



Self Insurers Fund *Bulletin*

A PUBLICATION OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA HOME BUILDERS SELF INSURERS FUND * FIRST QUARTER 2011

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Fall Protection Update

OSHA has issued new guidance for fall protection in residential construction. All workers who are exposed to fall hazards of six feet or more must be protected by conventional fall protection (guardrails, covers, safety nets, or harness and lanyard systems). If an employer can demonstrate that conventional fall protection is not feasible, they must then implement a written fall protection plan. The OSHA guidance document, Fall Protection in Residential Construction, is available on our website, www.schbsif.com. ●



The South Carolina Home Builders Self Insurers Fund (SCHBSIF) provides a quality workers' compensation program for qualified builders and subcontractor members of the HBA of SC. The Fund

offers a cost-effective, stable and reliable workers' compensation program.

Designed by builders for builders, it also provides more effective control over workers' compensation costs and claims, which result in a direct savings for member companies. The SCHBSIF's workers' compensation program is available statewide through an extensive network of independent agents.

You may also contact the SCHBSIF office directly.

South Carolina Home Builders Self Insurers Fund Bulletin is published four times annually and is mailed to all Home Builder Association of South Carolina members plus non-member residential homebuilders statewide. Any reproduction or duplication of this publication or any part thereof

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ABC's of Comparing Workers' Compensation pricing

Workers' compensation coverage is required for most contractors and should be obtained by all contractors. The coverage is statutory but rates may vary depending on the insurer. The premium for the policy is based on payrolls and the payrolls are estimated for the policy year. The final premium is determined after the policy period by an audit performed by the insurer.

To compare policies in an apples to apples manner consider the following variables that are included in all work comp policies:

NCCI Class Code

This is a four digit numeric code for each separate class. Examples would be: Carpentry code #5645 or Plumbing #5183. The numbers should be an exact match but the description may have small differences.

Payroll

Make sure the payrolls used are the same if not, you are not getting an apples to apples comparison. Pay particular attention to this part because it can be manipulated to make the price look more competitive. However, when the final audit is done, there will probably be no savings.

Experience Modification

Compare these to see if all competitors are using the same mod. If not adjust for the correct mod.

Additional helpful information to consider is:

Review previous audits

Compare the information above with your previous audit to determine if chargeable exposures have been omitted. If so ask the insurer to include the class codes and appropriate payrolls in their quote.

Employers Liability Limits

Check to see if these limits are the same.



Uninsured Subcontractors

If you use subs obtain rates for those class codes from the insurers and include in your comparison.

Spend time beforehand and it will save you much more in time and dollars after your final audit.

In the current economy many employers are doing work they have not done in the past. Ask your agent for clarification and make sure your agent has a good understanding of your operations. ●

South Carolina Builders Insurance Group

South Carolina Builders Insurance Group (SCBIG) is the new name of the insurance company that will be created by the Self Insurers Fund after an almost unanimous vote of the current SCHBSIF members. The new insurance company will be domiciled in South Carolina. The target date for operations is July 1, 2011 but will be dependent on approvals from the SC Workers Compensation Commission and the SC Department of Insurance. SCBIG will continue to offers a cost-effective, stable and reliable workers' compensation program for contractors. With this change, the SCBIG will be able to offer coverage to many more types of construction operations than in the past. Competitive rates and monthly self-audit reporting will still be a key feature of SCBIG. ●

