Attachment 1
2017 Miscellaneous classification and rating rule changes
Chapter 296-17 WAC, General Reporting Rules, Audit and Recordkeeping, Rates and Rating System for Washington Workers' Compensation Insurance and WAC Chapter 296-17A, Classifications for Washington Workers' Compensation Insurance.

	WAC Numbers	WAC description	What is changing	Reason for change
1.	WAC 296-17-31007	Owner optional coverage	Adding language for exempt employments and how to elect coverage.	Ease of doing business. This rule provides further interpretation of an existing statute. There is no information currently in rule describing elective coverage for exempt employments as described in RCW 51.12.020. This information should be available in rule along with the information regarding owner optional coverage. Over the year, the AAG recommended this amendment be made as customers should not have to look in two places (the statutes and the rules) to find this information.
2.	WAC 296-17A-0518	Nonwood frame buildings and structures N.O.C. and concrete construction, N.O.C.	Correcting a grammatical error found in the current rule; clarifying language and making it easier for employers to appropriately apply; and reduce opportunities for unintentional or intentional application of the term "structures". There is no change in how the classification is currently applied and this update will not impact employers' rates.	Ease of doing business. Staff requested clarification due to the difficulty understanding the intent of the language. This will reduce confusion for external customers and allow staff to provide consistent service to customers.
3.	WAC 296-17A-1501-20 WAC 296-17A-4904-20 WAC 296-17A-5308-20 WAC 296-17A-6511-20	Community action organizations – All other employees N.O.C. Community action organizations – Clerical office employees Community action organizations – Professional services and administrative employees	Reformat community action organization classifications to improve readability.	Ease of doing business. Staff requested clarification due to the difficulty understanding the intent of the language. This will reduce confusion for external customers and allow staff to provide consistent service to customers.

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	WAC Numbers	WAC description	What is changing	Reason for change
		Community action organizations – Chore services/home care assistants		
4.	WAC 296-17A-0219-01	Construction specialty services	Add a reference to prefab panels.	Ease of doing business. Improving consistency of classification references. Classification 0302 Brick, block, and stone masonry work, N.O.C. excludes "mechanically placed block or prefab panels next to a roadway for noise barrier, median or retaining wall, which is reported in class 0219". Scopes language for 0219 doesn't currently mention prefab panels. The Classification Advisement for Walls, Fences, and Barriers does currently reference prefab panels in 0219.
5.	WAC 296-17A-1102-02 WAC 296-17A-1102-03 WAC 296-17A-1102-04	Interstate trucking Intrastate trucking Combined interstate/intrastate trucking	Rewrite to: • Make classification clearer and easier to understand • Clarify distinction between 1102 and Classification 2002 Freight handling	Account managers asked for clarification on how to apply Classification 2002 to the trucking industry. See #8
6.	WAC 296-17A-1105-01	Street sweeping; parking lot sweeping; dust control; and portable chemical toilet servicing	Correct typographical error, devises to devices.	Maintain an accurate classification plan.
7.	WAC 296-17A-1303 WAC 296-17A-1304	Telephone companies-all other employees Telephone companies-exchange operators, clerical office and sales personnel	Update titles to include "telecommunications". 1303-00 Telecommunication service providers – All other employees	Ease of doing business. The title of these classifications must be updated to align with modern technology terminology. The scopes language is unchanged.

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	WAC Numbers	WAC description	What is changing	Reason for change
			1304-00 Telecommunication service providers – Administrative, office and sales personnel	
8.	WAC 296-17A-2002-13 WAC 296-17A-2002-31	Freight handler services, N.O.C. Refrigeration car – Loading, unloading or icing	Rewrite to: • Make classification clearer and easier to understand • Clarify distinction between classification 2002 and classification 1102	Account mangers asked for clarification on how to apply classification 2002 to the trucking industry. See #5.
9.	WAC 296-17A-3905-09	Fast food drive ins N.O.C.	Add smoothie bars to language	Ease of doing business. Documenting current practice of classifying smoothie bars in 3905-09. As smoothie bars have become more popular, staff asked that the classification language contain this specific type of fast food establishment.
10.	WAC 296-17A-4814-00 WAC 296-17A-4815-00 WAC 296-17A-4816-00	Farms: Internship program	Remove reference to "governing classification" to "principal farm classification"	Governing classification rule no longer exists.
11.	WAC 296-17A-6906-02	Volunteer law enforcement officers of state agencies-Medical aid only	Clarify that law enforcement officers of state agencies are mandatorily covered	Ease of doing business. Staff requested clarification be added to 6906 to delineate mandatory coverage from elective coverage for state agencies. Mandatory coverage does not require an elective coverage application.