



**Program #72009A - FRM Workers' Compensation/Safety & Health** FY 2025 Adopted

**Department:** County Management **Program Contact:** Michelle Cross  
**Program Offer Type:** Operating **Program Offer Stage:** Adopted  
**Related Programs:**  
**Program Characteristics:**

**Executive Summary**

The Workers' Compensation section of this program manages the work-related employee injury and illness process and assists employees in returning to their jobs post injury or illness using established policies to ensure equitable use of light duty. The Safety and Health section oversees the loss prevention efforts of the County by assisting each department in meeting loss prevention requirements as a workers' compensation self-insured employer and Oregon Occupational Safety and Health Division (OR-OSHA) compliance. The Safety and Health section also develops and oversees Countywide occupational safety and health policies that align regulatory requirements with our internal workforce equity strategic plan.

**Program Description**

This program provides workers' compensation benefits in accordance with state law. Multnomah County has been self-insured for this mandatory program since 1978. Claims are administered through a contract with a Third-Party Administrator (TPA) with oversight and coordination of return to work from Risk Management staff. Staff work with employees, supervisors, physicians, the TPA, attorneys, managed care organizations and other vendors to accurately and timely process claim benefits for the injured employee. Internal Workers' Compensation section employees focus on service, equitability, cost containment and compliance efficiency. The Workers' Compensation section is responsible for the County's return-to-work program and follows state requirements necessary to benefit from the Workers' Compensation Division (WCD) Employer-At-Injury reimbursement program.

The primary activity of the Safety and Health section is assisting management in efforts to reduce employee on-the-job injuries, illnesses, and employer liability due to injuries to non-employees. This work incorporates safety, trust, and belonging values in all communication and program implementation. Through an equity lens, the Safety and Health staff consult with County departments to assist them in providing a safe environment, safety for both employees and the public. Staff help to identify and abate deficiencies related to occupational safety and health regulations in an inclusive and equitable manner. All employer-based loss prevention activity needed to maintain the workers' compensation self-insured status is managed by the Safety and Health staff and communicated to internal partners through an equity lens for implementation and program success.

**Performance Measures**

Measure Type	Performance Measure	FY23 Actual	FY24 Budgeted	FY24 Estimate	FY25 Target
Output	Telework ergonomic support	65	25	15	15
Outcome	OR-OSHA complaint responses closed without inspection follow-up initiated by OR-OSHA	10	8	5	4
Quality	Administrative Procedures updated to reflect current rule or business practice	2	5	1	3

**Performance Measures Descriptions**

Telework ergonomic support counts the number of consultations completed. OR-OSHA complaint measures our ability to adequately respond to complaints and ensure appropriate remedial measures are in place to ensure safety and health and thus not requiring a follow up inspection. Updates to Administrative Procedures ensure the County stays current on best safety and health practices.

## Legal / Contractual Obligation

MCC 7.102 and 7.103 established the safety and loss prevention program in the County. The Oregon Safe Employment Act, ORS 654, establishes minimum safety standards for employers. Oregon OSHA, as outlined in OAR 437-001-1005 through 1020 and 1050 through 1060, requires each self-insured employer to have a written loss prevention plan for each location and to provide safety and health loss prevention services for each work site. This program manages the employer/TPA process required in OAR 436 for workers' compensation claim processing.

## Revenue/Expense Detail

	Adopted General Fund	Adopted Other Funds	Adopted General Fund	Adopted Other Funds
Program Expenses	2024	2024	2025	2025
Personnel	\$0	\$1,352,153	\$0	\$1,467,624
Contractual Services	\$0	\$508,190	\$0	\$500,150
Materials & Supplies	\$0	\$3,469,719	\$0	\$5,089,509
<b>Total GF/non-GF</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$5,330,062</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$7,057,283</b>
<b>Program Total:</b>	<b>\$5,330,062</b>		<b>\$7,057,283</b>	
<b>Program FTE</b>	0.00	7.50	0.00	7.50

Program Revenues				
Other / Miscellaneous	\$0	\$5,330,062	\$0	\$7,242,283
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$5,330,062</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$7,242,283</b>

## Explanation of Revenues

The Workers' Compensation Section receives reimbursement from the State of Oregon for claims cost when specific eligibility criteria are met. Claim processing over payment reimbursements are also received as revenue. Safety and Health receives internal service reimbursements from departments whose staff attend the first aid/CPR/AED classes taught by Safety and Health instructors. The revenues received are to offset the cost paid to the Medic First Aid for course materials and completion certificates. The cost to Departments/Offices whose staff attend these internal classes are well below the cost of taking the class from an external provider.

## Significant Program Changes

Last Year this program was: FY 2024: 72009 FRM Worker's Compensation/Safety & Health