



2010

## Workers' Compensation Conference

Best Western Executive Inn  
200 Taylor Avenue N.  
Seattle, WA 98109  
206-448-9444

## REGISTRATION

### Conference rates:

\$75 for registrations received by March 31, 2010

\$90 if registering April 1, 2010 or later

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Union/Business: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Union/Business: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Total amount sent:

Please return to: Washington State Labor Council, AFL-CIO  
314 1st Ave. West, Seattle, WA 98119

## AGENDA

### THURSDAY, APRIL 22

#### 1:00 - 4:30 p.m. Learn How the System Works

*Vicky Smith, Project HELP Director, Washington State Labor Council  
Jessica Nau, Financial Incentive Coordinator, Dept. of Labor & Industries  
Starla Treznoski, Trainer, Department of Labor & Industries*

**No continuing education credits for this session.  
This session is optional for advanced participants.**

### FRIDAY, APRIL 23

#### 8:30 - 9:00 a.m. Opening Address:

*Al Link, Secretary Treasurer, Washington State Labor Council  
Kristopher Teft, General Counsel, Assoc. of Washington Business  
Judy Schurke, Director, Department of Labor & Industries*

#### 9:00 - 10:30 New Board Decisions:

*Larry Dittman, Employer Member, Board of Industrial Insurance Appeals*

#### 10:30 - 10:45 BREAK

#### 10:45 - 10:55 Office of Self-Insured Ombudsman:

*Denise McKay, Ombudsman*

#### 10:55 - 11:15 Department of Labor & Industries' Policy on Loss of Earning Power:

*Patrice Pasqualone, Department of Labor & Industries*

#### 11:15 - Noon Loss of Earning Power -

#### Getting it Right the First Time:

*Lynn Hendrickson, Board of Industrial Insurance Appeals*

#### Noon - 1:00 p.m. LUNCHEON BUFFET (provided)

#### 1:00 - 2:30 Independent Medical Exam Improvement Project:

*Anita Austin, Department of Labor & Industries  
Gary Walker, Department of Labor & Industries  
Carol Winegar, Department of Labor & Industries*

#### 2:30 ADJOURN

Continuing Education Credits for L&I approved claims administrators  
- 3.5 CE's for 4/23/10 session.

## CONFERENCE TOPICS

**Learn How the System Works:** Gain an understanding of the workers' compensation system from claim filing to claim closure; computation of time-loss benefits; what's involved in an Independent Medical Exam; the process of vocational rehabilitation; when Permanent Partial Disability awards are paid; and how and when to reopen a claim. You will have an opportunity to ask questions about every phrase of the workers' compensation process.

**New Board Decisions:** Larry Dittman, Employer Member, Board of Industrial Insurance Appeals, will present the new Board of Industrial Insurance Appeals decisions. This session always promotes good dialogue and questions are welcome.

**Office of Self-Insured Ombudsman:** In 2007, legislation was passed creating the Office of the Self-Insured Ombudsman. Denise McKay will provide an overview of the program and what her office can do to assist self-insured workers.

**Department Policy on Loss of Earning Power:** When is a worker entitled to loss of earning power (LEP) benefits? What factors are considered when paying LEP? Attendees will be walked through the Department's policy, "Policy 5.81 - paying loss of earning power compensation".

**Loss of Earning Power - Getting it Right the First Time:** Judge Hendrickson will discuss Board decisions that address the elements of entitlement to loss of earning power benefits, RCW 51.32.090(3), rebuttable presumptions, the struggle between legal vs. medical fixity, calculating LEP benefits, completion of approved vocational services and whether termination for cause precludes LEP entitlement.

**Independent Medical Exam Improvement Project:** The IME Improvement Project is in response to proposed legislation from the 2007 session. Learn what efforts have been made to improve the IME process from representatives from the State Fund and the Self-Insurance section. Questions are welcome.

# 2010 CONFERENCE

The *Meeting of the Minds* conference is a multi-faceted collaboration between labor, business and the State of Washington. Entering its 20th year, this conference has a well-earned reputation of helping people navigate through the often confusing Washington State Workers' Compensation system.

*Meeting of the Minds* is intended for participants of varying degrees of experience with the system. The first day of the conference offers in-depth instruction of Workers' Compensation basics. Questions are welcome.

Lunch is provided on the second day and included in registration fee.

Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. Postage  
**PAID**  
Seattle, WA  
Permit No. 1850

## ACCOMMODATIONS



206-448-9444

Twenty-five rooms are reserved for overnight stay on April 22, 2010. Mention that you are attending the Meeting of the Minds Conference to get the discount rate of \$109.00 plus tax.

## DIRECTIONS

### I-90 WEST

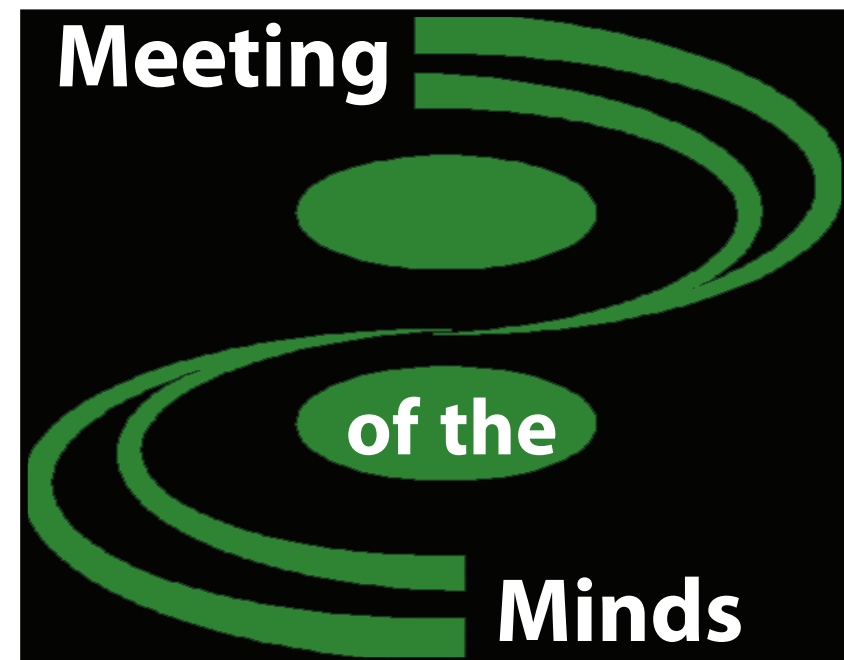
- Merge onto I-5 North
- At exit 167, take Mercer St. / Seattle Center ramp
- Left onto Fairview Ave N
- Right onto Denny Way
- Right onto Taylor Ave

### I-5 NORTH/SOUTH

- At exit 167, take Mercer St. / Seattle Center ramp
- Left onto Fairview Ave N
- Right onto Denny Way
- Right onto Taylor Ave

The conference is accessible and we ask participants to limit use of fragrances. If you need a reasonable accommodation at the conference please contact Viona Latschaw at 1-800-255-9752. All requests must be made at least two weeks prior to the conference. Thank you for your consideration.

Washington State Labor Council, AFL-CIO  
314 First Avenue West  
Seattle, WA 98119



## 2010 Workers' Compensation Conference

April 22 – 23, 2010

Best Western Executive Inn  
200 Taylor Avenue N, Seattle, WA 98109  
206-448-9444