



# International Chiropractors Association of California

Sacramento, CA 95827

(916) 362-8816

## **SYLLABUS:**

Do you want to be a QME?

**LOCATION:** Two Tracks: Live Zoom Conferencing and/or Live in Classroom as follows.  
44-hour (all 44 hours Zoom):

Zoom: zoom link provided three days prior to the date of seminar series.

25-hour (25 hours distributed as follows):

- 1) 8 hours Basic Work Comp seminar (zoom)
- 2) 4 hours Case Law (2-hours) and Antibias Training (2-hours) (zoom)
- 3) 13 hours AMA Guides (live)

**DATES:** See calendar at [www.IcacWeb.com](http://www.IcacWeb.com) > “Continuing Education Seminars”.

**TIMES:** Live 13-hour face-to-face seminars  
Wednesday-Thursday – Live Classes (13 hours):  
1:00-7:20 PM – Live Classroom (Wednesdays)  
8:00 AM-4:20 PM – Live Classroom (Thursdays)  
OR  
Saturdays-Sundays  
8:00 AM-12:20 PM – 1:00PM-6:20 PM (Saturdays)  
8:00 AM-1:20 PM – Live Classroom (Sundays)

**TUITION:** \$1495 (1<sup>st</sup> time registration), retakes \$795 (audit only)  
\$1995 (registration at the door)  
(same rates for ICAC members and non-ICAC members)

## **CERTIFICATIONS:**

- 1) Fundamentals in California Workers’ Compensation (8 hours) – this is part of both the 25-hour and 44-hour requirement/certificate.
- 2) Certification in Worker’s Compensation (17 hours) – includes 13 hours of face-to-face classroom time, 2 hours of Case Law, and 2 hours of Antibias Training (Zoom).
- 3) An elective – Credential as an Industrial Injury Evaluator (additional 4 hours) – you must have completed Fundamentals of Worker’s Compensation (8 hours) and Certification in Worker’s Compensation (17 hours) and complete a ratable report to receive the I.I.E. Credential (total of 29 hours).

**PREREQUISITES:** This certification course (of 44 or 25 hours) is required for Licensure as QME (Qualified Medical Evaluator), an expert in forensic disability evaluation in workers’ compensation for the State of California.

**HOURS REQUIRED:** There are one of two tracks to take the state QME examination:  
Track 1) 44 hours (zoom) or Track 2) 25 hours (face to face and zoom).

## I.I.E. Schedule Outline (cont.)

---

As an elective there is an additional four hours to complete your I.I.E. credential (a take home & consultation required – 4 hours credit).

### **REQUIRED TEXTS:**

- 1) *Physician's Guide to Medical Practice in the California Workers' Compensation System* (4<sup>th</sup> ed.). Free download from DWC Medical Unit (<http://www.dir.ca.gov/dwc/MedicalUnit/toc.pdf>)
- 2) *AMA Guides to the Evaluation of Permanent Impairment* (5<sup>th</sup> ed.). May be purchased on Amazon at the following link ([https://www.amazon.com/s?k=ama+guides+5th+edition&crd=2XAQ4XO1DGZVF&sprefix=AMA+Guide%2Caps%2C140&ref=nb\\_sb\\_ss\\_ts-doa-p\\_2\\_9](https://www.amazon.com/s?k=ama+guides+5th+edition&crd=2XAQ4XO1DGZVF&sprefix=AMA+Guide%2Caps%2C140&ref=nb_sb_ss_ts-doa-p_2_9))

PLEASE note you **MUST** have the AMA Guides 5<sup>th</sup> edition for the course, **NOT** the AMA Guides 4<sup>th</sup> ed., or AMA Guides 6<sup>th</sup> ed.

- 3) an ICAC USB flash drive to include the “Syllabus” below. It will be mailed to you approximately one week prior to your first scheduled seminar date.

**SYLLABUS:** the entire syllabus (more than 750 pages of slides and forms) will be provided on a USB drive in PDF and MS Word for Windows formats. It is a fully copyrighted document, to be mailed or provided to you once tuition is paid in full.

**CANCELLATION:** registration fees are to be prepaid and held by ICAC until a minimum of registrations have been received. Cancellations are accepted prior to mailing the USB flash drive and syllabus. If cancellation is received after confirmation, deposit and mailing the USB flash drive, the refund will be in the amount of \$795. If the USB flash drive is returned to the ICAC the refund is \$1445 (less \$50 for handling and expenses).

**EXAMINATIONS:** there are multiple examinations distributed throughout each seminar. The quizzes include Physician's Guide to California Workers' Compensation System, 4<sup>th</sup> ed., as follows: 1) matching from the Glossary, and 2) multiple choice for the first 16 chapters (44-hour series, only). Quizzes following slide presentations, will include, 1) AMA Guides to the Evaluation of Permanent Impairment, 5<sup>th</sup> edition, including the cervical, 2) lumbar, and 3) upper extremities; 4) apportionment under the AMA Guides and Labor Code §§4663 & 4664, including adding and combinations rules; 5) EAMS (Electronic Adjudication Management System); and 6) report writing using the AMA Guides as a model, and 7) review of the take home exam. The EAMS take-home examination will require the student to assemble all documents in order as required by the DEU (Disability Evaluation Unit) when submitting a non-represented case directly to the DEU.

**PASSING GRADE:** Each test requires a 75% passing grade. Failures will have an opportunity to retake the quiz(es) at the end of the seminar, and/or at home and mailed to ICAC. Certificates of Attendance will be withheld until the ICAC receives all tests with a passing grade for each test.

**COURSE SCHEDULE and OUTLINE** modules are as follows:

### **Module One - Basic Workers' Compensation (8 hours) (Zoom)**

8:00 to 12:20 pm and 1:00 to 5:20 pm (with two additional 20-minute breaks)

## I.I.E. Schedule Outline (cont.)

---

**Overview:** to include all hours and credits you will receive from ICAC course, CBCE and DWC. Recommended resources, history of major reforms, Labor codes and DWC regulations are discussed in detail.

**Reporting obligations:** to include workers' compensation terminology, introduction to rating disability in California, AMA Guides introduction to spinal examinations and impairment; introduction to apportionment under L.C. §4663 and §4664, and an introduction to rules of combining impairment to multiple body parts (*AMA Guides* and California Permanent Disability Rating Schedule).

**Reporting Duties:** In depth discussion of Doctor's First Report (DFR), PTP Progress Reports (PR-2), Permanent and Stationery Reports (PR-3 and PR-4) and introduction to AME and QME narrative reports.

Also, included in the Basic Work Comp series is a discussion on a California Workers' Compensation Institute (CWCI) Study, recourses for grievances, getting started in California workers' compensation, and an opportunity for Q&A throughout the presentation.

**Prerequisites:** First professional degree or upper-level college student (senior), leading toward a first professional degree.

**Required Text:** none, syllabus will be provided on USB flash drive.

**Examinations:** none for basic workers comp "module one".

**Credentials:** you will receive a certificate of completion in the "Fundamentals of California Worker's Compensation." The 8-hour certificate is necessary for application to the DWC Medical-Unit to take your QME examination. It is part of your 44-hour or 25-hour certificate from the ICAC. It may also be used, and is transferable, to other CE providers teaching the 25-hour I.D.E. course (8 CCR §14(b)(2)(A)).

### **Module Two – Workers' Compensation Case Law (2 hours) (Zoom)**

**WCAB Court Decisions** (to include, but not limited to): Escobedo v Marshall, Almaraz-Guzman, Sandhagen, Casillas v. County of SLO, Mission Hills Medical Group v. WCAB, Jones v Target Stores, Mero v. Sadoff, Brewer v. WCAB, Fireman's Fund v. WCAB, Alvarez v. WCAB, Valdez 042011, City of Sacramento vs Cannon, Matta vs Nummi, Laury vs. R&W Concrete, David vs Walt Disney, Miguel Jordan vs Abel Engineering, Kite vs East Bay, Torres vs. Greenbrae Management and Ismael Navarro vs. City of Montebello.

This course is part of your 44-hour or 25-hour certification.

### **Module Three – Anti-bias Training (2 hours) (Zoom/distant learning)**

**Anti-bias Training** (to include, but not limited to): DIR Regs on Anti-Bias Training (with amended updates), DIR Report of Misconduct, DOMINGA FRIAS vs. CANCUN TAQUERIA INC, JEFFERY BLUM v STATE OF CALIFORNIA, CALIFORNIA HIGHWAY PATROL, NEWSLINE Release Number: 2023-72 DWC Education Courses on Medical Legal Report Writing, Robbins v Judge Disqualification for Bias.

This course is part of your 44-hour or 25-hour certification.

## I.I.E. Schedule Outline (cont.)

---

### **Module Four - Certification (13 hours) (Live in Classroom)**

#### **Wednesdays and Thursdays Sequence**

First day – face-to-face (1:00 pm to 7:20 pm) (6-hours)

1:00 PM – 2:00 PM	Introduction AMA Guides, impairment
2:00 PM – 3:00 PM	AMA Guides, impairment (cont.)
3:00 PM – 4:00 PM	Impairment AMA Guides, Cervical Spine
----- Break -----	
4:20 PM – 5:20 PM	Impairment AMA Guides, Lumbar Spine
5:20 PM – 6:20 PM	Impairment AMA Guides, Upper Extremities
6:20 PM – 7:20 PM	Impairment Lower Extremities Boot Camp

Second day face-to-face (8 am to 12:20 pm & 1:20 pm to 4:20 pm) (7-hours)

8:00 AM – 9:00 AM	AMA Conversion Rules
9:00 AM – 10:00 AM	AMA Combining Rules
----- Break -----	
10:20 AM – 11:20 AM	Apportionment under the AMA Guides
11:20 AM – 12:20 PM	Apportionment under L.C. §§4663 – 4664
----- Lunch -----	
1:00 PM – 2:00 PM	Ethical Billing under 8 CCR §§9793 – 9795
2:00 PM – 3:00 PM	Electronic Adjudication Management System (EAMS)
----- Break -----	
3:20 PM – 4:20 PM	Report Writing 8 CCR §46 (report outline) Review Take-Home Exam (AMA model)

#### **Saturdays and Sundays Sequence**

First day face-to-face (8 am to 12:20 pm & 1:20 pm to 5:40 pm) (9-hours)

8:00 AM – 9:00 AM	Introduction AMA Guides, impairment
9:00 AM – 10:00 AM	AMA Guides, impairment (cont.)
----- Break -----	
10:20 AM – 11:20 AM	Impairment AMA Guides, Cervical Spine
11:20 AM – 12:20 PM	Impairment AMA Guides, Lumbar Spine
----- Lunch -----	
1:00 PM – 2:00 PM	Impairment AMA Guides, Upper Extremities
2:00 PM – 3:00 PM	Impairment Lower Extremities Boot Camp
----- Break -----	
3:20 PM – 4:20 PM	AMA Conversion Rules
4:20 PM – 5:20 PM	AMA Combining Rules
5:20 PM – 6:20 PM	Apportionment under the AMA Guides

Second day – face-to-face (8:00 am to 1:20 pm) (4-hours)

8:00 AM – 9:00 AM	Apportionment under L.C. §§4663 – 4664
10:00 AM – 11:00 AM	Ethical Billing under 8 CCR §§9793 – 9795
----- Break -----	
11:20 AM – 12:20 PM	Electronic Adjudication Management System (EAMS)
12:20 PM – 1:20 PM	Report Writing 8 CCR §46 (report outline) Review Take-Home Exam (AMA model)

## I.I.E. Schedule Outline (cont.)

---

Required text (module four): “*AMA Guides to the Evaluation of Permanent Impairment* (5th ed.)”. Presentations include detailed discussion on DEU and AMA impairment combination and addition rules; ratings of the spine, upper and lower extremities, including AMA combination tables.

**Examinations** are all open book and take-home examinations, distributed following each slide presentation, and each section on cervical, lumbar spine and extremities, specifically the hand, and the knee. You must be prepared to follow along on several slide presentations and pass your written examinations from the *AMA Guides* 5<sup>th</sup> ed.

Additional coursework includes detailed discussion of the Med-Legal Fee Schedule, under 8 CCR 9795 (as amended 4/1/2021), ethical billing practices, the Electronic Adjudication Management System (EAMS), and report writing.

Report Writing: There is an extensive review of the *AMA Guides* and 8 CCR §46, merged into one comprehensive report outline. The outline can be used as a model for all your future QME reports.

Detailed discussion of take-home exam (AMA model).

**Prerequisites for application to DWC to write the QME examination:** Completion of the Basic Work Comp course (8 hours), case law presentation (2 hours), the anti-bias presentation (2 hours) and the 17 hours certification (“Module Four”).

**Certification:** 44-hour or 25-hour and certificate of completion.

### **Module Five - Take-Home Exam** (Elective 4 hours credit to receive I.I.E. Credential)

This is an elective report writing assignment and take-home examination to receive your I.I.E. Credential. All report templates (using the *AMA Guides* formats), examination and patient questionnaires and forms (as addendums), billing attachments, IRS, DEU and DWC documents are provided on a USB flash drive in PDF and MS Word for Windows formats. Once completed, printed, and mailed to the ICAC, a telephone consultation is scheduled that lasts approximately one hour. The goal is final preparation for doing your first QME consultation, examination, and report.

I look forward to your active participation. On behalf of the ICAC community, welcome to the Industrial Injury Evaluator (I.I.E.) credentialing course.

Sincerely,



James E. Musick, D.C., I.I.E., QME, FICAC(H)  
Your QME instructor