The Texas Department of Insurance, Division of Workers' Compensation (DWC) evaluates the performance of workers' compensation insurance carriers in selected areas of compliance through Performance Based Oversight assessments. See <u>Texas Labor Code</u> <u>§402.075</u>. Insurance carriers are placed into a high, average, or poor regulatory tier based on the outcome.

There are five measures for the 2024 assessment.

#### Measures

Insurance carriers will be placed into regulatory tiers based on the following measures:

- 1. Timely payment of initial temporary income benefits by the insurance carrier.
- 2. Timely reporting of initial payment (IP) data to DWC via Texas Claim EDI Release 3.1.4. Note: This measure will not be factored into the tier placement. See **Scoring** and **Tier Placement** on page 2.
- 3. Timely processing of initial medical bills by the insurance carrier.
- 4. Timely processing of requests for reconsideration of medical bills by the insurance carrier.
- 5. Timely reporting of medical data to DWC via Texas Medical State Reporting Release 1.0.

#### **Selection Criteria**

Insurance carriers that reported 20 or more initial payments (IP) of temporary income benefits during the assessment data time frame will be included.

#### **Data Time Frame**

The data time frame used to assess performance of the insurance carriers for the above measures will be January 1, 2024, through June 30, 2024.

#### **Data Sources**

- For measures 1 and 2: Texas Claim Release 3.1.4 EDI reports accepted (TA) and accepted with errors (TE) from January 1, 2024, through June 30, 2024.
- For measures 3, 4 and 5: Texas Medical State Release 1.0 EDI reports accepted (TA) and accepted with errors (TE) from January 1, 2024, through June 30, 2024.

### **Findings & Rebuttals**

For each measure reviewed, DWC will determine whether it was handled timely or untimely using the claim and medical data reported by the insurance carrier during the data time frame. DWC will send findings and tier ratings to insurance carriers through their Austin Representative.

Untimely findings for the following measure will be eligible for rebuttal:

1. Timely payment of initial temporary income benefits by the insurance carrier.

Rebuttals must be received by the specified deadline. If a response is not received by the deadline, the findings and tier ratings become final.

### **Scoring and Tier Placement**

Measures	Score	Weight	Subtotals
4 7 4 5 5 5 5 5 5	Timely Items	50	
1 – Timely payment of TIBS*	Total Items reviewed	50 points	Score x 50
2 – Timely reporting of initial	Timely Items		
payment of TIBS	Total items reviewed	NA NA	NA
3 – Timeliness of processing initial	Timely Items		
medical bills	Total items reviewed	30 points Score x 30	Score x 30
4 – Timeliness of processing requests	Timely Items		
for reconsideration of medical bills	Total items reviewed	10 points Score x	Score x 10
5 – Timeliness of submission of the	Timely Items		
EDI medical data	Total items reviewed	10 points   Score	Score x 10
		Tatal Cara	Add
*Untimely findings are eligible for rebuttal.		Total Score	subtotals

**High Tier**: 95.00 or greater

Average Tier: 80.00 through 94.99

Poor Tier: 79.99 or less

#### **PBO Schedule 2024**

- January 1 June 30: Claim and medical data is reported by insurance carriers to DWC.
- July: Data is reviewed by DWC.
- **July:** Findings and tier ratings are sent to the insurance carriers with a rebuttal deadline for the eligible categories.
- **August:** Rebuttals for eligible categories are reviewed.
- **September:** Final findings and tier ratings are sent to the insurance carriers.
- October: DWC publishes results.

### **Publication of Tier Rating**

A list of all insurance carriers selected, and their corresponding tier ratings are published on DWC's website at <a href="https://www.tdi.texas.gov/wc/pbo/index.html">www.tdi.texas.gov/wc/pbo/index.html</a>.

# **Impact of Tier Ratings**

DWC provides incentives for high performance during PBO. DWC will focus oversight efforts on insurance carriers found to be poor performers in PBO.

The following table describes how PBO tier ratings may affect the insurance carrier during other compliance processes at DWC.

PBO	DWC Compliance & Investigations	DWC Enforcement
Insurance Carrier Tier	Audits	Fines/Penalties
Rating		
High	Exempted*	Consider pursuant to 28 TAC §180.26 (e)
Average	Included if selection criteria are met	Consider pursuant to <u>28 TAC</u> §180.26 (e)
Poor	Included regardless of whether selection criteria are met	Consider pursuant to 28 TAC §180.26 (e)

<sup>\*</sup> DWC may audit high tier performers at its discretion

#### **Recognition of High Performers**

High performers will be recognized on DWCs website and will receive a signed certificate from the commissioner which can be used as a marketing tool.

## Reminder regarding compliance, investigations, and enforcement.

DWC may impose sanctions on any insurance carrier that commits an administrative violation. The insurance carrier's PBO tier rating is one of the factors that DWC is required to consider.

DWC considers factors in <u>Texas Labor Code §415.021(c)</u> and <u>28 TAC §180.26</u> when determining appropriate enforcement actions.