



## **BWC Introduces New Drug Free Safety Program**

The Ohio Bureau of Workers' Compensation (BWC) will phase out the Drug Free Workplace Program effective July 1, 2010. The new program, Drug Free Safety Program (DFSP), will begin on July 1, 2010. Employers will now have the opportunity to remain in this program for an unlimited number of years. The DFSP offers more flexibility for employers to make choices when to be in or out of the program.

Employers wishing to enroll in the program must meet the following eligibility requirements:

- State-fund employer
- Current on assessments owed BWC
- Active coverage status
- No more than 40 lapsed days in the past 12 months

There are two levels available for employers to sign up:

- **Basic Level:** Participating non-group-rated employers receive a 4% discount.
  - Requirements: completion of a safety review, accident reporting, accident-analysis training for supervisors, employee education, supervisor skill-building training, alcohol and other drug testing and a written DFSP policy.
- **Advanced Level:** Participating non-group-rated employers receive a 7% discount.
  - Requirements: completion of all basic level requirements, annual 15% random drug testing, safety action plan, and provide a second chance for employees testing positive.

Also, beginning July 1, 2010, employers participating in group experience rating will have the opportunity to participate in the advanced level of the DFSP and receive a 3% discount.

DFSP can be stacked with other BWC programs such as Safety Council, Salary Continuation (claims prior to 1/1/2011), and Small Deductible. The BWC programs that cannot be stacked with the DFSP are Experience Modifier Cap, \$15,000 Medical Only, Group-experience rating, Large Deductible, One Claim, Paid-loss-retrospective rating, and Salary Continuation (claims after 1/1/2011).

Private employers electing to sign up for this program must register by June 30, 2010. Public employers must sign up by October 29, 2010. The application can be submitted via the BWC website [www.ohiobwc.com](http://www.ohiobwc.com).

If you have any questions, please call 888.743.2559 and ask for your Client Relations Manager.

As always, thank you for your business. With Sheakley...It's Done!

