

You're An Expert in Your Field, Now Be An Expert Medical Advisor

Florida's Workers' Compensation Program is seeking physicians from a wide range of specialties to serve as Expert Medical Advisors (EMAs), and podiatric physicians are particularly encouraged to apply.

The Division of Workers' Compensation (DWC), Medical Services Unit, is actively seeking qualified EMAs to provide expert medical consultation, opinions and testimony for the Division and Judges of Compensation Claims (JCCs). EMA services help ensure injured workers receive the appropriate medical care to be able to return to work as quickly as possible, while at the same time protecting employers and insurance carriers from excessive or unnecessary costs – costs that are passed on through higher workers' compensation premiums.

Applicants must be certified as a workers' compensation health care provider and must be board certified in a specialty area appropriate to address medical issues arising from the treatment of occupational health diseases and injuries.

The application process further requires applicants to demonstrate that, during the two-year period immediately preceding the date of EMA application, they:

- Performed five workers' compensation-related Independent Medical Examinations; and
- Accurately completed five DFS-F5-DWC-25 forms designating date or anticipated date of maximum medical improvement and a Permanent Impairment Rating of 1 percent or greater; and
- Received a minimum of 20 hours of continuing medical education in their specialty.

EMAs are paid based on services provided in each case, up to \$300 an hour for a maximum of \$2,400 (up to a total of eight hours) for case review. The EMA certification period is for two years, and a new application and accompanying documentation are required to be submitted for certification renewal.

Please visit <http://www.fldfs.com/wc/ema.html> to download an application, the applicable rule, or to learn more about the responsibilities of an EMA.