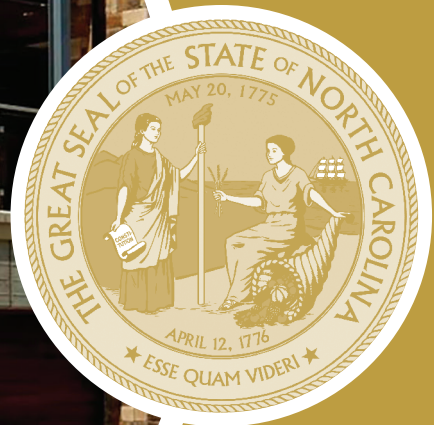


The **30th** Annual
**North Carolina
Workers' Compensation
Educational Conference**

**Wednesday - Friday
October 15 - 17, 2025**



**Raleigh Marriott
Crabtree Valley Hotel**

**4500 Marriott Drive
Raleigh, North Carolina 27612**



October 15 - October 17, 2025

The 30th Annual North Carolina Workers' Compensation Conference will be held on Wednesday, October 15 - Friday, October 17, 2025, at the Raleigh Marriott Crabtree Valley Hotel. The North Carolina Industrial Commission organizes this program with the goal of bringing its stakeholders together to learn about and discuss current and noteworthy workers' compensation trends and topics, including medicolegal issues and Industrial Commission processes and procedures. This year's presenters include Industrial Commission Section Heads, Deputy and Special Deputy Commissioners, plaintiff and defense attorneys, adjusters, healthcare providers, professors, rehabilitation professionals, and mediators.

Who Should Attend?

Employers, insurance adjusters, self-insurers, third-party administrators, safety and human resource managers, plaintiff and defense attorneys, paralegals, healthcare providers, medical and vocational rehabilitation professionals, and mediators are encouraged to attend. Anyone with a professional interest in the workers' compensation system in North Carolina will receive valuable information at the Conference.

Continuing Education Credits

Application is pending for up to 12 hours of continuing education credits for the following occupations: attorneys (CLE), paralegals (CPE), insurance adjusters (CE), human resources professionals (SHRM), and rehabilitation providers (CDMS and CCM); and 1 hour of credit for mediators (CME). COHNs, CRRNs, and any other discipline will be provided a certificate of completion for credit submission, upon request. For adjusters, the Conference sessions are grouped into 3 courses. **Adjusters must complete all sessions in each course to receive credits for that course.**

Adjusters also should be aware that the North Carolina Department of Insurance does not award credit to non-resident adjusters with North Carolina licenses unless they are domiciled in North Carolina as an adjuster. For general information concerning licensing and CE requirements for adjusters in North Carolina, please contact the North Carolina Department of Insurance at (919) 807-6800.

Materials

Attendees will be able to download the materials prior to the Conference. Please look for the link in the email announcement you will receive from compconference@iwcf.us when the materials are available. Please provide an accurate and legible email address unique to each individual registrant when you register to ensure receipt of instructions and Conference communications. Also, please add compconference@iwcf.us to your email "safe sender" list as a trusted contact.

Hotel Information

NEW LOCATION! FREE PARKING ONSITE!

The host hotel for our Conference is

RALEIGH MARRIOTT CRABTREE VALLEY HOTEL

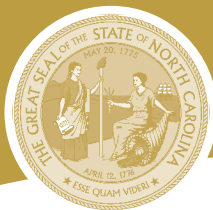
4500 Marriott Drive, Raleigh, NC 27612

Conference Rate: \$199.00/night · Rate Cut-Off Date: September 23, 2025 (unless sold out sooner)

Note: The Conference group rate will not be available if the room block sells out prior to the cut-off date, so make your reservations early. [Click here](#) to book your group rate online, or call 1-800-MARRIOTT and give group code WCE or identify yourself as attending the 30th Annual North Carolina Workers' Compensation Educational Conference.

The Raleigh Marriott Crabtree Valley Hotel provides Conference attendees with easy access to the hundreds of retailers and dozens of restaurants and other eateries located at the Crabtree Valley Mall. Additionally, parking at the hotel is free and easily accessible.

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Registration Fees: \$400.00 per person paid on or before August 15, 2025
\$425.00 per person paid after August 15, 2025, but on or before September 15, 2025
\$475.00 per person paid after September 15, 2025

Registration fees include sessions, access to presentation materials and exhibit hall, reception, lunch, and two breakfasts.

Two registration options are available.

1. **Payment by Credit Card** (MasterCard, VISA, or American Express) - go to www.workcompevent.com/north_carolina.
2. **Payment by Check** - Complete, copy, and return this form for each attendee, along with a check made payable to the IWCF (International Workers' Compensation Foundation, Inc.), and mail to IWCF, 570 Memorial Circle, Suite 320, Ormond Beach, FL 32174.

Name: _____

First Name for Name Badge: _____

Business Name: _____ Title: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone: _____ Fax: _____

Email: _____

Area of Practice: ☐ Employer ☐ Employee ☐ Health & Safety Specialist ☐ Insurer ☐ TPA ☐ Attorney ☐ Mediator
☐ Paralegal ☐ Occup. Health Nurse ☐ Healthcare Provider ☐ Medical Rehab Specialist ☐ Vocational Rehab Specialist
☐ Human Resources Professional ☐ Other: _____

CONTINUING EDUCATION CREDITS - Application is pending for up to 12 hours of credit for Attorney CLE, Paralegal CPE, Adjuster CE, SHRM CE, and Rehabilitation CDMS and CCM credits; and 1 hour of credit for mediator CME. COHN, CRRN, and any other discipline will be provided with a certificate of completion, upon request. Please note special Department of Insurance rules for adjusters.

Please indicate the CE credits you will be seeking:

NC Attorney - Bar #: _____ NC Adjuster - NPN #: _____
_____ Mediator _____ Paralegal _____ SHRM _____ CCM _____ CDMS _____ COHN

LODGING - The host hotel is the RALEIGH MARRIOTT CRABTREE VALLEY - 4500 Marriott Dr., Raleigh, NC 27612. It provides easy access to the hundreds of retailers and dozens of restaurants and other eateries located at the Crabtree Valley Mall. Conference Rate: \$199.00/night • Rate cut-off September 23, 2025. The group rate will not be available if the room block becomes full prior to the cut-off date, so make your reservations early. [Click here](#) to book your group rate online, or call 1-800-MARRIOTT and give group code WCE or identify yourself as attending the 30th Annual North Carolina Workers' Compensation Educational Conference.

PRESENTATION MATERIALS - Download the presentation materials prior to the Conference. Please look for the link in an email announcement when the materials are available. Please be sure to provide an accurate and legible email address unique to each individual registrant when you register to ensure receipt of the instructions and Conference communications.

CONFERENCE ATTIRE - Casual clothing is appropriate for all events.

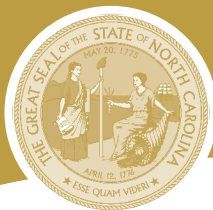
CANCELLATION REFUND POLICY - Cancellation of pre-registration must be made before 5:00 p.m. on October 3, 2025. Substitution of attendee is recommended in lieu of cancellation. The full registration fee will be forfeited if you fail to cancel timely.

ACCOMMODATIONS - Individuals attending the Conference who may need auxiliary aids or other accommodations are asked to provide notice of their accommodations in writing, via email to dearnest@iwcf.us, no later than 10 working days before the Conference so that appropriate arrangements can be made.

*For further information contact the IWCF at Tel: (386) 677-0041; Fax: (386) 677-0155; Email: compconference@iwcf.us
International Workers' Compensation Foundation, 570 Memorial Circle, Suite 320, Ormond Beach, FL 32174.*

Net proceeds from this event, if any, go to the International Workers' Compensation Foundation (FEIN# 35-1737364), a non-profit organization, to further its work in workers' compensation education and outreach.

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ATTENTION EXHIBITORS

The Conference includes an exhibit hall. Fee of \$1,000 includes two (2) complimentary registrations for exhibitor representatives. A separate registration form should be completed for each additional registrant.

Space is offered on a first-come, first-served basis and will only be reserved upon our receipt of your registration. Register online or send an advance copy of this form and your first three choices of booth location by fax to (386) 677-0155 or email to dearrest@iwcf.us. For additional information regarding the exhibit area, contact the IWCF at (386) 677-0041. Booth set-up will be in the exhibitor area on Wednesday, October 15th, 10 A.M. - 1 P.M. Tear down will be on Friday, October 17th, 12:50 P.M.

The continental breakfast and refreshment breaks will be held in or in close proximity to the exhibition areas. Registration fee includes one 8'x10' booth or 6' draped table and two chairs, identification sign, and registration for two representatives. Full fee forfeiture if unable to attend.

Kids' Chance of North Carolina (www.kidschancenc.org) invites all vendors to donate an item for the silent auction during the Wednesday reception. All donations are tax deductible and donors will be recognized. For more information, please contact:

Marty Baier, Silent Auction Chair

(919) 622-5995 or email: marty@baierinvestigations.com

Greg Shue

(704) 936-6767 or email: greg.shue@advantageinvestigations.com

EXHIBITOR INSURANCE / HOLD HARMLESS CLAUSE

Exhibitor assumes entire responsibility and hereby agrees to protect, indemnify, defend, save, and hold harmless the International Workers' Compensation Foundation (IWCF), its employees and agents, and Chelsea Place Meetings and its employees and agents, against all claims, losses, and damages to persons or property, governmental charges, or fines and attorney fees arising out of its exhibits, excluding any such liability caused by the sole negligence of Chelsea Place Meetings and its employees and agents, as well as the IWCF, its members, employees, and agents.

In addition, exhibitor acknowledges that Chelsea Place Meetings and the IWCF do not maintain insurance covering exhibitors' property or potential liabilities and that it is the sole responsibility of the exhibitor to obtain insurance covering such losses by exhibitor. Exhibitor shall obtain and keep in force during the exhibit period policies of comprehensive general liability insurance and contractual liability insurance, in an amount not less than \$1,000,000 combined single limit for personal injury and property damage. Chelsea Place Meetings and the IWCF shall be included in such policies as additionally named insureds for this convention only.

AUTHORIZED

SIGNATURE: _____

DATE: _____

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITY

You are invited to register as a sponsor for the 30th Annual North Carolina Workers' Compensation Educational Conference. The following sponsorship levels are available:

Gold: \$1,250 Contribution

- Complimentary Attendee Registration.
- Organization name and contact information will appear in Conference program.
- Organization name will appear on a large "Thank You Sponsor" sign in exhibit area.

Silver: \$750 Contribution

- Organization name will appear on a large "Thank You Sponsor" sign in exhibit area.

CHECK CATEGORY WHICH APPLIES:

- ☐ EXHIBITOR
☐ SPONSORSHIP ☐ Gold ☐ Silver

Company Name: _____

Specialty: _____

Contact Person: _____

Title: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Fax: _____

Email Address: _____

EXHIBITORS & GOLD SPONSORS

Comp. Registrant #1: _____ *Name & Title*

Email: _____

EXHIBITORS ONLY

Comp. Registrant #2: _____ *Name & Title*

Email: _____

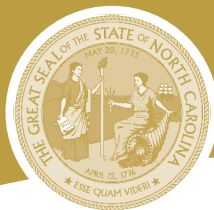
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For additional information contact the IWCF at: Phone (386) 677-0041 • Fax (386) 677-0155 • compconference@iwcf.us.

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SCHEDULE OF SESSIONS

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2025

- 12:45 **Opening Remarks**
Philip Baddour, Chair, NCIC
Kids' Chance of North Carolina, Inc.
Greg Shue, President, Kids' Chance of North Carolina, Inc., Mount Holly, NC
- 1:00 **Extended Compensation Cases under G.S. 97-29(c)**
Dawn Dillon, Young Moore and Henderson, P.A., Raleigh, NC; Valerie Johnson, Johnson & Groninger, PLLC, Durham, NC
- 2:00 **Threats to Healthcare Access in Rural America**
Mark Holmes, PhD, Professor, University of North Carolina Gillings School of Global Public Health and Director, Cecil G. Sheps Center for Health Services Research, Chapel Hill, NC; Brian Freedman, Freedman Law Firm, Greensboro, NC; Rick Harper, The Harper Law Firm, PLLC, Sylva, NC
- 3:00 **Break - Visit Exhibit Hall**
- 3:15 **An Interdisciplinary Rehabilitative Approach to Helping Patients with Chronic Pain Reach Their Maximum Potential**
Shilpa Kasuganti, M.D., The Rehab Center, Charlotte, NC; Sarah Blair, Anders Crone, PLLC, Raleigh, NC; Leann Gerlach, Ricci Law Firm, P.A., Raleigh, NC
- 4:15 **You Be the Judge!: An Interactive Presentation Based on Real Life Fact Patterns**
Larry Baker, Willson Jones Carter & Baxley, Charlotte, NC; Alexandra Kensinger, Ricci Law Firm, P.A., Raleigh, NC; Dawn Steadman, Vice President of Claims, SCA, Colfax, NC
- 5:15 **Adjourn / Reception Begins**
Kids' Chance Silent Auction
- 6:15 **Reception Ends**

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2025

- 8:00 **Continental Breakfast**
- Concurrent Break-Out Sessions:**
- 9:00 **Break-Out Sessions - Choose one (1) session of two (2) listed below**
- I. Show Cause Motions and Contempt Proceedings in Workers' Compensation Cases**
Ashley Moore, Deputy Commissioner and Director of Claims Administration, NCIC; Wes Saunders, Deputy Commissioner, NCIC; Lauren Halbert White, Director of Compliance, NCIC
- II. Update from the Full Commission**
J.D. Prather, Full Commission Chief Administrative Officer and Lead Counsel, NCIC; Melissa Botiglione, Full Commission Assistant Administrative Officer and Counsel, NCIC
- 10:00 **Break - Visit Exhibit Hall**
- 10:20 **Break-Out Sessions - Choose one (1) session of two (2) listed below**
- I. Tools for Helping Someone in Crisis**
(Fulfills one (1) hour Ethics credit for attorneys)
Wendy Gantt, MA, LCMHC, Alliance Health, Community Health and Well-Being, Raleigh, NC
- II. Update from the Executive Secretary's Office**
Meredith Henderson, Executive Secretary, NCIC; Kimberly Fennell, Special Deputy Commissioner, NCIC; Carrie Geddie, Special Deputy Commissioner, NCIC; Alexandra Hagerty, Special Deputy Commissioner, NCIC; Michael Kelly, Special Deputy Commissioner, NCIC; Jeff McMillion, Special Deputy Commissioner, NCIC; Jessica Parker, Special Deputy Commissioner

- 11:20 **Break-Out Sessions - Choose one (1) session of two (2) listed below**
- I. Technology Update and Tips for Using the Commission's New Integrated Case Management System (ICMS)**
(Fulfills one (1) hour Technology credit for attorneys)
Tim Frost, Chief Information Officer, NCIC; Meredith Henderson, Executive Secretary, NCIC; Emily Baucom, Clerk of the Industrial Commission, NCIC
- II. We're All Professionals Here: The Rehabilitation Rules and the Importance of Professional Responsibility when Providing Rehabilitation Services**
(Fulfills Ethics requirement for CCM, CRC, and CDMS)
Vicki Hewitt, Rehabilitation Nurse Consultant, NCIC; Jodie Nolf, RN, CRRN, CCM, CLCP, Nolf Case Management & Consulting, LLC, Raleigh, NC
- 12:20 **Lunch (included)**
- 1:45 **Break-Out Sessions - Choose one (1) session of two (2) listed below**
- I. Attorney Mental Health & Self-Awareness**
(Fulfills one (1) hour Professional Well-Being credit for attorneys)
Charity Wijetunga, JD, PhD, Assistant Professor, UNC School of Medicine, Chapel Hill, NC
- II. Updates from Claims Administration and the Clerk's Office**
Ashley Moore, Deputy Commissioner and Director of Claims Administration, NCIC; Emily Baucom, Clerk of the Industrial Commission, NCIC
- 2:45 **Break - Visit Exhibit Hall**
- 3:00 **Break-Out Sessions - Choose one (1) session of two (2) listed below**
- I. Best Practices for Avoiding Ethical Pitfalls: An Interactive Discussion**
(Fulfills one (1) hour Ethics credit for attorneys and adjusters)
Julia Dixon, New Day Resolution Services, Raleigh, NC; Jarvis T. Harris, The Law Offices of James Scott Farrin, Greensboro, NC; Allison Rogers, Stake Center Locating, Risk Management, Greensboro, NC
- II. Mediation: Mayhem or Masterpiece? A Two-Act Play**
(Fulfills one (1) hour CME credit for mediators)
Jolinda Babcock, Tarheel Mediations, Summerfield, NC; Amy Berry, Amy Berry Law, P.A., Burlington, NC; Tim Hewlett, Hewlett Mediations, Pfafftown, NC
- 4:00 **Adjourn**

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2025

- 8:00 **Continental Breakfast**
- 9:00 **A View from the Bench**
Kevin Howell, Chief Deputy Commissioner, NCIC; Matthew Buckner, Deputy Commissioner, NCIC; Carolyn Thompson, Deputy Commissioner, NCIC; Patrick Wooten, Deputy Commissioner, NCIC
- 10:00 **Break - Visit Exhibit Hall**
- 10:30 **Back To The Basics: Arising Out Of and In The Course Of**
Daniel Pope, Jr., Wilson Ratledge, PLLC, Raleigh, NC; Martha Ramsay, Ramsay Law Firm, P.A., Charlotte, NC
- 11:30 **Workers' Compensation Appellate Case Law Update**
Heather T. Baker, Skidmore Law Group, PLLC, Raleigh, NC; Elizabeth Ligon, The Law Offices of James Scott Farrin, Durham, NC
- 12:30 **Adjourn**