New Address for Work Opportunity Tax Credit (WOTC) and Federal Bonding Programs
The Work Opportunity Tax Credit and the Federal Bonding programs have a new address, phone number and fax number. Effective immediately, please send all applications and correspondence to:

WOTC
614 S Greeley Hwy., Cheyenne, WY 82002
307-777-7838 (phone); 307-224-4191 (fax)

New Laws Could Impact Your Business
The sixty-third Wyoming Legislature convened on February 8, 2016. The new laws passed by Wyoming legislators during the session affect operations of the Department of Workforce Services and could have impacts on businesses in Wyoming.

HB0046 Investment of Workers' Compensation Account Effective March 3, 2016
- Under current law, the Director of the Department of Workforce Services, in consultation with an investment manager, may establish the percentage of the Worker's Compensation Account the State Treasurer invests in common stock. The percentage cannot exceed forty-five percent.
- This bill authorizes the State Treasurer, in consultation with the Director of the Department of Workforce Services and consistent with investment policy developed by the State Loan and Investment Board, to establish the percentage of the Worker's Compensation Account that may be invested in common stock. For more information: call (307) 777-5476 or email DWS-AskMeWC@wyo.gov.

HB0054 Treasury offset program statutory reference amendments Effective July 1, 2016
- Allows an offset of a federal tax refund in order to collect on an Unemployment Insurance (UI) overpayment.
- This bill amends the permissible collection methods available to the Department of Workforce Services for improperly paid unemployment compensation benefits to include an offset of federal tax refunds.
- This collection option is allowed by the United States Treasury through its treasury offset program.
For more information, call: (307) 235-3210

SF0003 Permissive Preference for veterans in private employment Effective July 1, 2016
- Under current Wyoming law, public employers are authorized to grant employment preference to veterans, subject to conditions specified by statute.
- This act specifies private employers may grant employment preference to a veteran or to the spouse of a disabled or deceased veteran. The act specifies granting an employment preference does not violate local or state equal employment opportunity laws.
For more information, call: (307) 777-7261

SF0018 Competitive bid Specification Requirements Effective: March 15, 2016
- Previously, the law prohibited the use of specifies products in competitively bid contracts for the purchase of furniture and moveable equipment in public contracts.
- This bill authorizes the use of specified products provided that similar products that meet or exceed the specified products' specifications are accepted as substitute items.
- The bill prohibits the use of specified products within any group or package bid if the products are not available to a responsible Wyoming supplier and would exclude the supplier from bidding on the final bid package.
For more information, call: (307) 777-7261

SF0043 Workforce Investment Act statutory reference amendments Effective: March 15, 2016
- This bill replaces statutory references to the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 with references to the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act. The Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act was recently adopted by Congress and replaces the Workforce Investment Act.

Workers' Compensation Officer/Owner Average Wage for 2016
$11,674/quarter; $3,891/month

Unemployment Insurance Taxable Wage Base for 2016
$25,500
Effective July 1, 2016

HB0054 Treasury offset program statutory reference amendments

March 3, 2016

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SF0043 Workforce Investment Act statutory reference amendments

For more information, call: (307) 777-5476

Health & Safety Consultation Employer Discount Program

Did you know that employer’s working in the State of Wyoming

can save money on their Workers’ Compensation premiums by

working with Wyoming OSHA Consultation? Wyoming’s OSHA

Consultation Division has the Health and Safety Consultation

Employer Discount Program. Just by working with Wyoming

OSHA Consultation, employers can receive a discount on their

premium base rate.

Applications to participate in the program may be submitted to

the OSHA Division at any time. Once a visit is conducted, your

company’s premium base rate discounts will be implemented in

the subsequent calendar quarter. Discount rates are effective for

up to three (3) years unless the OSHA Consultation Division finds

the employer to be in non-compliance with any of the program

requirements.

A company can earn discounts to their Workers’ Compensation

ranging from 3% up to 10%, based on their qualifications. For

more information, check out our website at wyomingworkforce.org/businesses/osha/discount. You can also contact Kenneth

Masters at ken.masters@wyo.gov or Daniel Bulkley at daniel.bulkley@wyo.gov. The phone number for Wyoming OSHA is

307-777-7786.

Next OSHA Commission Meeting

The OSHA Commission’s next quarterly meeting is on June 23,

2016 starting at 9:00 a.m. at the Cheyenne Business Center, 1510

East Pershing Boulevard in Cheyenne, Wyoming. This meeting is

open to the public.

Wyoming OSHA’s Prestige Recognition Programs

Wyoming OSHA offers the following cooperative recognition

programs (VPP, SHARP, & EVTAP) under which businesses, labor

groups, and other organizations can work cooperatively with the

Agency to help prevent fatalities, injuries and illnesses in the

workplace. For more information, please check out our website at

wyomingworkforce.org/businesses/osha/consultation.

For additional information, please contact Karen Godman at

karen.godman1@wyo.gov, Brad Westby at brad.westby1@wyo

gov, or call 307-777-7786.

WYDOT releases travel information app for smart phones

A new smart phone app for road and travel information has been

released by the Wyoming Department of Transportation (WYDOT).

The Wyoming 511 app provides pre-trip and in route travel

information, and can be used to provide location information to

friends, family or emergency responders. It is available for most

Android and Apple phones.

A map-based feature of the app provides information intended

for planning a trip. Users can choose between road conditions

and highway cameras. When viewing road conditions, a

color-coded system shows pavement conditions and traffic

hazards. The highway cameras view provides images from

WYDOT’s statewide network of Web cameras.

Future releases of the app will add information about road

construction and weather sensors.

The app improves safety for travelers who are already on the

road with a “hands free, eyes free” function that speaks

incidents and condition reports. Users hear road condition

information for the route they are traveling on, and

traffic incidents within a user-defined radius.

The app also features a “Where Am I?” function that uses GPS

technology to identify the

user’s location by route and mile marker as well as latitude and

longitude coordinates. The location information provides accuracy down to one-tenth of a mile.

No personal identifiable information is collected by WYDOT

through the use of the app.

It is available for free download from the Apple App Store and the

Google Play Store. Search for the Wyoming 511 app, and look for

the blue icon with the WYDOT logo on it, or go to

play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=info.wyoroad.mobile.android

or itunes.apple.com/us/app/wyoming-511/id1077881610.