

Fee Schedule

Examination and Report

The Impartial Specialist is entitled to a fee for an examination and preparation of a report. The fee, **\$750 or \$1250**, depends upon the complexity of the medical issue(s) in dispute, and may be modified by the Chair or Medical Director under unusual circumstances.

Testimony

The Impartial Specialist is entitled to a fee of **\$450** for testifying at a deposition or hearing. Testimony can often occur by phone. The Workers' Compensation Law Judge may allow a greater fee commensurate with the special circumstances of a particular case.



For further details on the IS Program, go to the Board's website at:

www.wcb.ny.gov

QUESTIONS?

Call the NYS Workers' Compensation Board at 1-800-781-2362

or

email: provider@wcb.ny.gov

A Guide to Becoming an



What is an Impartial Specialist?

An Impartial Specialist (IS) is a physician with outstanding qualifications whose expert, unbiased medical opinion helps the Workers' Compensation Board (Board) resolve medical disputes in certain workers' compensation cases. Members of this select IS panel are chosen by the Chair of the Workers' Compensation Board (Chair).

What are the Duties of an Impartial Specialist?

The duties of an IS are to:

- ◆ Accept IS examination requests from the Chair (unless a conflict of interest exists)
- ◆ Perform a physical examination and/or record review as requested
- ◆ Prepare and submit a written report addressing the issue in dispute
- ◆ Testify at a hearing or deposition (if requested); testimony often occurs by phone
- ◆ Comply with Workers' Compensation Law

Who Qualifies to Become an Impartial Specialist?

To be an IS, a physician (M.D., D.O.) should:

- ◆ Possess a valid and unrestricted NYS license
- ◆ Have no restrictions on any state medical license
- ◆ Be board-certified in an American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS) or the American Osteopathic Association (AOA) recognized specialty or sub-specialty
- ◆ Have five or more years of practice in the specialty/subspecialty
- ◆ Actively treat patients (at least 8 hours per week) within two years of the date of application
- ◆ Possess outstanding medical qualifications, which may include an academic affiliation or publications in peer-reviewed medical journals

The Board seeks applicants whose practice does not include a significant number of independent medical examinations (IME) or record reviews. A significant number is defined as more than 20 IME or record reviews annually on behalf of either employers/carriers or injured workers.

An IS must complete at least three credits of continuing medical education courses on workers' compensation medical practice that are approved by the Chair, prior to designation. A physician designated as an IS shall complete additional relevant continuing medical education courses offered by the Board as set forth by the Chair.

How to Become an Impartial Specialist: *Starting the Process*

To obtain an application, go to the WCB website:
www.wcb.ny.gov/content/main/forms/AllForms.jsp

*Health Provider's Application for
Designation as an Impartial Specialist*



Send completed application to:

NYS Workers' Compensation Board
Riverview Center
150 Broadway
Attn: WCB Medical Director's Office
Suite 195
Menands, NY 12204