

Certified Workers' Compensation Professional Program

**October 19-23, 2009
Westin Princeton at Forrestal Village
Princeton, New Jersey**

*Become a Certified Workers' Compensation Professional (CWCP)
as Certified by the Workers' Compensation Center, the School of Labor and Industrial
Relations at Michigan State University*

*And Become a Certified New Jersey Workers' Compensation Professional (CNJWCP)
as Certified by the School of Management and Labor Relations at
Rutgers: The State University of New Jersey*

The Workers' Compensation Center at Michigan State University has offered certification programs for workers' compensation professionals since 1999. The programs have been offered throughout the country and over 2,500 professionals have attended the programs and been designated as Certified Workers' Compensation Professionals (CWCP). One guiding principle of the programs is that the content is national: the lectures and materials do not focus on the law of any one state but teach principles that apply across the country.

The program that will be offered in New Jersey in October 2009 is unique. Most of the content will reflect the national orientation of the Michigan State University certification program. However, this will be the third year that Rutgers University has provided supplementary material pertaining to New Jersey. The program offered in October 2009 will include two sessions that provided additional material pertaining to New Jersey. One session will deal with the legal issues of workers' compensation and other disability programs, including the New Jersey approaches to these issues, drawing on the expertise of Rutgers University faculty member John Burton and the Honorable Peter J. Calderone, who is the Director and Chief Judge of the New Jersey Division of Workers' Compensation.

One day of the October 2009 program will deal with medical issues. John J. Bernick, MD, Ph.D. will present a national perspective on this topic. In addition, Dr.

James Aragona, MD, a New Jersey Orthopaedic Surgeon, will discuss the practice of disability rating in the New Jersey workers' compensation program. Dr. Aragona, a Diplomate of the American Board of Orthopaedic Surgery and a Fellow of the American Academy of Disability Evaluating Physicians, has extensive experience performing workers' compensation permanency determinations and independent medical examinations.

The Director of the New Jersey Certification Program is John Burton (Member, New Jersey Advisory Council on Workers' Compensation; Professor Emeritus and former Dean of the School of Management and Labor Relations at Rutgers University; and former Chairman of the National Commission on State Workmen's Compensation Laws). Ed Welch, Professor Emeritus and former Director of the Workers' Compensation Center at Michigan State University, created the Certified Workers' Compensation Professional program.

The program in 2009 will examine several topics relevant for workers' compensation professionals: (1) The Principles of Disability Law, including workers' compensation and temporary disability insurance; (2) Insurance and Self-Insurance; (3) Claims Management; (4) Safety, Disability Prevention, and Management Issues; and (5) Medical Issues. The program involves five days of presentations by instructors and interactions among those attending the program, most of whom are already familiar with workers' compensation.

Attendees are evaluated on the basis of their attendance, participation in the sessions, and answers on take-home exams, which are due two weeks after the program. Those who complete the requirements will receive certificates from Michigan State University and Rutgers: The State University of New Jersey. In addition, Continuing Education Credit is available for many professions. Examples from the earlier New Jersey programs included 33.75 hours of New Jersey Continuing Legal Education (CLE) credit and 24 Producer Continuing Education Units (CEUs). We anticipate that similar arrangements for credits will be made for the October 2009 program. The fee for the five-day seminar in 2009 is \$2,395, which includes continental breakfasts and lunches, course materials, the take-home exams, and certificates from Michigan State University and from Rutgers University.

Additional information about the Workers' Compensation Certification Program and a registration form for the October 2009 program in Princeton are available at: <http://www.lir.msu.edu/wcc>. If you have questions about the October 2009 Workers' Compensation Certification Program or if you wish to be added to the distribution list for information about the Program, please contact:

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