

WAC 296-23-309 How many examinations may be requested? Unless explicitly required by statute, the total number of examinations per claim is limited as follows:

(1) One complete examination including report prior to an order under RCW 51.52.050 or 51.52.060 allowing or denying a new claim unless an additional examination is authorized by the department in state fund or self-insured cases;

(2) One complete examination including report(s) from all appropriate specialty(ies) for an impairment rating unless the prior rating examination determined a rating was premature and/or further treatment was needed and is authorized by the self-insured employer or department;

(3) One complete examination including report(s) from all appropriate specialty(ies) to adjudicate any application to reopen a claim under RCW 51.32.160 prior to a final order under RCW 51.52.050 or 51.52.060 allowing or denying reopening of the claim, unless the department authorizes an additional examination in state fund and self-insured cases. Additional impairment rating examinations are allowed following each time a claim is reopened under RCW 51.32.160;

(4) One examination may be performed after any new medical issue is contended to resolve a new medical issue prior to a final order, under RCW 51.52.050 or 51.52.060, accepting or denying responsibility of the condition, unless the department authorizes an additional examination in state fund and self-insured cases; and

(5) Additional examinations per case progress rules and to resolve appeals as outlined in WAC 296-23-308 and 296-23-401.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 51.04.020, 51.04.030, and 51.36.070. WSR 22-07-110, § 296-23-309, filed 3/23/22, effective 4/23/22.]