

---

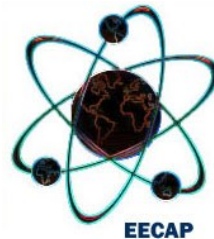
## Do I need an Authorized Representative?

It depends. If your Part B claim is included in a Special Exposure Cohort (SEC) you may not need additional help. An SEC claim should move ahead without assistance even if the SEC is formed after you filed your claim. However, if there is a question on the cancer or the 250 day requirement, a Representative's help may be useful.

If you have the time, energy, and enjoy a challenge you may not need a Representative.

DOL Claims Examiners and Resource Centers offer limited help and are not allowed to act as advocates. Some Claims Examiners will not search for medical information outside DOE records or provide information on toxins outside DOL's database. Authorized Representatives have no restrictions on how much help they can provide.

For more detailed information on Authorized Representatives please visit EECAP's website at [www.eecap.org](http://www.eecap.org).



EECAP  
P.O Box 552  
Yellow Springs, Ohio 45387  
Phone: 937-767-2890  
Email: [deb@eecap.org](mailto:deb@eecap.org)  
Website: [www.eecap.org](http://www.eecap.org)



ANOTHER PIECE OF  
THE PUZZLE

## What is an Authorized Representative?



**What EEOICPA  
claimants need to know**

---

## What Can an Authorized Representative Charge?

The law that created EEOICPA sets a limit on what an Authorized Representative can charge a claimant.

These limits are:

- 2%—If the Representative helps the claimant from the beginning of the claim and the claimant is paid.
- 10%—If the Representative helps the claimant beginning with the objections to a recommended decision and the claim is paid.

DOL does not pay Authorized Representatives directly. When a claimant hires an Authorized Representative it is the claimant's responsibility to pay the Authorized Representative after receiving compensation. It is a good idea to agree on and sign a contract when hiring an Authorized Representative.



### Authorized Representatives:

- Can gather evidence and present it to DOL.
- Can make factual or legal arguments to DOL.
- Can receive a copy of the claimant's file to review.
- Can discuss specifics of the claim with DOL and NIOSH.
- Will receive copies of all correspondence from DOL to help the claimant watch timelines, explain DOL's letters, and assist in responding to letters.
- Can do his or her best to get the claim paid.
- Can sign all documents except the form to receive payment.

### Authorized Representatives Cannot:

- Receive payment directly from DOL for representing a claimant without a special arrangement.
- Promise the claim will be paid.

## What is an Authorized Representative?

Working on an EEOICPA claim can be difficult, confusing, and frustrating. Sometimes claimants need help. The law allows a claimant to hire an Authorized Representative to help with a claim.

Claimants can appoint anyone they wish to be an Authorized Representative, including attorneys, friends, family members, or advocates with specialized knowledge of the EEOICPA process.

The appointment must be done in writing, signed, and sent to DOL. DOL has a form for this or claimants can write a letter telling DOL that a Representative has been appointed. The letter must include the Authorized Representative's name, address, and phone number.

A claimant may only have one Authorized Representative at a time.

