

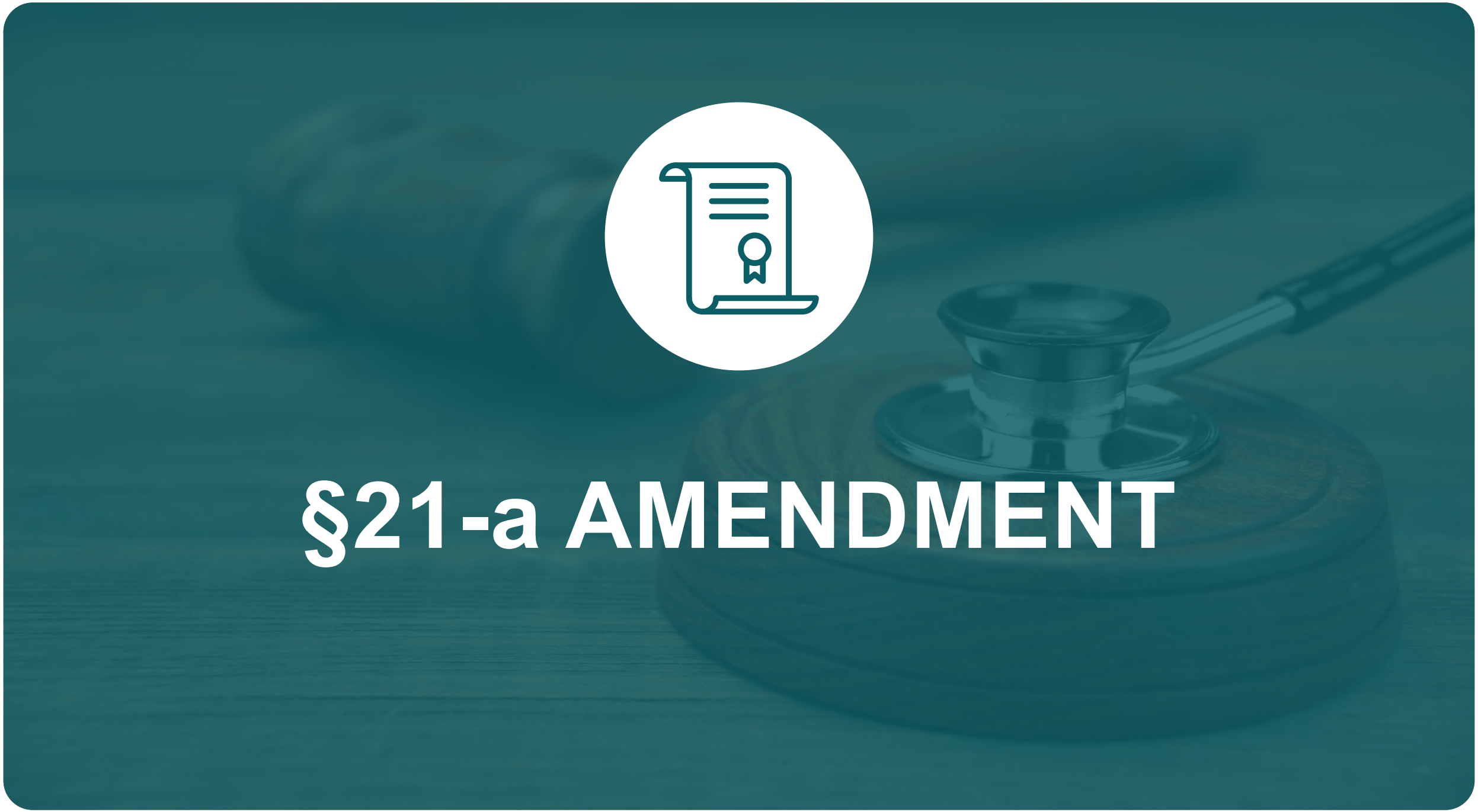
eClaims

Webinar

OCTOBER 20, 2026

AGENDA

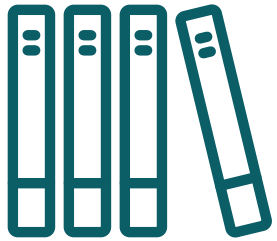
1. Amendment to §21-a & Subject Number 046-1787
2. §21-a “clock” effective 1/1/27
3. eClaims Testing Environment
4. Reminder to file AQs on acquired claims.
5. Questions



§21-a AMENDMENT

§ 21-a AMENDMENT

- New legislation signed as part of the FY 2026 Budget amends § 21-a of the Workers' Compensation Law to permit workers' compensation insurers to pay for medical treatment, without accepting liability, for up to one year, beginning January 1, 2027.
- The amendment requires insurers to notify injured workers that such payments are being made and that their claim will automatically be accepted by the insurer at the one-year mark, unless the claim is controverted.
- The Board published updated table changes on 6/1/2026. Payers should review the eClaims Trading Partner table changes posted on the Board's eClaims webpage and update their systems accordingly.
- Please refer to Subject Number 046-1787
  wcb.ny.gov/content/main/SubjectNos/sn046_1787.jsp



§ 21-A - EFFECTIVE 1/1/2027

- The insurer must indicate on its first FROI or SROI (if an ATC code was not included on a previously submitted FROI) filing, that the medical or indemnity payment is made with liability (L) or without liability (W).
- When a FROI/SROI is filed with a W, the servable form of the FROI/SROIs will contain the required notice from the Board to the claimant.
- The case will be identified as subject to NYS WCL §21-a and no further notice will be sent by the Board.
- The e-claims requirement table lists the FROI/SROI filings that must indicate W or L when filed.



§ 21-A - EDIT AND TABLE CHANGES

- Several new edits and population restrictions were published on the eClaims change log on 1/9/2026 and modified on 6/1/2026 to align with the Amendments to Workers' Compensation Law Section 21-a effective January 1, 2027.
- Trading partners are highly encouraged to review the change log and new edits if they have not already done so.



§ 21-A "CLOCK" - 365 DAYS

- For claims submitted after 1/1/27, when the insurer selects an Agreement to Compensate Code (ATC) of L or W, the received date of the first instance of W being included on the FROI/SROI begins the 365 day §21-a period
- If a FROI is filed M- Medical Only, W- Without Liability the 21a clock starts. Once indemnity payments have begun the 21a "clock" does NOT restart from the indemnity payment date.




eClaims
Testing Environment

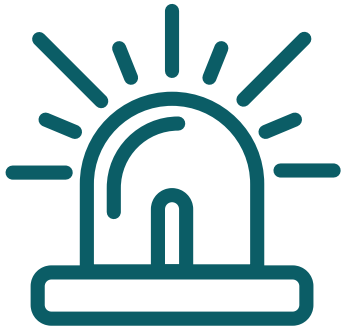
eClaims TESTING ENVIRONMENT

- **Testing environment data refresh was started on Monday, September 28 and has been completed. This was in preparation for the 21-a edit deployment.**
  - Email was sent to trading partners confirming testing environment is now available again.
  - Testing data is a copy of our current production environment from just prior to the start date of September 28. Previous data refresh was prior to our R3.1 implementation.
  - Any previous testing transactions were wiped during the refresh.



eClaims TESTING ENVIRONMENT - CONTINUED

- **21-a edit changes will be deployed to our trading partner testing environment starting Friday, October 30th.**
  - Test files submitted through Thursday, October 29th will be processed under old edits.
  - Test files submitted on or after Friday, October 30th will be processed with new 21-a edits starting the afternoon of Monday, November 2nd.
  - Anyone testing the 1/1/2027 edit changes will need to use 1/1/2026 for the effective date. This is due to the fact we cannot test a future date of 1/1/2027 in the testing environment.



AQs - Acquired Claims

REMINDER OF FROI-AQ/AU REQUIREMENTS WHEN A NEW CLAIM ADMINISTRATOR TAKES OVER A CLAIM

- Should be filed on all active cases including “closed” cases where medical is still being paid.
- Ensures your organization has timely eCase access and receives all Board notices, including hearing and decisions, sent on the claim.
- Failure to file the AQ/AU could result in issues with the Prior Authorization Request dashboard assignment for your organization.
- The Board could impose a § 25-3-e penalty for failure to file a required form. This penalty would be imposed outside of the Monitoring Unit process and would be imposed at the case level based on statute.



FOLLOW THE BOARD

 @NYSWorkersComp

 @NYSWCB

 @NYSWorkersCompBoard

 youtube.com/@nyswcb

 linkedin.com/company/nyswcb

 wcb.ny.gov (“Get WCB Notifications”)

THANK YOU

QUESTIONS?

NEW YORK STATE | Workers' Compensation Board