

Newly enacted workplace wellness program credit incentivizes workplace wellness initiatives

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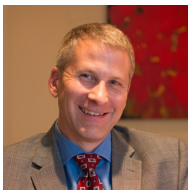
If you are a small business owner in Wisconsin who has been mulling over creating a workplace wellness program, recently enacted S.B. 73 may be the incentive you have been seeking. S.B. 73 establishes a credit to any "small business" (i.e., a business that has 50 or fewer employees) for expenses incurred in connection with creating a "workplace wellness program." In order to be eligible for the credit, the workplace wellness program must be a health or fitness program certified by the applicable statute and must include health risk assessments and one or more of the following programs or services:

1. Chronic disease prevention
2. Weight management
3. Stress management
4. Worker injury prevention programs
5. Health screenings
6. Nutrition education
7. Health or fitness incentive programs
8. Vaccinations
9. Employee physical examinations

A "health risk assessment" means a computer-based health-promotion tool consisting of a questionnaire; a biometric health screening to measure vital health statistics, including blood pressure, cholesterol, glucose, weight, and height; a formula for estimating health risks; an advice database; and a means to generate reports.

The credit applies to offset applicable Wisconsin income and franchise taxes and equals 30 percent of the qualifying workplace wellness program expenditures. The credit is also flexible in that it may be carried forward for up to five tax years and an employer may claim the credit in each tax year for three years. Note: Workplace wellness programs that were in existence prior to the effective date of S.B. 73 are ineligible for the credit.

If interested in learning more about your potential eligibility for the workplace wellness program tax credit, please contact us.



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