

Ergonomic Rule Development Roadmap

Scheduled Airlines – Ground Crew Operations (Risk Class 6802)



Work-related musculoskeletal disorders (WMSDs) are the most common workplace injury in Washington state.

Airline ground crews have a WSMD workers' compensation claims rate that is more than 10 times the Washington statewide average for all industries.

L&I is starting the rule development process to prevent these types of injuries. The process will follow these steps:

Step 1: File formal notice of intent to adopt rules (CR 101); then develop first draft

Scoping

- **Broad conversations:** What components of ergonomic rules might be consistent across all industry specific rules?
- **Conversations specific to Ground Crew Operations:** What are the issues, concerns, and industry best practices L&I should consider when we start rule development?

Develop draft proposed rules and get recommendations from advisory committee

- **Rule Development:** Input from all interested parties on developing the draft proposed rule language.
- **Ground Crew Operations Advisory Committee:** Provide recommendations on draft proposed rules.

Analyzing the cost of the proposed rules

- Cost Benefit Analysis.
- Small Business Economic Impact Statement.

Step 2: File proposed rule (CR 102) and gather public input

Public comment period

- Gather written public comment and hold public hearing; then
- L&I considers and responds to public comments prepared, and makes decisions on final rule language.

Step 3: File final adopted rule (CR 103)

- **Adopt final rule.**
- **Prepare for rule implementation** – education and outreach.
- **Rule goes into effect** at least 120 days after adoption and no earlier than July 1, 2026.

For more information, see the ergonomic rulemaking webpage: lni.wa.gov/safety-health/safety-rules/rulemaking-stakeholder-information/air-transportation-ergo

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