

BEFORE THE IOWA WORKERS' COMPENSATION COMMISSIONER

IN THE MATTER OF ELECTRONIC
PAYMENT OF FILING FEES
USING THE WORKERS'
COMPENSATION ELECTRONIC
SYSTEM (WCES)

ORDER

FILED

JAN 03 2020

WORKERS COMPENSATION

1. Effective July 22, 2019, the Iowa Division of Workers' Compensation (DWC) transitioned to mandatory electronic filing (eFiling) on the Workers' Compensation Electronic System (WCES).
2. To implement the transition to eFiling on WCES, the Iowa Workers' Compensation Commissioner amended the administrative rules in Chapter 876 of the Iowa Administrative Code (IAC). The amendments include, but are not limited to, mandatory electronic payment of filing fees. See 876 IAC 4.8.
3. Under Rule 876 IAC 2.9, all rules relating to WCES shall take effect for claims before the agency on July 22, 2019, "or when WCES is available to the public, whichever is later."
4. Under Rule 876 IAC 4.8(2)(j), the Commissioner may issue an order allowing deferral of the payment of filing fees and the payment of filing fees outside of WCES.
5. Because electronic payment of filing fees on WCES was not available to the public, the Commissioner issued an order authorizing parties to pay filing fees by check after eFiling a document on WCES. See *In the Matter of Payment of Filing Fees During the Transition to the Workers' Compensation Electronic System (WCES)*, (Comm'r Order, Jul. 23, 2019).

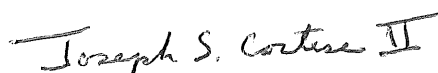
6. WCES will be down for an update from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Central Time (CT) on January 6, 2020, which will make the online payment portal available to the public.

7. For documents filed before the WCES update on January 6, 2020, parties must pay filing fees by check under the order of the Commissioner dated July 23, 2019, *In the Matter of Payment of Filing Fees During the Transition to the Workers' Compensation Electronic System (WCES)*.

8. For documents filed after the WCES update on January 6, 2020, the order of the Commissioner dated July 23, 2019, *In the Matter of Payment of Filing Fees During the Transition to the Workers' Compensation Electronic System (WCES)*, will not govern and all parties must electronically pay filing fees on WCES in accordance with agency rules. See 876 IAC 4.8.

9. Parties and attorneys should be aware that WCES technical assistance through Tybera is available from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. CT, Monday through Friday, excluding federal holidays. Therefore, technical assistance relating to the electronic payment of fees on WCES will not be available until 8:00 a.m. on January 7, 2020.

Signed and filed this 3rd day of January, 2020.



JOSEPH S. CORTESE II
WORKERS' COMPENSATION COMMISSIONER