

WAC 296-16-140 Which employers are eligible to benefit from the preferred worker program? The following employers may be eligible to benefit from the preferred worker program if they employ a certified preferred worker, with a date of injury on or after January 1, 2025, in a job approved by the department's credentialed vocational rehabilitation professional; or if they employ a certified preferred worker with a date of injury prior to January 1, 2025, in a job approved by the worker's health care provider and the department's credentialed vocational rehabilitation professional:

(1) A Washington state fund employer with an industrial insurance account in good standing with the department, as outlined in WAC 296-17-31004(4); or

(2) A self-insured employer who employs a worker who is certified as a preferred worker under a state fund claim.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 51.04.020(1). WSR 24-23-080, s 296-16-140, filed 11/19/24, effective 1/1/25. Statutory Authority: RCW 51.04.020, 51.04.030, and 2015 c 137. WSR 16-13-116, § 296-16-140, filed 6/21/16, effective 7/22/16. Statutory Authority: RCW 51.04.010, 51.04.020 and 2004 c 258. WSR 05-01-105, § 296-16-140, filed 12/15/04, effective 1/15/05.]