

## Safety Standards and Performance

### Program Safety Director:

**Greg McClelland - 916-784-9172**

In an effort to increase safety performance and prevent jobsite injuries, the Ironworkers Workers' Compensation Trust Fund created a safety program policy for contractors who elect to participate in this collectively bargained workers compensation program. During the course of participation, contractors are required to comply with any applicable federal, state, or local statutes pertaining to employer safety requirements. Routine job site safety inspections will be conducted to evaluate contractor safety performance. In the event of non-compliance with the Program Safety Policy, the Ironworkers Workers' Compensation Trustees reserve the right to seek any remedy deemed necessary to rectify substandard safety performance.



### Projects Not Covered by This Program

**CCIP: Contractor Controlled  
Insurance Programs**

**OCIP: Owner Controlled  
Insurance Programs**

**OCIP and CCIP Projects -  
The Iron Workers Collectively  
Bargained Workers' Compensation  
Program (ADR) does not include  
Owner Controlled Insurance Programs  
(OCIP) or Contractor Controlled  
Insurance Programs (CCIP).**

# UNION EMPLOYEES GUIDE

**Ironworkers Workers'  
Compensation Program**

**Website:  
[www.ironworkersadr.com](http://www.ironworkersadr.com)**

**Revised November 1, 2008**

## Workers' Compensation Program

The District Council of Iron Workers of the State of California and Vicinity and its affiliated Local Unions have entered into an agreement with their signatory employers to establish a Workers' Compensation Program that will provide additional benefits, procedures and services to Iron Workers working in California who have been involved in a workplace injury. A list of the Employers signatory to this program can be obtained from our website: ironworkersadr.com. The Program will be administered by the same Trustees who represent you on your Health & Welfare, Pension and other Trust Funds. The Ironworkers Worker's Compensation Program does not totally replace the normal state system. In addition to the rights you have under the current California system, the Ironworker's program will include the following additional benefits:

- *Injured workers will receive 10% above the weekly temporary benefits*
- *Injured workers can contact a union program representative to help answer questions*
- *Injured workers will be treated by authorized, board certified medical providers*
- *An independent case nurse will be available to answer your medical questions*
- *Resolution of claim disputes through a special mediation and arbitration process using arbitrators and mediators selected by the Trustees*
- *You have the right to seek the advice of an attorney at all times throughout this process*

## Labor and Management Cooperation

It is the intent of labor and management to improve the delivery of benefits and resolution of disputes for workers who claim Workers' Compensation benefits under the laws of the State of California and to reduce the waste and excessive costs that have historically been associated with the delivery of those benefits. Nothing in this Agreement diminishes the entitlement of an employee covered by this Addendum to compensation payments for total or partial disability, medical treatment and other benefits as required by California law fully paid for by the employer.

## The Program Administrator/ Ombudsman

### Gene Vick - 888-615-4766

The Ironworkers Workers' Compensation Trustees have appointed Gene Vick as the Program Administrator/Ombudsman. Once the Ombudsman is notified of an injury, he will make an initial contact with each injured employee. Additionally, he will be available to answer your questions and help resolve problems you have related to your claim by calling him toll free at 888-615-4766. The Ombudsman's job does not include giving advice or telling you what to do. What the Ombudsman can do is listen to your concerns and try to get them resolved to your satisfaction. However, if this cannot be done, you are free to move on to the next step which is mediation.

## Reporting Injuries

In the event that you are injured on the job, you are required to immediately report all injuries to your foreman, superintendent and job steward. Your failure to timely report an injury may result in the denial or delay of a claim. Upon notification of any injury, your employer will provide you with a workers' compensation claim reporting form and call their insurance company to ensure that you receive proper medical care. Under the Ironworkers' Program, your employer will also notify the Ombudsman and the Case Nurse of your injury.

## Quality Medical Care

The medical care you receive is provided through a network of authorized health care providers established by the Trustees specifically for this program. The authorized health care providers will be the exclusive source of all medical treatment. You are permitted to choose from among all the doctors in the network. If you are unhappy with your choice, or with a specialist to whom you have been referred, you are free to change doctors once. All authorized providers must be board certified in their respective specialties.

## The Claims Adjuster

After you report your injury or illness, you will be contacted by a claims adjuster several times while your claim is open. The Claims Adjuster is responsible to ensure that you receive all the benefits you are entitled to under the law and will provide you with their name and telephone number. If you have any questions regarding those benefits please call the claims adjuster.

## Case Nurse Integrated Health, LLC Audrey Kurzner, RN, CCM

### 800-223-2681 x3104

In addition to phone calls from the Ombudsman and Claims Adjuster, our Case Nurse, assigned to assist you with your claim, will call you. The case nurse is an independent patient advocate paid for by the Ironworkers Workers' Compensation Trust and is available to assist you 24-hours a day seven days a week. If you have any questions or concerns about your medical care, you may contact the case nurse.

## The Mediation Process

If your problem is not resolved, with the help of the Ombudsman, to your satisfaction within five (5) working days of contacting him, you can request mediation. A request for mediation must be made no later than sixty (60) days after the expiration of the five-day period and any agreed extension thereto. The mediator will meet with you and the insurance carrier and attempt to resolve matters regarding your workers' compensation claim. The Mediator is an attorney selected by the Union Trustees. The Mediator cannot force you to accept his or her recommendations or require that you sign any documents giving up your rights. He or she can only make suggestions.

## The Arbitration Process

If the mediation is not successful, at your request, your dispute will be referred to an arbitrator that has been agreed to by the Ironworkers Workers' Compensation Program Trustees. A hearing will be held so that you or your attorney can present evidence regarding your claim. The arbitration must be requested within sixty (60) days after the mediation process and a decision reached within ten (10) days following the conclusion of the arbitration.