

# Re: Worker's or Workers Comp?

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- *From:* "Barbara Carlson" <[bbcarlson@xxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:bbcarlson@xxxxxxxxxxxxxx)>
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I read an article on this recently and I cannot find the documentation. First of all, according to the punctuation book Eats, Shoots, and Leaves a company can call themselves any title they want, and if they leave out the apostrophe in their official title, then it is correct to use the title as they use it, sans apostrophe—it shows their ignorance, not yours.

I definitely read somewhere recently that the "official" government agency was Workers Compensation, without the apostrophe, and that is how it should be written, and that is how I have been doing it since I read that. HOWEVER, in trying to document that I cannot. In fact when I go to the site [workerscompensation.gov](http://workerscompensation.gov) I see it written most often as Workers' Compensation. However, Workman/workmen/workmen's Compensation is incorrect. That is NOT the name, even though it is frequently used. It is Workers' Compensation. Using the term Work Comp is an abbreviation, and I would think it would not be correct to use it in medical transcription.

So, that's the most "official" ruling I have been able to find and from now on I will put the apostrophe back in AFTER the "s".

Barb C.

"JAM" <[jamalloy@xxxxxxx](mailto:jamalloy@xxxxxxx)> wrote in message  
<news:1152694038.120028.45810@xx>

Christie wrote:

Why isn't it "Worker's" compensation? You aren't compensating all of them, just ones that are injured. What makes it even more confusing to me is that it used to be "Workmans Compensation." Shouldn't that be –men if they really meant it to be plural?

I used to transcribe a lot of workers' comp hearings, and we were told that the apostrophe goes after the "s." Also, it is workmen's comp, this time with the apostrophe before the "s."

I can understand why it would be confusing. I used to have to think

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about it myself, but after transcribing a kazillion workers' comp hearings in D.C., something I wouldn't wish on my worst enemy, I finally got it.

BTW, here in D.C., the "old soldiers' home," as some are wont to calling it, is spelled like this on the sign out front: U.S. Soldier's and Airmen's Home.

Jennie  
Washington, D.C.