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Spouse• Children• Parents• Grandchildren• Grandparents	<p>In the event of death:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Spouse• Dependent children (up to age 18, up to age 23 when still a full-time student, or any age if determined to be incapable of self-support)



Part B Causation

For approval of program benefits for cancer under Part B...

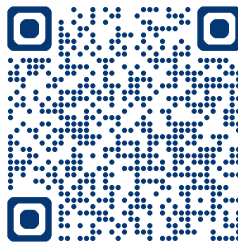
Probability of causation must be **50% or greater** unless the cancer qualifies under a **Special Exposure Cohort (SEC)**

Part B Causation Established Through:

- **Dose reconstruction** performed by the National Institute for Occupational Safety & Health (NIOSH) to determine the probability or likelihood that a **cancer** was caused by radiation exposure incurred by a covered employee. The standard for establishing causation is that the probability of causation (PoC) must be 50% or greater.
- Membership in one or more Special Exposure Cohorts (SECs). Details on next slide.
- Statutory criteria for Chronic Beryllium Disease (CBD), Beryllium Sensitivity, or Chronic Silicosis.
- Approval of condition under Section 5 of the Radiation Exposure Compensation Act (RECA).



Special Exposure Cohorts



Part B cancer claims that meet criteria for inclusion in an SEC do not require dose reconstruction; it is presumed that the cancer was caused by exposure during eligible SEC employment.

Type of Cancer

- Must have at least one of [22 specified cancers](#).

Employment

- Must have worked at least 250 days before February 1, 1992, at one of the three Gaseous Diffusion Plants, or
- were exposed to radiation related to nuclear tests at Amchitka, AK, or
- qualify as a member of one of the [additional SEC classes](#) designated by the National Institute for Occupational Safety & Health (NIOSH).



Part E Causation

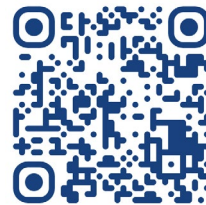
Approval of program
benefits under Part E
established by...

Likelihood of
condition to be
“**caused, contributed
to, or aggravated
by**” exposure to a
toxic substance

Details on Part E Causation:

- The standard for establishing causation is whether it is **at least as likely as not** that exposure to a toxic substance was a significant factor in **causing, contributing to, or aggravating** the illness or death.
- Case development may include a claimant interview, review of employment records, review of site exposure data, review of DEEOIC Exposure & Causation Presumptions, and further expert reviews as needed.
- For survivor claims, evidence must also establish that the condition contributed to the death of the employee.
- In certain circumstances, acceptance under Part B may establish causation under Part E.





Part E: Determining causation

Employment Records

Based on the information about employment provided in the [EE-3](#), employment at a covered site is verified through employment records.

Occupational History Interview

Resource Centers conduct detailed interviews to establish employment sites, job responsibilities, and potential sources of exposure.

Site Exposure Matrices (SEM)

The SEM is an online relational database of toxic substances present at sites covered under Part E. It scientifically links toxic substances and illnesses.

Public access is available at <https://www.dol.gov/agencies/owcp/energy/regs/compliance/seminfo>

Industrial Hygienist, Physician, or other Expert Reviews

As necessary, experts are consulted for their opinion on different aspects of exposure and causation (e.g., exposure assessment, likelihood of causation).



RECA



RECA Section 5

- The **Radiation Exposure Compensation Act (RECA) Program** is administered by the **Department of Justice**.
- RECA Section 5 covers **individuals employed in above-ground or underground uranium mines, mills, or in transport of uranium ore** or vanadium-uranium ore from mines or mills (expansion includes core drillers and remediation workers).
- Employment must have occurred in Arizona, Colorado, Idaho, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oregon, South Dakota, Texas, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming from January 1, 1942, to December 31, 1990.
- DEEOIC Program Eligibility:
 - Uranium workers and survivors who received compensation from DOJ may be entitled to benefits under the EEOICPA.
 - Uranium workers who were employed at facilities covered under RECA Section 5 from January 1, 1942, to December 31, 1990, are potentially eligible for Part E benefits.

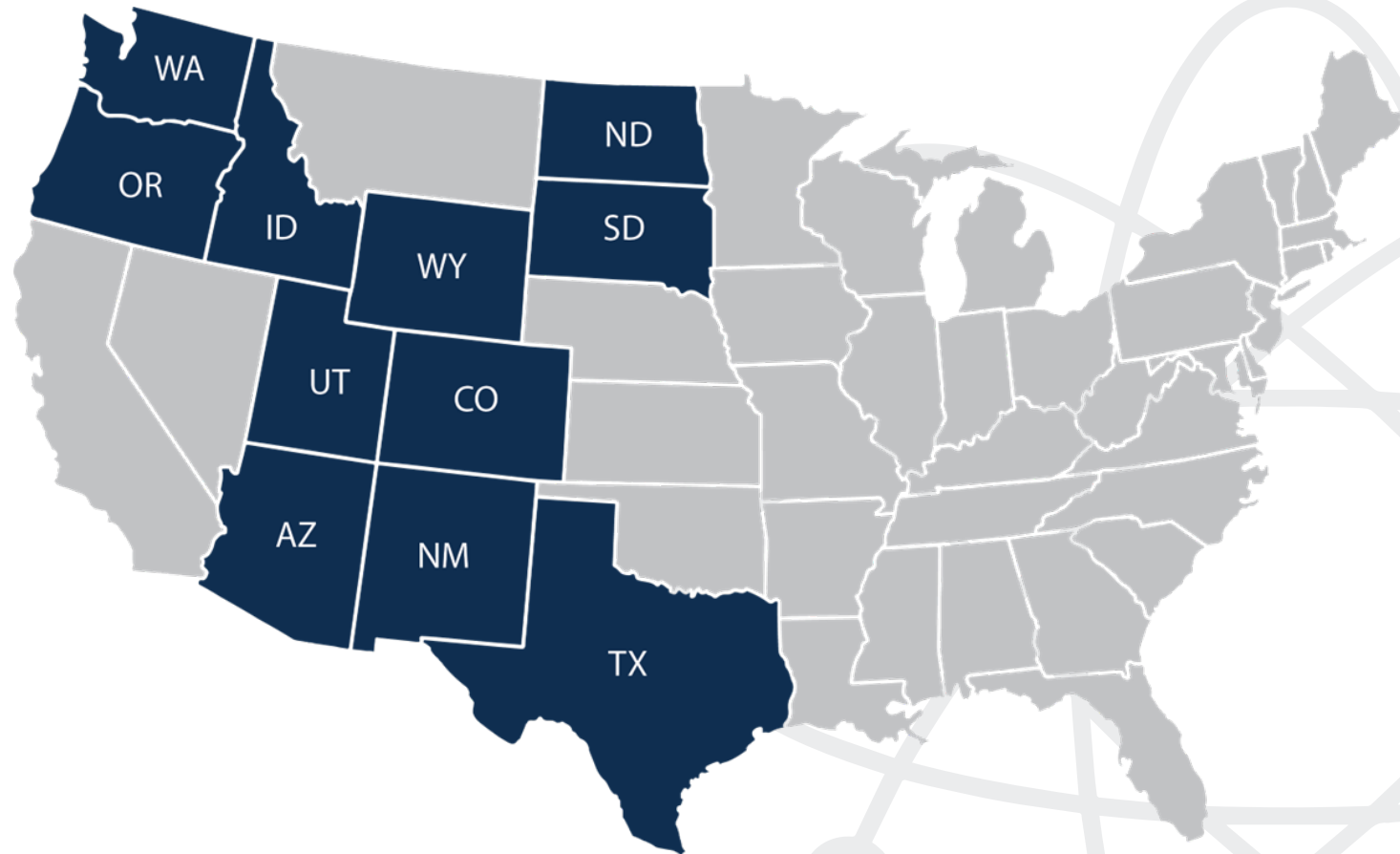


RECA Section 5 Expansion

- After initially sunsetting in June 2024, the RECA Program was extended and expanded through the One Big Beautiful Bill Act signed into law on July 4, 2025.
- **Key changes include:**
 - **Employment period extended:** Coverage now spans **Jan 1, 1942 – Dec 31, 1990** (previously ended December 31, 1971).
 - **New covered occupations: Core drillers & Remediation Workers** are now included.
 - **Expanded compensable illnesses:** Adds **renal (kidney) cancer** and **chronic renal disease**, including **nephritis** and **kidney tubal tissue injury**, as compensable diseases for all uranium workers covered under Section 5 (these conditions were previously not covered for uranium miners under RECA).
 - **Combined work-history pathway:** Clarifies uranium workers may **combine covered occupations** to meet duration/exposure requirements.
 - **New filing deadline:** December 31, 2027, filing deadline, with Program scheduled to sunset at the end of 2028.



RECA Section 5 Covered States



Potential
Additional
Benefits



Potential Additional Benefits

Once an initial condition is approved, you may be eligible for additional benefits:

1

Consequential Conditions

Additional medical benefits to cover a separate but connected medical diagnosis that occurs as a consequence of a previously approved condition.

2

Impairment Benefits (Part E)

Additional compensation benefits for permanent loss of function of a body part or organ, due to a covered illness.

3

Wage Loss Benefits (Part E)

Additional compensation benefits to partially cover lost wages due to a covered illness.



Consequential Conditions

- If it is determined that an accepted condition caused, contributed to, or aggravated a subsequent condition, the **condition will be accepted as a consequential condition under the same part types as the accepted condition.**
- Common examples include **metastasized cancers, physical side effects of treatment, or worsened pre-existing conditions.**
- Medical benefits are typically **awarded retroactive to the eligibility date of the accepted condition.** Some exceptions may apply.
- Claims for consequential conditions must be filed using **Form EE-1A.**
- Consequential conditions are accepted by Letter Decision issued by the District Office, no Final Decision is required. If a consequential condition claim is recommended for denial, a Recommended Decision is issued, and the case is sent to the Final Adjudication Branch for independent review.
- Acceptance of a consequential condition may also result in impairment and/or wage loss compensation eligibility under Part E.



Part E: Impairment

- Compensation benefits under Part E to compensate for the **permanent loss of function of a body part or organ** due to a covered illness, as established by medical evidence and measured by percentage points.
- **Compensation is awarded based on impairment percentage**, at \$2,500 per percentage point, for example a 10% impairment rating = \$25,000 Award.
- Impairment Evaluations may be performed by a Contract Medical Consultant or the claimant may choose their own qualified physician.
- Two Year waiting period for additional impairment claims (may be waived under certain circumstances).



Part E: Wage Loss

- Compensation benefits provided under Part E of the EEOICPA to employees or eligible survivors to compensate for **lost wages the employee incurred due to a covered illness**, prior to their normal Social Security Administration (SSA) retirement age.
- If eligible, the claimant is **awarded \$10,000 or \$15,000 per year of established wage loss** depending on the percentage of lost wages.
- **Survivors may also be eligible for wage loss compensation** if the employee experienced wage loss or died before reaching retirement age.



Claim Process



Claimant responsibilities



- 1) **Submit a claim form**
- 2) **Provide relevant employment and medical details**
- 3) **Collect and submit any relevant records for review** that show your medical diagnosis, relationship to employee, and/or supplement the work done by DEEOIC to verify your employment
- 4) **Respond to further information requests or clarifications** from DEEOIC



Supporting evidence for your claim

Employment Evidence

is needed to confirm employment at a covered facility. This evidence is typically collected by DEEOIC.



Medical Evidence

is needed to confirm the diagnosis of the claimed condition.



Causation & Exposure Evidence

is needed to confirm condition was caused by exposure at a covered facility.



Survivorship Evidence

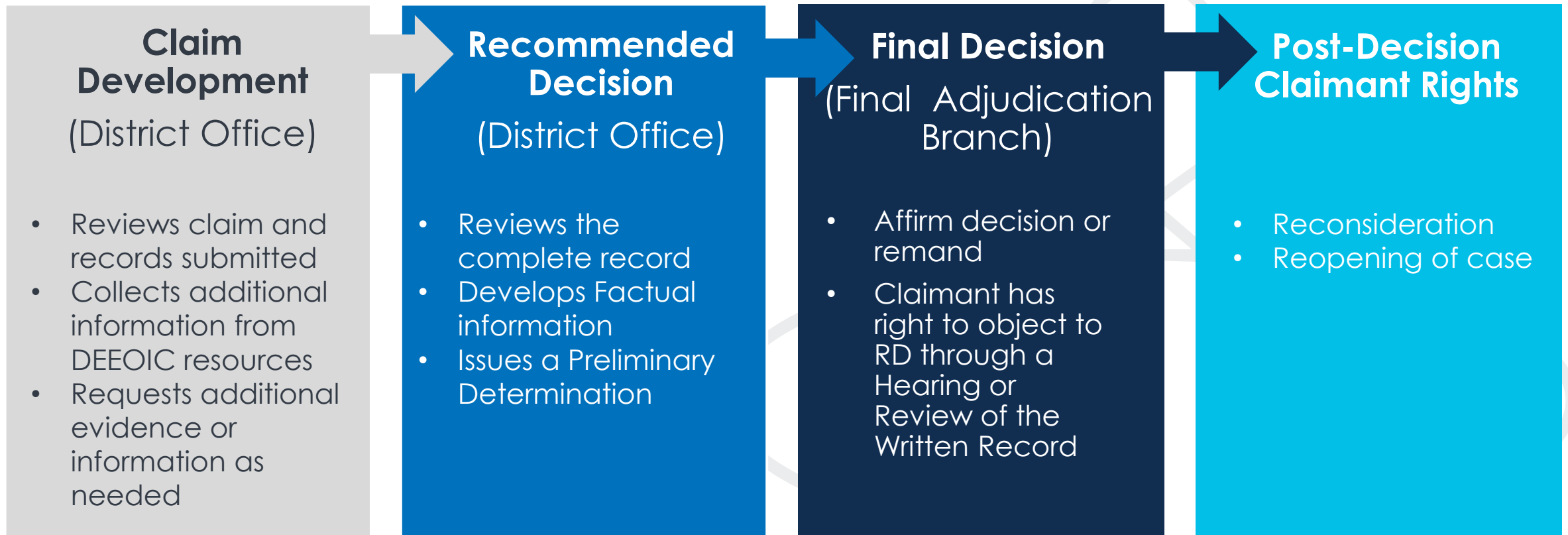
is needed in the case of survivorship claims to confirm relationship to the covered employee.

Some examples include:

- Form EE-5 (DOE employment verification)
- Document Acquisition Request
- SSA Records
- Form [EE-4](#) (employment history affidavit)
- Physician statement
- Medical documentation confirming diagnosis
- Part B – Dose Reconstruction, SECs, Statutory Criteria
- Part E - Occupational History Interview, SEM, Expert Medical and Industrial Hygienist review, DEEOIC Exposure & Causation Presumptions
- Death Certificate
- Birth Certificate
- Marriage Certificate



Claim decision process



Authorized Representative Services



Professional AR
(Attorney or other professional)



Personal AR
(Spouse, child, friend, or other personal connection)

Claimants can authorize someone as an Authorized Representative (AR) to do the following on their behalf :

- Communicate with claims staff
- Access case file documentation
- Submit evidence
- Receive copies of decisions
- Submit objection(s)
- File appeals
- Seek medical authorizations



Claimant Rights with Respect to ARs

- Claimants **may choose to authorize any person or entity (e.g., law firm)**, not otherwise prohibited by law, **as their Authorized Representative (AR)**.
- **Claimants are not required to have an AR.**
- Claimants may appoint **only one AR or entity at a time.**
- Claimants can **remove or change** their AR at any time, for any reason.
- **AR fees are limited** to:
 - 2% of an initial claim, provided the AR was retained prior to filing
 - 10% of the difference between the lump-sum payment proposed in a Recommended Decision (RD) and the payment made to the claimant, if the AR objects and successfully increases the payment amount



Program Resources



DEEOIC is here to help

We have many resources available if assistance is required to file a claim:



Resource Centers

Visit one of our 11 [Resource Center locations](#) nationwide for full-service assistances to claimants



National Hotline

Call (866) 888 – 3322 to connect with an experienced Resource Center case worker



DEEOIC Website

Find self-service information, forms, and materials available to you 24/7 on the [website](#)

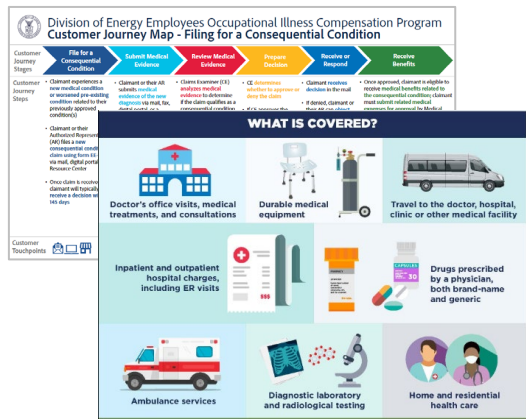
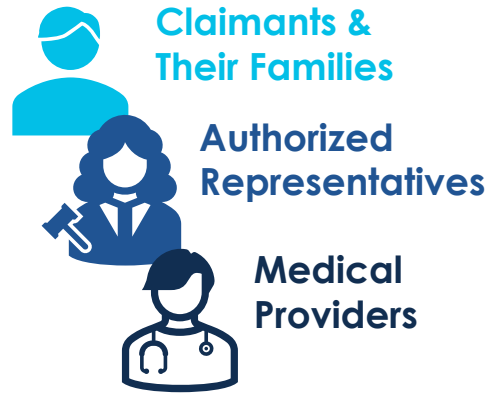


Claims Staff

Reach out to your Claims Examiner, Medical Benefits Examiner, or Hearing Representative



Digital resources available on the website



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
Office of Workers' Compensation Programs (OWCP)

DEEOIC Tools and Resources

Jim McGrath, Energy Program Training Analyst
mcgrath.james@dol.gov

Employees' Compensation Operations & Management Portal (ECOMP)

For Information About ECOMP

How-To guides
Step-by-step guides for claimants, ARs, and medical providers to learn about the program from different perspectives

Infographics
Easy-to-understand, visual overviews of program benefits and processes

Webinars
Recordings of past webinars to hear directly from DEEOIC employees

Digital portals
Direct links to digital portals to submit forms and access claim files



Digital portals can speed up claim processing and access to information



Electronic Document Portal

EDP is an electronic portal to submit forms digitally for immediate access by DEEOIC staff without going through the mail:

- File a new claim
- File a consequential claim
- Complete benefit payment forms
- Submit and sign documents relevant to your claim



Employees' Compensation Operations & Management Portal

E-COMP is a secure online portal that provides real-time access to claim updates and information:

- Check your claim status online
- Get immediate access to decisions related to your claim
- View and download documents related to your claim



Helpful Links on DEEOIC website



Scan the QR code for mobile access to the following links on the DEEOIC website:

- **DEEOIC website:** <https://www.dol.gov/agencies/owcp/energy>
- **Resources for Claimants:** https://www.dol.gov/agencies/owcp/energy/regs/compliance/claimant_medprovider_resources/claimant_resources
- **Resources for Medical Providers:** <https://www.dol.gov/agencies/owcp/energy/medicalproviders>
- **Program Materials:** <https://www.dol.gov/agencies/owcp/energy/regs/compliance/brochure/brochures>
- **Resource Center Locations:** <https://www.dol.gov/agencies/owcp/energy/regs/compliance/ResourceMeetings/ResourceCenters>
- **Program Contact Information:** https://www.dol.gov/agencies/owcp/energy/regs/compliance/contact_deeoc



Resource Centers



How can a Resource Center help?

Explaining the process and helping with paperwork to file a claim:

- Explain the DEEOIC program, benefits, and potential compensation in plain language
- Assistance with filing a claim
- Conduct Occupational History Interviews

Providing information and support during claim processing:

- Assist with completing forms or responding to requests
- Provide claim status and continued support
- Explain the impairment and wage loss process
- Submit documents to DEEOIC

Helping secure Medical Benefits for any approved conditions:

- Explain Medical benefits
- Help complete Medical and Travel reimbursement forms
- Resolve medical billing issues for approved conditions
- Assist with prior authorization for medical procedures, home health care, durable medical equipment, and non-local travel for approved conditions





Resource Center Locations

Hanford, WA

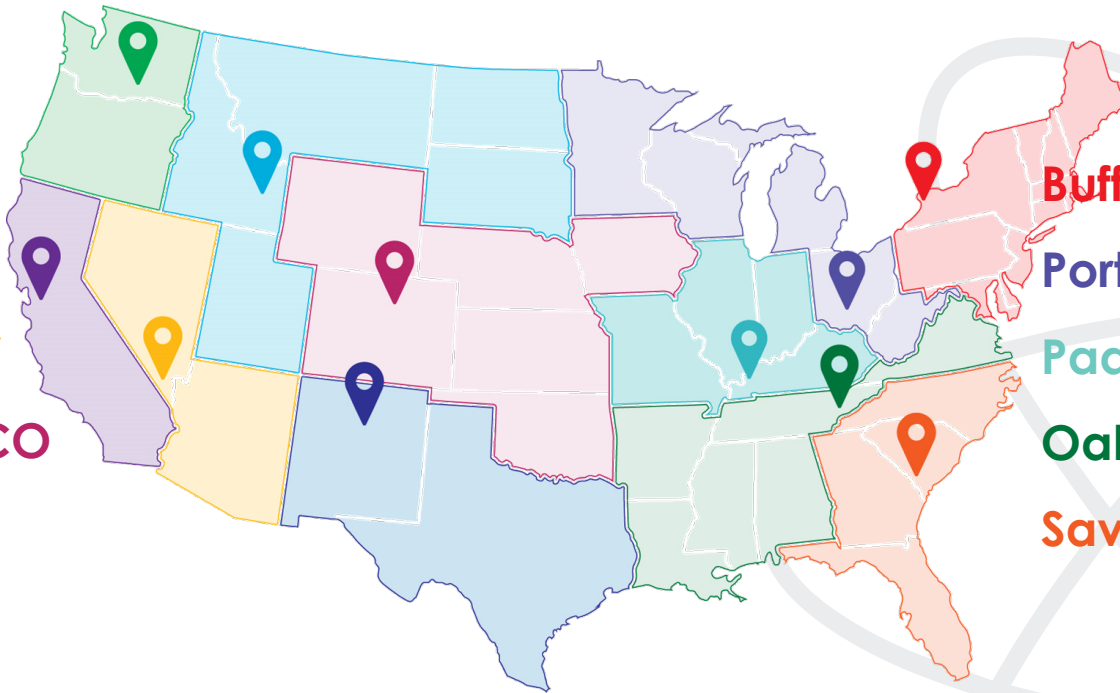
Idaho Falls, ID

Dublin, CA

Las Vegas, NV

Westminster, CO

Espanola, NM



Buffalo, NY

Portsmouth, OH

Paducah, KY

Oak Ridge, TN

Savannah River, SC

Resource Center
contact info can
be found at:

[www.dol.gov/
EnergyProgram
ResourceCenters](http://www.dol.gov/EnergyProgramResourceCenters)



Program Updates



2026 In-Person Outreach Events

Location	Date	Event Type
North Augusta, SC	April 22, 2026	JOTG Town Hall Meeting
Las Vegas, NV	May 20, 2026	JOTG Town Hall Meeting
Pahrump, NV	May 21, 2026	Energy Outreach Event
Oak Ridge, TN	June 30, 2026	JOTG Town Hall Meeting
Grand Junction, CO	July 14, 2026	Energy Outreach Event
Moab, UT	July 15, 2026	Energy Outreach Event
Los Alamos, NM	August 12, 2026	JOTG Town Hall Meeting
Albuquerque, NM	August 13, 2026	JOTG Town Hall Meeting
Casper, WY	September 1, 2026	Traveling Resource Center
Riverton, WY	September 2, 2026	Traveling Resource Center

* Events typically run from 9:00am to 4:00pm local time unless otherwise noted on the [DEEOIC Outreach & Events page](#)

2026 Webinars

2026 Webinar Series: All sessions: 2:00–3:30 PM (Eastern Time)

Date	Webinar Topic	Presenting
April 29, 2026	EEOICPA Overview & Stakeholder Updates	DEEOIC
June 24, 2026	Medical Benefits Overview	DEEOIC
August 26, 2026	Partner Agency Webinar Series: DOE Former Worker Medical Screening Programs	DOE Former Worker Programs
October 28, 2026	Partner Agency Webinar Series: Federal Partners	EEOICPA Ombudsman, NIOSH, DOE (Records), DEEOIC Resource Centers

EEOICPA Procedure Manual

DEEOIC updates the PM, typically twice per year, to ensure program guidance remains current, accurate, and consistent with applicable laws, regulations, and policy, while incorporating operational improvements and clarifications identified through program administration.

Changes or updates to the Procedure Manual occur in the form of published Transmittals that describe specific revisions.

Edits or other changes to the Procedure Manual undergo a review process to ensure that updated guidance complies with established statutory and regulatory provisions.

Transmittal and new version of PM are both posted to the [DEEOIC Website](#).

Procedure Manual

Transmittal No. 26-01: Released on December 18, 2025, for PM Version 10.0

Key Updates:

- **Chapter 12 – Representative Services:** Clarified to explain that claimants may appoint an individual or an entity (e.g., law firm) and any individual employed by appointed entity is entitled to communicate with staff regarding the claim.
- **Chapter 24 – Recommended Decisions:** Clarifies reopening (via vacating the prior FD) is required only when a newly eligible claimant affects the allocation of benefits; it is not required when a new claim is denied or when previously held funds can be distributed without impacting prior awards.
- **Chapter 25 – FAB Review Process:** Hearing procedures were updated to reflect that hearings are conducted via telephone or video, removing references to in-person hearings.
- **Chapter 29 – Ancillary Medical Benefits:** Modified to allow 30 calendar days for a response to Medical Benefit Examiner (MBE) development letters to treating physicians.

Any questions?

Questions can be
submitted at any
time to [DEEOIC-
Outreach@dol.gov](mailto:DEEOIC-Outreach@dol.gov).

