



**SAFER**  
TOGETHER

CIRSA 2021

SERVICES

# LEGAL & LOSS CONTROL SERVICES

**CIRSA is passionate about protecting municipalities and their affiliated public entities.** We work exclusively in Colorado and have over three decades of experience assisting members in handling claims, improving safety, preventing losses, and managing the cost of risk. Our coverages and services are specifically designed for the unique and ever-changing needs of our membership.

Every member works with a personal team of representatives who provide customized guidance and assistance to help you manage exposures in your entity. CIRSA is staffed with knowledgeable, seasoned professionals including: Attorneys, Associates in Risk Management (ARM), Certified Safety Professionals (CSP), Certified Insurance Counselors (CIC), Certified Industrial Hygienists (CIH), Certified Hazardous Materials Manager (CHMM), a Certified Environmental Safety and Health Trainer (CET), Certified Fire Protection Specialist (CFPS), Associates in Claims (AIC), and Chartered Property Casualty Underwriters (CPCU).

## LEGAL TRAINING AND ASSISTANCE

### Liability & Public Officials Training

CIRSA provides legal training to councils, boards, commissions, and staff upon request on a variety of liability-related topics. These trainings can be conducted in person or via virtual meeting. Training topics include: personal liability for governing body members and board/commission members, conduct of quasi-judicial proceedings, employment issues, Governmental Immunity Act, harassment and bullying prevention, contract issues, ethics requirements, special events liability, volunteer liability, and many others.

### Liability Hotline

The Liability Hotline serves as a resource on almost any liability-related topic. Members have access to CIRSA's General Counsel for free consultation and assistance on liability issues before they become claims, including employment practices, employee leave issues, land use liability, quasi-judicial proceedings, liability risks for municipal programs and services, ethics, civil rights liability, laws concerning marijuana regulation, broadband liability, and drug/alcohol testing policies.

### Contract & Policy Review

CIRSA will review member contract and policy documents and provide consultation on risk and liability-related topics, including review of contracts, ordinances, personnel policies, and police manuals.

### Publications & Resources

CIRSA publishes a wide variety of materials on legal, liability and risk issues, including the recent 2nd Edition of its popular "[Ethics, Liability & Best Practices Handbook for Elected Officials](#)." Coverage Line articles on topics of current interest, member Loss Alerts, and other training materials. CIRSA also maintains a library of sample contracts, policies and other documents for members' use.

## LOSS CONTROL SERVICES

Membership in CIRSA entitles members to loss control services designed to prevent and minimize individual and pool-wide losses. CIRSA's Loss Control Department is recognized nationally as a leader in innovative and exemplary loss control services.

It has been proven that a commitment to loss control yields significant benefits in the form of lower costs associated with public entity risks.

Our experienced staff is dedicated to assisting our members in implementing their own loss control programs, integrating best practices into operations, and establishing a positive safety culture.

### Individualized Training

CIRSA provides over 30 classroom and/or hands-on [courses/workshops](#) that can be brought to your location upon request. CIRSA's full-time training staff work diligently to ensure materials are current and revised every two years at minimum. All courses are free to members and some provide Colorado Certified Water Professionals (CCWP) training units. Topics include: CDOT Flagger Certification, Confined Space Entry, Safe Driving Strategies, Bloodborne Pathogens, First Responder Awareness, and Back Injury & Fall Protection.

### Regional Seminars

Several times each year, CIRSA conducts regional seminars around the state on current loss control issues or industry trends. Any member can attend these seminars and there is usually no charge. Seminar types may include, ADA Coordinator, Playground Maintenance Technician (PMT), Succession Planning and many more safety and health related events. Law enforcement-specific events are also held five times per year.

### General Consultation & On-site Service

CIRSA's Loss Control staff can arrange a time to help with special projects, develop written programs, assist with safety design reviews, research equipment and risk-related resources, and for short durations, can also function as your on-site safety representative.

### Safety Symposiums

These Loss Control conferences are held annually and cover member or industry-relevant topics including playground maintenance technician, low voltage and high voltage electrical safety, and succession planning. The symposiums are free to all CIRSA Members and travel reimbursement is provided.

### Safety Video, Reference Library, & Streaming Video Service

Your employees have unlimited access to CIRSA training programs and other educational materials in our [Training Library](#), including over 390 videos and video training books. Separate from our video and reference library, the new streaming video service offers several hundred additional videos. This is a stand-alone system separate from our online training service. These programs are free of charge to members and cover a variety of topics on most public entity exposures.

# LOSS CONTROL SERVICES

## In-House Video & Publication Production

CIRSA has produced a number of videos and manuals on pertinent and timely topics, 13 of which have won national Public Risk Management Association (PRIMA) awards. Titles include: *Backing & Parking: The Keys to Success*, *Hazard Awareness is Everyone's Responsibility*, *Safety Management in Action*, *Personal Consequences of Unsafe Driving*, *Safe Supervisor: Integrating Operations & Safety*, and *Sanitary Sewer: Operations & Maintenance*. Hard copies of these videos are free to members and can also be viewed on [CIRSA's YouTube Channel](#).

## Online Training Center

CIRSA provides over 950 complimentary online safety, liability, supervisory, law enforcement, fire/EMS, corrections, and human resource related courses - 50 of which provide training units for water and wastewater employees. The online training center also provides over 1,000 police-specific videos. Additional topics and new courses are added each year. Your employees can easily access the [Online Training Center](#) from any computer with internet access at any time.

## Monthly Training Calendar

CIRSA sends a [monthly training calendar](#) notifying members of all upcoming regional training events, scheduled on-site training courses and certifications, safety symposiums, CIRSA Orientations, webinars, and all other training resources provided.

## Webinars

As another means of reducing your costs, our webinar series gives your employees the opportunity to obtain important training without leaving their office. These free presentations cover a wide variety of topics including loss control, employment and public officials' liability, PC & WC applications, finance, and claims handling. All of our webinars are recorded and can be viewed at any time from the [Safety Resources](#) area of our website.

## Sample Policies & Procedures

Numerous sample Loss Control and [safety policies and procedures](#) are available to our members to download and customize for your entity. Examples include Job Safety Analyses (JSAs), Police Pursuits, Tasers, Preventing Public Officials Liability, and Fall Injury Prevention.

## Property Survey & Playground Inspections

This on-site, comprehensive safety survey identifies loss exposures of significant buildings, processes, and playgrounds. Written reports of survey results are sent to the appropriate public entity contacts.

## Ergonomic Evaluations

These evaluations of computer workstations determine if they are adjusted properly for the employees who are using them. Our Loss Control Representatives will review workstation setup and assess chair, monitor, mouse, desk, and other equipment adjustments. Reports with recommendations to improve ergonomic conditions may be issued.

## Water Slide Inspections

State regulations require an inspection by a third party of all water slides 18 feet or higher. Some outside consultants charge over

\$1,000 for these inspections. Our Loss Control Representatives will inspect your slides for free, issue reports for items that need to be corrected, and provide certificates of inspection that meet state guidelines.

## Loss Control Standards & Credit Account Program

CIRSA has established a number of recommended policies and procedures to address common public entity exposures. These recommendations are known as [Loss Control Standards](#). Your Loss Control Representative assists you in implementing the pool's Loss Control Standards and performs onsite reviews. The CIRSA Board of Directors has approved credits to members who conform to these standards. Members can apply these credits toward their CIRSA contribution; deposit them in their Loss Control Credit Account for the purchase of safety related equipment or training; or request a direct disbursement of the funds. Contact your Loss Control Representative for more information.

## Accident Investigations & Loss Analyses

CIRSA provides timely, objective, and thorough accident investigations to help members identify root causes of accidents so measures can be implemented to prevent future occurrences. The Loss Control Department has also developed a number of Loss Analysis reports to identify the most frequent and severe causes of losses for the pool and for each member. Accident Investigations and Loss Analysis reports are provided upon request.

## Loss/Hazard Alerts

Public entities and their employees may have serious accidents from which other members can learn. CIRSA distributes summary reports on these incidents (with any identifying details removed) to our members and recommends procedures to prevent similar claims.

## Industrial Hygiene Services

CIRSA's Certified Industrial Hygienist (CIH) assists members in the recognition, evaluation, and control of employee health hazards. Some examples of services provided include:

- Hazard Communication – Program development and employee training in the interpretation of Safety Data Sheets (SDS) and likely hazards associated with chemical use
- Hearing Conservation – Sound level measurements and noise exposure evaluations for personnel exposed to elevated noise levels
- Ergonomics/Body Mechanics – Work station evaluations and employee training
- Asbestos identification and guidance for asbestos operations and maintenance
- Indoor air quality sampling for offices, pools, water/wastewater treatment plants, and other public entity operations
- Measuring carbon monoxide and nitrogen dioxide emissions from motorized equipment
- Special projects to measure toxic exposures and/or substances, as needed

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# CLAIMS & UNDERWRITING SERVICES

## CLAIMS ADMINISTRATION SERVICES

Our in-house claims specialists and legal counsel provide expert claims administration services to help you mitigate your risks. The CIRSA Claims Department is available to our members 24/7. A member of the CIRSA claims staff is on-call at all times and a backup system is in place for timely response to emergency calls. In addition to complete claims administration, the CIRSA Claims Department provides the following services:

### Litigation Management Program

CIRSA works closely with our members and a panel of defense attorneys who specialize in the defense of governmental entities. CIRSA takes a “team approach” with our staff and the member to defend claims. This allows the claim to be handled effectively and efficiently.

### Claims Recovery

CIRSA's claims staff pursues recovery for damages sustained to member property through subrogation and restitution. This service is provided regardless of claim size or if the loss is within the member's retention. Our annual recovery averages over a million dollars.

### Claim Reports

Loss runs of all open claims and litigation reports are distributed on a quarterly basis. Annual loss runs of all open and closed claims are also distributed. We offer other custom reports upon request that can be programmed to be sent to your entity on a monthly basis. These reports can be reviewed by you and your CIRSA Loss Control Representative to help identify loss trends and discuss methods to control such losses.

### Electronic Claim Filing & Online Lookup

Members can file Property/Casualty and Workers' Compensation claims electronically through our [website](#). Each claim is filed on the state required forms and can be printed at your workstation for your records. Current and historical claims data can be viewed through our online claims filing system as well. Daily information on claim status is available including up-to-the-minute details about any claim that has been filed.

### Member Self-Administration Portal

If your entity has a large deductible and self-handles some claims, our Member Portal gives you a system to manage those claims. This is essentially a stand-alone Origami Risk claims system that CIRSA provides at no cost. The Portal lets you create/store documents and claim notes, run reports, and track financial data, on a database that integrates your own data seamlessly with the claims you report to CIRSA. This cutting edge technology is available to large-deductible members free of charge.

## UNDERWRITING SERVICES

### Access to Additional Coverage Programs

In addition to our core Property/Casualty and Workers' Compensation coverages, CIRSA provides access to several [optional coverage programs](#) without having to pay an agent fee. Additional coverage programs include Excess Cyber, Equipment Breakdown, Excess Crime, Volunteer Accident Medical Plan, Community Service Workers' Accident Medical Plan, Occupational Accidental Death & Dismemberment, Sports Accident Medical Plan, Special Events, Detainee Medical Coverage, No Fault Water Line Rupture and/or Sewer Back Up, and Property Damage to Others Caused by Member's Use of Mobile Equipment. We can also assist members in placing a wide variety of specialized policies including fiduciary, fidelity, public officials bonds, pollution liability, and airport liability.

### Coverage Comparison

Since not all coverage is the same, CIRSA offers a complimentary comprehensive comparison between all coverages offered by CIRSA and those provided by other carriers. The comparison addresses not only the limits provided, but all critical coverage issues. The comparison is intended to make sure your entity is appropriately protected in the event of a loss as well as provide a useful tool for decision making.

### Property Appraisals

CIRSA provides property appraisals through a third-party contractor. This service helps CIRSA and our members establish correct values for your buildings and the majority of your miscellaneous property or property in the open to make sure you are adequately covered should a loss occur. We aim to appraise all applicable structures on your site every five (5) years. Property values, however, are updated annually to account for inflationary factors. New members will have all buildings appraised within the first year of membership.

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# MEMBER BENEFITS

## ADDITIONAL MEMBER BENEFITS AND SERVICES

### Member Equity Account

CIRSA is different from commercial insurers; we are owned and governed by our members. Contributions paid to CIRSA are deposited into your individual Member Equity Account. The funds remaining after deducting your proportionate share of pool claims and expenses are maintained on your behalf; these funds earn interest and are reported to you annually with a copy of the pool's audited financial statements. Member Equity Account balances are considered when determining contributions, and higher balances result in lower contributions.

### Deductible Analyses

At the member's request, CIRSA can provide an analysis of varying deductible levels for you to use in your analysis of the appropriate deductible choice for your entity. Included in the analysis is a review of past loss experience, which can help you determine the optimal retention in order to minimize your total cost of risk.

### Payment Options

CIRSA offers a no-fee, quarterly payment plan option for the payment of your annual contributions. We also offer online payment options.

### Cost Allocation Assistance

Cost allocation is the process of identifying and assigning costs of risk to your departments. This risk management best practice will improve the communication of the cost of risk to your entity and generate incentives for safety. CIRSA will assist you in implementing a cost allocation system and provide regular reports to maintain the system.

### Scholarship Program

To assist members in furthering their risk management education, CIRSA will provide \$12,000 in scholarship funding for 2021. Member employees may [apply](#) for awards in the following amounts:

- \$2,250 to attend a national professional development conference related to safety, continuing education, or risk management
- \$1,500 to attend local events such as the CMCA Institute or similar
- \$600 to attend in-state conferences such as CCCMA, COPRIMA, or CGFOA

### Timothy A. Greer Endowment Fund

The objective of the [Timothy A. Greer Endowment Fund](#) is to provide financial support to CIRSA member entities in promoting excellence in risk management. The CIRSA Board of Directors has allocated \$12,000 to the Fund for 2021. Proposals outlining a project, process, improvement, or system that satisfies a safety or risk management-related goal must be submitted for consideration.

### Travel Reimbursement

The CIRSA community places a high value on member participation. As another way to lower your costs of risk management, CIRSA offers reimbursement for expenses incurred while attending a New Member Orientation, Committee, Task Force, or General Membership Meeting. Lodging, meals, and mileage are eligible for reimbursement under our [policy](#).

### The CIRSA Blog

Our [blog](#) focuses on risk management-related topics, laws that affect public entities, and potential liability issues and offers proactive risk prevention strategies. The newsletter also features current loss control, claims, and coverage topics and pertinent information for public entity staff and elected officials.

### YouTube Channel

CIRSA's YouTube Channel – "[CIRSA Safety](#)" features over 70 concise and easily accessible safety videos you can share with staff during training exercises. Topics include: Accident Investigations, Employment Liability Exposure, Firefighter Safety, and Slips, Trips and Falls.

*All of these services are, we believe, unmatched by any commercial insurer.*

*Any head-to-head comparison of coverage quotes should take into account the value of the additional services that accompany CIRSA's coverages.*