

PO Box 12050 | Austin, TX 78711 | 800-252-7031 | tdi.texas.gov/wc

Complete if known: DWC claim # Insurance carrier claim #

# Request to schedule, reschedule, or cancel a benefit review conference (BRC)

Este formulario está disponible en español en el sitio web de la División en <u>www.tdi.texas.gov/forms/dwc/dwc045brcs.pdf</u> Para obtener asistencia en español, llame a la División al 800-252-7031.

## **Part 1: Request specifications**

1. I want to: Schedule a BRC Resch	edule a BRC Cancel a BRC (check only one box)
2. I need: (check boxes) Special accommodations (please specify)	<b>Expedited BRC</b> (provide reason)

# Part 2: Information about the claim

3. Employee's name (first, middle, last)	4. Employee's physical address (street, city, state, ZIP code)				
5. Insurance carrier's name	6. Date of injury (mm-dd-yyyy)	7. Social Security number			
<b>8. Employer's business name</b> (at the time of the injury)	<b>9. Employer's business addres</b> ZIP code)				

## Part 3: Information about the party making the request

10. Who is making the request?	red employee	Insurance ca	rrier 🗌 Employer					
Subclaimant Beneficiary Attorney for								
11. Is the Office of Injured Employee Counsel (OIEC) assisting the injured employee?								
Yes No								
12. Requester's name and mailing address (street or PO box, city, state, ZIP code)								
13. Business/firm name (if applicable)	14. Phone nu	mber	15. Requester's email					

Employee's name:						
DWC claim number:						



## Part 4: Request to schedule a BRC

16. If you want to request a BRC, explain what the dispute is about: (check all boxes that apply)
Compensability of the claim – The insurance carrier denied the claim and is not going to pay income or medical benefits.
<b>Extent of the compensable injury</b> – The parties do not agree on what medical conditions were caused by the work-related injury.
<b>Temporary income benefits</b> – The insurance carrier does not agree that the work-related injury stops the injured employee from getting or keeping a job that pays what they earned before the injury.
Supplemental income benefits – The insurance carrier does not agree that the injured employee should get supplemental income benefits.
Average weekly wage – The parties do not agree about the average amount of money the employer paid the injured employee before the work-related injury.
Maximum medical improvement and impairment rating – The parties do not agree about whether the injured employee will have any further healing or recovery from the injury and to what percent the work-related injury affects the injured employee's body as a whole.
Death benefits or burial benefits – The insurance carrier does not agree that the beneficiary or beneficiaries should be paid death or burial benefits.
Other – Please describe.

# Part 5: Request to reschedule or cancel a BRC

**17. If you want to reschedule a BRC, explain why:** ( U Attach any supporting documents.)

**Note:** If a BRC was held but you missed it, explain why you missed the BRC and why you did not contact the Texas Department of Insurance, Division of Workers' Compensation (DWC) before missing the BRC.

**18. If you want to cancel a scheduled BRC, explain why:** ( ) Attach any supporting documents.)

Note: There are strict deadlines for requesting a BRC in some disputes. Requesting to cancel a BRC may be considered a withdrawal of the dispute, which can cause serious legal problems with your case.

Employee's name:

DWC claim number:



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## Part 6: Communication with other parties

19.	Describe what you	have done to resolve	the disputed issues.	This may include:

- how and when you contacted the other parties about this request
- what you agreed on and what you still disagree about
- describing your efforts to contact the other parties if you were not able to reach them

If you are requesting to reschedule a BRC, you must contact the other parties and DWC docketing to get an agreed date when everyone is available. The proposed date is:

() Attach more pages and supporting documents if needed.)

**Note:** Your request may be denied if you do not provide the required information.

## 20. Certify with your signature:

- I gave a copy of all important information that I have about the disputed issues to the other parties, and I made reasonable efforts to resolve the dispute. (You can learn more about important information, also called pertinent information, in the FAQ below on this form.)
- I sent a copy of this request to the other parties, including the injured employee's attorney or ombudsman (if they have one).

Signature\_\_\_\_\_ Date\_\_\_\_\_

Employee's name:

DWC claim number:



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# FAQ

### Request to schedule, reschedule, or cancel a benefit review conference (BRC)

**Where do I send this form?** Send a copy of this form and attached documents to DWC and the other parties. You can fax or mail the completed form to DWC or drop the form off at a DWC field office.

- Fax: 512-804-4011
- Mail: Texas Department of Insurance, Division of Workers' Compensation Hearings, Mail Code HRG PO Box 12050 Austin, TX 78711-2050

What happens after DWC gets the DWC Form-045? If DWC approves your request, you will get a letter with the date and time of the BRC. If DWC denies your request, you will get a letter explaining why. You may send the request again with corrections or updated information. You may also request a contested case hearing to appeal the denial.

**How soon will a BRC be scheduled?** DWC will schedule a BRC within 40 days of getting a complete request. DWC will schedule a BRC within 20 days (expedited) if DWC determines that the BRC needs to happen sooner.

**How are BRCs held?** BRCs are held virtually, unless good cause is shown for an in-person BRC. **After** you get notice that a BRC is set, you may file a request with DWC if you think an in-person BRC is needed.

**Will DWC provide special accommodations?** DWC will provide accommodations to parties who qualify under the Americans with Disabilities Act. Other reasonable accommodations may be provided as needed.

**When will a request to reschedule be approved?** If you file your request to reschedule within 10 days of receiving notice of the BRC, it will be approved if there have been no other requests to reschedule by either party. For any other request to reschedule, you must explain your reason for the request.

**Am I required to be in the BRC?** Yes, unless you have good cause. There may be a penalty or fine if you miss a BRC.

What information do I need to share? You must share information about a dispute with the other parties before a BRC. This is called exchanging information. You should exchange only important information (pertinent information). Pertinent information includes any documents, records, or statements that will help you explain your side of the disputed issues. Go to www.tdi.texas.gov/wc/idr/exchange.html to learn more about exchanging information for a BRC.

#### What are the deadlines for sharing information?

- Before asking for a BRC, send the other parties a copy of all your important information about the dispute.
- If you get a BRC request from another party, you have 10 days to send a copy of all your important information to them.
- At least 14 days before the BRC, send DWC a copy of all your important information. At this same time, send copies of any new important information that you have not previously exchanged with the other parties.
- If the BRC is less than 14 days away, you should exchange new important information with DWC and the other parties as you get it.

#### Need help?

- Go to <u>www.tdi.texas.gov/wc/employee/dispute.html</u> to learn more about dispute resolution.
- If you want an attorney and need help finding one, call the **State Bar of Texas** at 1-800-252-9690.
- If you do not have an attorney and want help from an ombudsman, go to <u>www.oiec.texas.gov</u> or call OIEC at 1-866-393-6432, ext. 44186.

#### **Questions?**

Call 1-800-252-7031, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Central time. Go to <u>www.tdi.texas.gov/wc</u> to learn more about workers' compensation.

Note: With few exceptions, on your request, you are entitled to:

- be informed about the information DWC collects about you;
- receive and review the information (Government Code Sections 552.021 and 552.023); and
- have DWC correct information that is incorrect (Government Code Section 559.004).

For more information, contact <u>DWCLegalServices@tdi.texas.gov</u> or go to the Corrections Procedure section at <u>www.tdi.texas.gov/commissioner/legal/lccorprc.html</u>.