



Oregon

Tina Kotek, Governor



Workers'
Compensation
Division

Department of Consumer
and Business Services

Industry Notice

April 8, 2026

To: Workers' compensation insurers, self-insured employers, service companies, injured workers, attorneys, health care providers, and other interested parties

Subject: Sections 43 – 54 of House Bill 4040 (2026) make changes in attending physician status for nurse practitioners (NPs) and physician associates (PAs) starting April 8, 2026

House Bill 4040 amends Oregon workers' compensation laws and defines attending physician status for NPs and PAs. It also revises the certification requirements of out-of-state NPs.

This notice provides a summary of the major changes in the enacted bill. Interested parties are advised to review the full text of the bill, which can be found [here](#).

Certification requirement for out-of-state nurse practitioners

- With the passage of HB 4040, all NPs, including out-of-state NPs, i.e., not only those licensed under ORS 678.375 to 678.390, must certify that they have reviewed informational materials before treating a patient with an Oregon workers' compensation claim. To certify, NPs may visit our [certification website](#).
- ORS 656.262(10) states that merely paying or providing compensation shall not be considered acceptance of a claim or an admission of liability. Thus, the division encourages insurers to initially pay for services provided by out-of-state NPs who are not licensed under ORS 678.375 to 678.390, and to notify these NPs of the requirement to certify.

Attending physician status

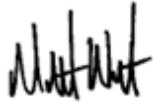
- With the passage of HB 4040, NPs are now included in the statutory definition of attending physician.
- NPs and PAs may now serve as attending physicians for the life of the claim, i.e., even after the worker becomes medically stationary. This means that NPs and PAs may serve as the attending physician for, e.g., an aggravation claim and may order palliative care.
- NPs and PAs are no longer limited to 180 days for authorizing temporary disability benefits. NPs and PAs may now authorize temporary disability benefits as long as they are the attending physician.

Closing exams

- As attending physicians, NPs and PAs may declare a worker medically stationary, perform a closing exam, and make findings of impairment.

If you have questions about this notice, contact the division at 800-452-0288 (toll-free) or email workcomp.questions@dcbs.oregon.gov.

Sincerely,



Matt West, Administrator
Workers' Compensation Division

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