

WHAT IS THE ASSOCIATION RETRO PLAN

The Association RETRO PLAN rewards employers for maintaining a safe workplace and controlling lower claims costs. Since accident prevention and lower claims costs are of universal benefit, the Department of Labor and Industries (L & I) and the Pacific Northwest Association have established a program that allows a return of excess premiums to participating members of the Association RETRO PLAN. If losses are low, this refund can be substantial.

WHO MAY PARTICIPATE

To be eligible to participate, a firm must meet the following minimum criteria:

- current membership in the Pacific Northwest Association
- a minimum of one year of industrial insurance history
- report hours worked under at least one accepted risk classification
- show a positive loss ratio

WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF BELONGING?

Tough eligibility requirements and a full time staff to help you with L & I claims helps ensure favorable results. By working with your Association staff, member firms reduce claims costs through timely closure of claims, discovery of account errors, and

the use of early return to work and modified duty. These techniques can also make a positive impact on a company's experience rating, resulting in lower future premiums. Lower premiums, combined with a refund on past premiums, can mean a significant reduction in workers' compensation costs for your company.

IS THERE A FEE TO PARTICIPATE?

The Association charges an administration fee of 2.5% of the participants annual premium. Administration fees and expenses are reimbursed to the Association from the refund.

HOW DOES THE PROGRAM WORK?

Each RETRO PLAN year begins on October 1st and ends on September 30th. Participating member firms continue to remit their quarterly premiums directly to the Department of Labor and Industries as they would normally. Participation in the Association Retro Plan neither reduces nor increases a member's industrial insurance rates.

One year following the close of the plan year, L & I calculates the first of three retrospective adjustments. If PNA group premiums exceed claims, participants receive a refund. If claims exceed premiums members will be assessed additional premiums.

WHY IS CLAIM MANAGEMENT IMPORTANT?

Most problem claims start out legitimate. Then for a variety of reasons, they end up as an abused or even fraudulent case. It is estimated that 80% of all Industrial Insurance claims are abused in some way.

Your Association manages the claims process for you. Your Association provides expertise and is the employer's advocate.

The Association will:

- regularly manage and review all assigned claims
- maintain updated records on each assigned claim
- verify facts surrounding the accident
- conduct interviews with adjusters and claims adjudicators from the Department of Labor and Industries
- review claim costs
- arrange for investigators and medical or other experts as required



PACIFIC NORTHWEST ASSOCIATION
P O BOX 17819
SALEM, OREGON 97305

Call 1-800-933-7437 for more information.