

## **News from the SIRAS<sup>1</sup> project: Employers, we need your help now!**

We have the Medical Bill Electronic Data Interchange (EDI) in place and ready to test. However, we need your help to test the system, and we want to know how we may assist you now in getting ready. Currently, we aren't aware of any employers or vendors that are either ready, or will soon be ready, to begin submitting test data. We need to have real medical bill data sent to ISO, the private company managing development, for testing — which is vital to make sure the new system is working well.

### **We need you, or your vendor, to sign up and help us find our first testers**

If you are working with a vendor, please contact them to confirm that they have your certified Federal Employer Identification Number (FEIN) and that they have:

- Completed the questionnaire ISO sent:
- Scheduled a time to talk with ISO; and
- Completed the [Trading Partner registration](#) needed to report your medical bill data.

If you are reporting medical bill data directly:

- Complete the [Trading Partner registration](#) using your certified FEIN.
- Look for a contact from ISO and respond promptly.

### **What does it mean to be a Trading Partner?**

If you're a self-insured employer and will be submitting your data directly, then you're a Trading Partner. However, if you will have a vendor submitting on your behalf, then your vendor will be the Trading Partner. You could have more than one vendor that registers as a Trading Partner. For example, if your pharmacy bills are paid by one vendor and professional bills by another, both vendors should register as Trading Partners. To review possible process flows for reporting medical bills, refer to [Medical EDI Flows](#).

### **Contacts from ISO about status of preparations**

ISO has reached out to all known vendors, including bill review companies, EDI service providers and software providers about their readiness to begin submitting test medical bill data. So far, though it's still early, the responses have been limited. We need more of the known vendors to help now. ISO is now reaching out to self-insured employers who may be planning to report their own medical bill data.

### **Preparation for implementation**

We are currently targeting July 1, 2017 for reporting of medical bill data; however, both ISO and L&I want to better understand vendor and employer readiness to report this data. To do that, **we need you and your vendors to sign up now as Trading Partners, and we need your help finding volunteers to test.**

### **Questions?**

For more information related to the Medical Bill EDI implementation, please visit [Washington L&I EDI](#) or email [walniedi@iso.com](mailto:walniedi@iso.com).

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<sup>1</sup> The Medical Bill EDI is one of the three deliverables for the SIRAS project. The project's other two parts are a customer service system and a Risk Analytics system.