

Chapter Ins 17

PATIENTS COMPENSATION FUND

Ins 17.001	Definitions (p. 375)	Ins 17.12	Rules of hearing (p. 379)
Ins 17.01	Payment of compensation fund fees (p. 375)	Ins 17.13	Continuances (p. 379)
Ins 17.02	Petition for declaratory rulings (p. 376)	Ins 17.14	Hearing public (p. 379)
Ins 17.03	How proceedings initiated (p. 376)	Ins 17.15	Subpoenas (p. 379)
Ins 17.04	General rules of pleading (p. 377)	Ins 17.16	Service (p. 379)
Ins 17.05	Caption of pleadings and notice (p. 377)	Ins 17.17	Appearances (p. 379)
Ins 17.06	Service of papers (p. 377)	Ins 17.18	Examination of witnesses (p. 380)
Ins 17.07	Procedure upon filing complaint (p. 377)	Ins 17.19	Record (p. 380)
Ins 17.08	Forms of notice (p. 377)	Ins 17.20	Stipulations (p. 381)
Ins 17.09	Answer (p. 378)	Ins 17.21	Motions (p. 381)
Ins 17.10	Contents of answer (p. 378)	Ins 17.22	Default (p. 381)
Ins 17.11	Hearing examiner (p. 378)	Ins 17.23	Arguments (p. 381)
		Ins 17.24	Review of classification (p. 381)
		Ins 17.25	Wisconsin health care liability insurance plan (p. 382)
		Ins 17.26	Future medical expense funds (p. 390)

Ins 17.001 Definitions. (ss. 619.04 and 655.003, Stats.) As used in this chapter: (1) "Board" means the board of governors established pursuant to s. 619.04 (3), Stats.;

(2) "Fund" means the patients compensation fund established pursuant to s. 655.27 (1), Stats., except as defined in section Ins 17.24 Wis. Adm. Code;

(3) "Hearing" includes both hearings and rehearings, and these rules shall cover both so far as applicable, except where otherwise specifically provided by statute or in chapter Ins 17.

(4) "Plan" means the Wisconsin health care liability insurance plan established by section Ins 17.25 Wis. Adm. Code pursuant to s. 619.01 (1) (a), Stats.;

(5) "Commissioner" means the commissioner of insurance or deputy whenever detailed by the commissioner or discharging the duties and exercising the powers of the commissioner during an absence or a vacancy in the office of the commissioner, as provided by s. 601.11 (1) (b), Stats.

History: Cr. Register, July, 1979, No. 283, eff. 8-1-79.

Ins 17.01 Payment of compensation fund fees (ss. 655.21 and 655.27, Stats.) (1) **PURPOSE.** This rule implements the provisions of ch. 655, Stats., relating to the payment of fees to the patients compensation fund.

(2) **SCOPE.** This rule applies to each health care provider as defined in s. 655.001, Stats., except hospitals, nursing homes or other facilities subject to regulation by the department of health and social services.

(3) **DEFINITIONS.** For the purpose of this rule the definition of terms used shall be those definitions set forth in s. 655.001, Stats.

(4) **PAYMENT OF FEES TO FINANCE PATIENTS COMPENSATION PANELS.** (a) Once in each fiscal year each physician operating in this state shall pay,

in accordance with a billing schedule adopted by the commissioner, the annual fee established by s. 655.21 (1) (a), Stats.

(b) Such fee is due and payable upon receipt of the billing by the physician.

(c) Any physician who has not paid the fee within 30 days from the date the billing is received shall be deemed to be in noncompliance with s. 655.21 (1) (a), Stats.

(d) The commissioner shall notify the department of regulation and licensing of each physician who has not paid the fee and who is, therefore, in noncompliance with s. 655.21 (1) (a), Stats.

(e) The commissioner may upon a showing of sufficient cause extend the period for a payment for an additional period of time to be determined by the commissioner.

(5) **PAYMENT OF OPERATING FEES TO PATIENTS COMPENSATION FUND.** (a) Once in each fiscal year each health care provider, except hospitals, nursing homes or other facilities subject to regulation by the department of health and social services, shall pay in accordance with a billing schedule adopted by the commissioner the annual fee determined in accordance with s. 655.27 (3) (c), Stats.

(b) Such fees are due and payable upon receipt of the billing by the health care provider.

(c) Any health care provider who has not paid the fee within thirty days from the date the billing is received shall be deemed to be in noncompliance with s. 655.23 (1), Stats., and subject to the penalty provisions of s. 655.23 (6) and (7), Stats.

(d) The commissioner shall notify the department of regulation and licensing of each health care provider who has not paid the fee and who is, therefore, in noncompliance with s. 655.23 (1), Stats.

(e) The commissioner may upon a showing of sufficient cause extend the period for payment of fees for an additional period of time to be determined by the commissioner.

History: Cr. Register, August, 1978, No. 272, eff. 9-1-78.

Ins 17.02 Petition for declaratory rulings. (ss. 619.04 and 655.003, Stats.) (1) Petitions for declaratory rulings shall be governed by s. 227.06, Stats.

(2) Such petitions shall be filed with the commissioner who shall investigate, give notice, etc.

(3) All final determinations shall be made by the board.

History: Cr. Register, July, 1979, No. 283, eff. 8-1-79.

Ins 17.03 How proceedings initiated. (ss. 619.04 and 655.003, Stats.) Proceedings for a hearing upon a matter may be initiated: (1) On a complaint by any individual, corporation, partnership or association which is aggrieved, filed in triplicate (original and 2 copies) with the commissioner.

(3) DEFINITIONS. The following definitions shall apply in the administration of this rule:

(a) Fund shall mean the future medical expense fund, Fund No. 35 established by the bureau of financial operations, department of administration under the provisions of ss. 16.40 (5) and 16.41, Stats., to receive payments under s. 655.015, Stats.

(b) Account shall mean that portion of such fund allocated specifically for the benefit of an injured person.

(c) Claimant shall mean the injured person, the individual legally responsible for any medical expenses sustained by the injured person, or the legally designated representative of such injured person.

(d) Medical expense shall mean those charges for medical services, nursing services, medical supplies, drugs or rehabilitation services which are necessary to the comfort and well being of the individual and incidental to the injury sustained.

(4) ADMINISTRATION. (a) When any settlement, award or judgement provides an amount in excess of \$25,000 for future medical expense, the insurer, organization or person responsible for such payment shall forward to the commissioner the amount in excess of \$25,000 within 30 days of any such settlement, award or judgment, and shall enclose an appropriately executed copy of the document setting forth the terms under which the payment is to be made.

(b) The commissioner shall cause the monies so received to be paid into the future medical expense fund to be invested by the state of Wisconsin investment board under the authority of s. 25.17 (1) (zm), Stats.

(c) Upon receipt of a request for reimbursement of medical expense of an injured person, the commissioner shall make appropriate investigation and inquiries to determine that the medical supplies or services provided are necessary and incidental to the injury sustained by the person for whom the account was established, and if satisfied that this is the case, shall pay these expenses out of the fund, using standard bookkeeping and accounting records and transactions established by ss. 16.40 (5) and 16.41, Stats.

(d) The commissioner shall not less than once annually inform the claimant of the status of the account including the original amount, payments made, and the balance remaining.

(e) The commissioner shall maintain an individual file record of each account showing the original allocation, payments made, credits and the balance remaining. The commissioner shall further keep an account of the total balance in the fund and the allocations to each account.

(f) The commissioner shall credit each account with a pro rata share of interest earned, if any, based on the remaining value of each account at the time such interest earning is declared by the investment board, and using procedures established by that board.

(g) If the commissioner is satisfied that a third party provider of service has not been reimbursed for services or supplies rendered to the injured person, payments of any medical expense may be made jointly to the claimant and the provider of such medical supplies or services.

(h) Payment shall be made to the claimant for reasonable and necessary medical expense until such time as the allocated amount is exhausted or until the injured person is deceased. Should the injured person become deceased and there is a balance in his account allocation, that amount shall be returned to the insurer; organization or person responsible for establishing the account.

History: Cr. Register, November, 1976, No. 251, eff. 12-1-76; renum. from Ins 3.37, Register, July, 1979, No. 283, eff. 8-1-79.