

# State agency COVID-19 related actions impacting workers' compensation

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This notice provides a summary of all workers' compensation agency actions taken in relation to COVID-19, including agency closures, hearing statuses and claim specific information. Updates to this notice will be made as new information becomes available.

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## Alabama

Dates agency COVID-19 guidance issued	Status of dispute resolutions proceedings	Status of operations (i.e. forms, timeframes, etc.)	Addresses medical treatment?	Addresses compensability?	Addresses telehealth?	Website Link
<p>March 18, 2020 – May 25, 2021</p>	<p>March 13, 2020: Alabama Supreme Court suspended all in-person court proceedings but urged utilization of available technologies.</p> <p>March 18, 2020 Order: Allows workers' compensation settlement hearings to be conducted telephonically or by videoconferencing and signed by a circuit judge or an ombudsman at DOL.</p> <p>March 24, 2020 Order: Allows witness testimony by remote means. <b>Both orders have been extended thru July 29, 2021 or until further notice.</b></p> <p>In person hearings resumed May 15, 2020. Jury trials resumed Sept. 14, 2020.</p> <p>Governor's March 26, 2020 proclamation temporarily allows notarization via video by licensed attorney.</p>	<p>Office open and e-mails being handled.</p> <p>Division seminars on April 9 and April 23, 2020 cancelled. However, workers' compensation seminars for continuing education resumed in-person later in 2020. The Alabama Dept. of Labor indicates that scheduled dates are subject to change according to the current news on COVID-19 at the time.</p>	<p>State Health Officer issued Order mandating postponement of elective and non-emergency procedures March 28 thru April 30, 2020.</p> <p>Per Order of State Health Officer amended April 28, 2020, effective April 30, 2020 at 5 pm, dental, medical, or surgical procedures may proceed. Providers are to follow all applicable COVID-19 related rules adopted by a state regulatory board or by the Alabama Dept. of Public Health, or in the absence of such rules guidelines from CMS and CDC.</p>	<p>No</p>	<p>No</p>	<p><a href="#">Administrative Order Suspending In-Person Court Proceedings March 13, 2020</a></p> <p><a href="#">Administrative Order No. 6 Extending Orders and Deadline Concerning Suspension of In-Person Proceedings April 30, 2020</a></p> <p><a href="#">State of Alabama Proclamation by the Governor dated March 26, 2020</a></p> <p><a href="#">Order of State Health Officer dated March 27, 2020</a></p> <p><a href="#">Order of State Health Officer dated April 28, 2020</a></p> <p><a href="#">Supreme Court of Alabama Administrative Order No. 7</a></p> <p><a href="#">Supreme Court of Alabama Administrative Order No. 8</a></p> <p><a href="#">Supreme Court of Alabama Administrative Order No. 9</a></p> <p><a href="#">Supreme Court of Alabama Administrative Order No. 10</a></p> <p><a href="#">2021 Workers' Compensation Seminars for Continuing Education Flier</a></p>

## Alaska

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<p>March 17, 2020 – May 25, 2021</p>	<p>Options available for telephonic participation in most cases. May request proceeding to be continued or rescheduled.</p>	<p>Public encouraged to avoid visiting state offices in person, Division offices are open to the public for those individuals for whom telephonic contact is not an option.</p> <p>To provide relief to employers, insurers, and adjusters, certain civil fines and penalties suspended from March 31 through June 30, 2020 by the Workers' Compensation Division.</p>	<p>Beginning March 19, 2020, all patients, providers, hospitals, and surgical centers required to postpone or cancel all non-urgent or elective procedures.</p> <p>On April 20, 2020 procedures that require minimal protective equipment allowed to resume if specified safety measures met.</p> <p>As of May 4, 2020, non-emergency surgeries and procedures may resume if certain conditions met.</p>	<p><a href="#">Senate Bill 241</a> in part creates a conclusive presumption that COVID-19 arose from work for first responders and health care workers stricken with COVID-19 since March 11, 2020. This presumption expired Nov. 15, 2020.</p> <p><a href="#">House Bill 76</a> extends to <b>Dec. 31, 2021</b> the declaration of a public health disaster emergency issued by the Governor as well retroactive to Nov. 15, 2020 extension of the conclusive presumption of compensability for COVID-19 acquired by an employee employed as a firefighter, emergency medical technician, paramedic, peace officer or health care provider that had contact with a member of the public outside of the employee's home within 14 days before receiving the diagnosis. See Section 11.</p> <p>Under the authority granted in HB76, in which the legislature ratified the Disaster Declaration, Gov. Mike Dunleavy signed a <a href="#">proclamation on April 30, 2021 ending the Declaration.</a></p>	<p>Senate Bill 241 waives requirement that in-person physical exam be first conducted before treatment via telemedicine and suspends licensing requirements for individuals providing telemedicine and telehealth services if licensed in another jurisdiction.</p> <p>Senate Bill 76 in Section 8 extends the provisions related to telehealth to <b>Dec. 31, 2021.</b></p>	<p><a href="#">Alaska WC Bulletin 20-03 re: Hearings and Prehearings</a></p> <p><a href="#">Alaska WC Bulletin 20-04 re: Notice of Enforcement Suspensions</a></p> <p><a href="#">Senate Bill 241</a></p> <p><a href="#">Alaska WC Bulletin 20-05 re: SB241</a></p> <p><a href="#">Health Mandate 005 requiring postponement or cancellation of non-urgent or elective procedures</a></p> <p><a href="#">Health Mandate 015 for Elective Non-Urgent Procedures</a></p> <p><a href="#">House Bill 76</a></p> <p><a href="#">Proclamation ending COVID-19 Disaster Declaration.</a></p>

## Arizona

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March 26, 2020 – May 25, 2021	ICA is conducting hearings telephonically E-mail notification is new preferred method to communicate for attorney accounts in the ICA community.	<p>Operations continue, but in-person visits temporarily suspended.</p> <p>Payments can be completed via the ICA Payment Portal.</p> <p>Beginning May 27, 2020 ICA buildings will be reopened to the public; however, it is recommended that stakeholders and members of the public continue to do business with the ICA remotely, to the extent possible.</p>	<p>Arizona ICA adopted changes to the 2019/2020 Arizona Physicians' and Pharmaceutical Fee Schedule to allow reimbursements for COVID-19 tests and telehealth.</p> <p>By executive order, during Governor's emergency declaration, issuance of a provisional Arizona medical license allowed to any physician licensed by another state or DC.</p> <p>Per Executive Order an injured worker cannot be required to submit to an in-person medical exam or in-person medical treatment unless approval granted by ICA for suspected fraud.</p> <p>Hospitals and health care providers delayed from performing non-essential, elective medical and dental surgeries on March 19, 2020 allowed to resume May 1, 2020 if AZ Dept. of Health preparedness standards met.</p>	<p>On May 14, 2020, the Industrial Commission of Arizona issued an <a href="#">advisory only announcement</a> about adjusting COVID-19 workers' compensation claims. It advises that COVID-19 workers' compensation claims cannot be categorically denied, and Arizona law requires all denials be well-grounded in fact and warranted by existing law. The Commission recommends that carriers and self-insured employers evaluate COVID-19 claims in conjunction with Arizona law, considering the following factors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nature of employment and risk of contracting COVID-19.</li> <li>• Whether identifiable exposure occurred at work.</li> <li>• Whether identifiable exposure occurred outside of work.</li> <li>• Timing between an identifiable exposure and development of COVID-19.</li> <li>• Reliability of evidence.</li> </ul>	<p>2019-2020 Physician and Pharmaceutical Fee Schedule updated to include telehealth and COVID-19 testing effective March 26, 2020. From April 14, 2020 thru duration of the Public Health Emergency declared March 11, 2020, all regulated workers' comp insurance and self-insurance plans must provide coverage for all healthcare services that can be delivered using telemedicine.</p> <p>Effective May 5, 2021 House Bill 2454 in part provides that a medical exam requested by the commission, employer or insurance carrier may be conducted using telehealth with the consent of both the employee and requesting party.</p>	<p><a href="#">ICA Announcement re: E-mail Communication</a></p> <p><a href="#">ICA Operations Announcement</a></p> <p><a href="#">Update to the 2019/2020 Physicians and Pharmaceutical Fee Schedule effective March 26, 2020</a></p> <p><a href="#">Executive Order 2020-10</a></p> <p><a href="#">Executive Order 2020-17</a></p> <p><a href="#">Executive Order 2020-29 re: Increased Telemedicine</a></p> <p><a href="#">Executive Order 2020-32</a></p> <p><a href="#">Industrial Commission of Arizona Substantive Policy Statement: COVID-19 Workers' Compensation Claims</a></p> <p><a href="#">News Release: Elective Surgeries Resume May 1</a></p> <p><a href="#">House Bill 2454</a></p>

## Arkansas

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<p>April 1, 2020 – May 25, 2021</p>	<p>All prehearing conferences, joint petitions and full hearings were postponed thru May 29, 2020.</p> <p>ALJs are hearing Joint Petitions through interrogatories or by recorded telephone hearings. The 5-day filing period required by the Rules will not be waived.</p>	<p>Offices continue to be closed to the public and Commission employees working remotely.</p>	<p>Dept. of Health issued directive on April 3, 2020 to reschedule procedures, testing and office visits as well as emergent, and urgent care, unless there is a threat to a person's life or threaten permanent dysfunction until further notice.</p> <p>Dept. of Health issued directive on resuming elective procedures effective April 27, 2020 if developed requirements are met.</p> <p>Elective dental procedures resumed June 15, 2020.</p> <p>On Aug. 1, 2020 requirement for a patient to have a negative COVID-19 test prior to an elective procedure rescinded.</p>	<p><a href="#">Executive Order 20-19</a> provides that first responders and front-line health care workers who test positive for COVID-19 may be eligible for workers' compensation if causal connection proven between diagnosis and exposure due to employment.</p> <p><a href="#">Executive Order 20-35</a> classifies COVID-19 or any similar respiratory condition as an occupational disease, if contraction meets requirements for occupational disease provided by law.</p> <p><a href="#">House Bill 1488</a> excludes COVID-19 or any mutation from "ordinary disease of life" and provides COVID-19 may be established by a preponderance of the evidence as an occupational disease if there is a causal connection between occupation or employment. Applies from March 11, 2020 until May 1, 2023.</p>	<p>No</p>	<p><a href="#">Arkansas Workers' Compensation Commission</a></p> <p><a href="#">Arkansas Dept. of Health Directive on Elective Surgeries</a></p> <p><a href="#">Arkansas Executive Order 20-19</a></p> <p><a href="#">Arkansas Dept. of Health Directive on Resuming Elective Surgeries</a></p> <p><a href="#">Executive Order 20-22</a></p> <p><a href="#">Executive Order 20-35</a></p> <p><a href="#">Arkansas Dept. of Health Directive Aug. 1, 2020</a></p> <p><a href="#">House Bill 1488</a></p>

## California

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March 16, 2020 – May 25, 2021	<p>DWC and WCAB suspended Rules of Practice including rules for dismissal for failure to appear, timeframe for reports, required signatures, and witnesses for C&amp;R.</p> <p>DWC only heard expedited hearings from March 17 thru April 3, 2020.</p> <p>Since April 3, 2020, documents subject to statutory time limit may be sent directly to district offices by e-mail per AD Rule 10205.7(c).</p> <p>Status conferences, mandatory settlement conferences and priority conferences heard only via CourtCall until April 13, 2020, at which time DWC started telephonic conferences. DWC judges assigned a <a href="#">toll-free conference line</a>. On May 4, 2020, all case-in-chief hearings heard via judge's line.</p> <p>DWC resumed limited lien conferences June 8, 2020; lien hearings resumed Sept. 14, 2020.</p>	<p>All <a href="#">DWC district offices</a> open except Eureka, which is closed until further notice. Staff working remotely and available at 800-736-7401.</p> <p>Following open for essential services only:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DWC Medical Unit</li> <li>• RTW Supplement Program</li> <li>• Uninsured Employers Benefit Trust Fund</li> <li>• Legal Unit</li> <li>• Subsequent Injuries Fund</li> </ul> <p>Disability Evaluation Unit accepting consultative and summary rating requests by mail or e-filing. Commutation calculation requests can be requested by mail.</p> <p>Accepted filings include efilings via EAMS, JET file or mail. Electronic signatures accepted at this time. Documents subject to statutory deadlines may be sent by email to district offices.</p>	<p>Per DWC, QMEs that cancel appointments fewer than 6 business days before an appointment may assert that they had good cause to do so.</p> <p>Further Order issued March 27, 2020, adopts COVID-19 testing codes (HCPCS U0001 and U0002) and related fees.</p> <p>The DWC adopted emergency regulations for medical-legal evaluations became effective May 14, 2020 and is <a href="#">extended through Oct. 12, 2021 in accordance with Executive Orders N-40-20 and N-71-20. QME, AME or other medical-legal reports and required documents may be served electronically as outlined. QME or AME may complete a medical-legal evaluation through telehealth under certain conditions.</a></p>	<p>On May 6, 2020, <a href="#">Executive Order N-62-20</a> was issued. This order creates a time-limited rebuttable presumption that any COVID-19 related illness of a California employee arose out of and in the course of employment for purposes of awarding workers' compensation benefits. To be eligible for an award of workers' compensation benefits, the employee must test positive for COVID-19 or be diagnosed by a physician licensed by the California Medical Board with a confirmed positive test within 14 days of labor or service at a place of work other than their home. The Order is effective retroactive to March 19 through July 5, 2020.</p> <p><a href="#">Senate Bill 1159</a> extends the rebuttable presumption from July 6, 2020 to January 1, 2023 for "front-line" and non-front-line workers who test positive during an outbreak at place of employment and who has 5 or more employees.</p>	<p>DWC issues Emergency Measures for telehealth evaluations for medical-legal evaluations by a qualified QME during this public health emergency.</p> <p>DWC posted order adjusting Physician Services/Non-Physician Practitioner Services Fee Schedule effective April 15, 2020 to encourage expanded use of telehealth during the COVID-19 public health emergency.</p> <p><a href="#">DWC posted order dated Oct. 20, 2020</a> adjusting Physician Services/Non-Physician Practitioner Services Fee Schedule to adopt updated 11 new Medicare telehealth eligible codes, for period of public health emergency.</p>	<p><a href="#">DIR Newsline # 2020-18</a></p> <p><a href="#">DIR Newsline Number 2020-20</a></p> <p><a href="#">DIR Newsline # 2020-21</a></p> <p><a href="#">DIR Newsline # 2020-25</a></p> <p><a href="#">DIR Newsline # 2020-26</a></p> <p><a href="#">Summary Chart of benefits for workers' impacted by COVID-19</a></p> <p><a href="#">Newsline Number 2020-29</a></p> <p><a href="#">Newsline Number 2020-31</a></p> <p><a href="#">Newsline Number 2020-32</a></p> <p><a href="#">Newsline Number 2020-41</a></p> <p><a href="#">Newsline Number 2020-43</a></p> <p>QME Emergency Regs, Title 8, California Code of Regulations <a href="#">36.7</a> and <a href="#">46.2</a></p> <p><a href="#">DIR Newsline # 2020-48</a></p> <p><a href="#">Senate Bill 1159</a></p> <p><a href="#">Newsline Number 2020-77</a></p> <p><a href="#">Newsline Number 2021-29</a></p>

## Colorado

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<p>March 24, 2020 – May 25, 2021</p>	<p>In person Pre-hearing and Settlement Conferences no longer being conducted until further notice. Video conferencing available at judge's discretion upon request. All pleadings and filings to be submitted by e-mail to: <a href="mailto:cdle_dowc_prehearings@state.co.us">cdle_dowc_prehearings@state.co.us</a> with proposed orders in Word. To facilitate a timely response, avoid mailing.</p> <p>Settlement documents can be filed without a notary temporarily.</p> <p>Senate Bill 20-096 replace rules adopted by secretary of state to allow remote notarization from March 30-Dec. 30, 2020 and thereafter.</p> <p>Requests for additional compensation for disfigurement based on dated photographs must be sent via email to: <a href="mailto:cdle_dowc_prehearings@state.co.us">cdle_dowc_prehearings@state.co.us</a>.</p>	<p>Since March 26, 2020 Customer Service lobby is closed. Call Center remains open from 8am to 5pm at 888-390-7936 or at: <a href="mailto:cdle_wccustomer_service@state.co.us">cdle_wccustomer_service@state.co.us</a>. All of following forms to be submitted via e-mail to: <a href="mailto:cdle_dowc_filings@state.co.us">cdle_dowc_filings@state.co.us</a>.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• General Admissions</li> <li>• Final Admissions</li> <li>• Petitions to Modify, Terminate, or Suspend)</li> <li>• Request for Lump Sum Payment</li> <li>• Motions to Close (WC 192) will be accepted if email addresses for all parties are provided.</li> </ul> <p>All other communications must be addressed to: <a href="mailto:cdle_workers_compensation@state.co.us">cdle_workers_compensation@state.co.us</a></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• HCPCS Level II U0002 adopted for COVID-19 testing with assigned value of \$98.70.</li> <li>• Suspends requirement for evaluation by authorized treating physician w/i first 3visits.</li> <li>• 7-day requirement to deny request for prior authorization extended to 35 days for procedure or treatment not available due to emergency restrictions on medical treatment.</li> <li>• From March 23, 2020 all voluntary or elective surgeries or procedures suspended through May 27, 2020 at which time elective procedures allowed if providers meet specified requirements until Sept. 20, 2020.</li> </ul>	<p>No</p>	<p>Physicians and non-physician health care providers may conduct exams by telephone.</p>	<p><a href="#">Division of Workers' Compensation COVID-19 Updates</a></p> <p><a href="#">COVID-19 Updates: Director's Interpretations of Issues Impacting the Workers' Compensation System</a></p> <p><a href="#">Executive Order D 2020 027 amending extending Order D 2020 009 related to cessation of elective and non-essential surgeries and procedures</a></p> <p><a href="#">Emergency Rules effective June 15, 2020 thru October 13, 2020</a></p> <p><a href="#">Senate Bill 20-096</a></p> <p><a href="#">Executive Order D 2020 169 permitting limited recommencement of voluntary or elective surgery</a></p>

## Connecticut

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March 12, 2020 – May 15, 2021	<p>Dockets cancelled March 17 and 18, 2020. Effective March 19, 2020 all workers' compensation hearings including formal hearing and Compensation Review Board hearings (CRB) only being conducted telephonically. Beginning August 1, 2020, Commission to allow a limited number of in-person formal and CRB hearings. <b>Effective July 1, 2021 all WCC hearings will be held in-person.</b></p> <p>Effective March 24, 2020 parties to any telephone hearing are to either:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Contact other person to telephone hearing and call district office or</li> <li>Day before the hearing provide district office with a telephone numbers where parties will be available.</li> </ul>	<p>Significant staff cuts occurred March 24, 2020 without reduction in Commissioners. <b>All WCC offices reopened to the public June 1, 2021.</b></p> <p>Effective March 23, 2020, governor suspended non-critical Workers' Compensation Commission statutory, regulatory, and administrative deadlines, including 15-day deadline to object to Form 36. <b>All statutory filing deadlines resumed June 2, 2021, including 20-day deadline for payment of award and 15-day deadline to object to Form 36.</b></p> <p><b>Commissioner has discretion to require job search effective June 2, 2021, but job searches continue to be waived for existing temporary partial.</b></p> <p><b>As of June 2, 2021, all other policies (i.e. certain forms being sent certified mail) return to same as existed prior to March 16, 2020.</b></p>	<p>Patients with flu-like symptoms or exposure to a person with flu-like symptoms to contact medical provider prior to going to any scheduled medical appt. to determine whether appt. will to forward or be rescheduled.</p> <p>The Commission issued memorandum on April 23, 2020 encouraging the use of telemedicine in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.</p>	<p>Executive Order No. 7JJJ establishes a rebuttable COVID-19 workers' compensation presumption. Under this order an employee must satisfy the following for the presumption to apply:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>File a workers' comp claim.</li> <li>Been directed by employer to work outside the home at least one of 14 days prior to missing work and there was no work-at-home option.</li> <li>Lost one or more days due to COVID-19 between March 10 and May 20, 2020.</li> <li>COVID-19 diagnosis confirmed by a positive lab test or diagnosis of symptoms within 3 weeks of missed workdays.</li> <li>Copy of test results or written diagnosis to employer.</li> <li>Employed by essential employer if date of injury more than 14 days after March 23, 2020.</li> </ul> <p>Executive Order remained in effect for 6 months and is now <b>expired</b>.</p>	<p>RMEs and CMEs can be conducted using tele- medicine at the discretion of the doctor. Injured workers who refuse to participate are subject to same consequences as if in-person appt. was not attended.</p> <p>Addendum to 2019 Official Connecticut Practitioner Fee Schedule to address telehealth/tele-medicine valid for dates of service March 1, 2020 thru July 15, 2020 when the 2020 Official fee schedule is effective.</p>	<p><a href="#">Memorandum No. 2020-02 –Emergency Guidelines</a></p> <p><a href="#">Memorandum No. 2020-03 – Medical appointments</a></p> <p><a href="#">Memorandum No. 2020-04- Hearing policy eff. March 19, 2020</a></p> <p><a href="#">Memorandum No. 2020-05 – Stip Approval and Hearing Process</a></p> <p><a href="#">Memorandum No. 2020-06 – WCC Form 36</a></p> <p><a href="#">Memorandum No. 2020-07- Form submission</a></p> <p><a href="#">Memorandum No. 2020-09- WCC RME and CME use of telemedicine</a></p> <p><a href="#">Memorandum No. 2020-10 – Addendum to Fee Schedule March 1, 2020</a></p> <p><a href="#">Memorandum No. 2020-11- Telemedicine Reimbursement update</a></p> <p><a href="#">Memorandum No. 2020-13 – Limited in-person hearings</a></p> <p><a href="#">Executive Order No. 7JJJ</a></p> <p><a href="#">Memorandum No. 2021-03- WCC Reopening Guidelines</a></p> <p><a href="#">Memorandum No. 2021-04- Guidance on Extension of Executive Order 7K through June 1, 2021</a></p>



## Delaware

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<p>March 16, 2020 – May 25, 2021</p>	<p>Industrial Accident Board suspended live hearings through April 12, 2020. As of April 13, 2020 the availability to hold hearing via WebEx, including legal motions and evidentiary matters, if specified conditions are met became available. Live hearings are now being scheduled as deemed necessary and rooms in Fox Valley and Dover have necessary PPE in place.</p> <p>Remote notarization allowed during COVID-19 state of emergency if certain conditions are met and notarization is performed by a licensed Delaware attorney. Senate Bill 247 effective July 16, 2020 specifies that authorization to use remote notarization and witnessing by Delaware attorneys via audio-visual technology will not cease when the COVID-19 State of Emergency is lifted, but instead will continue until <b>June 30, 2021</b>.</p>	<p>Effective March 16, public access to all offices is suspended until further notice; however, operations have continued.</p>	<p>No</p>	<p>No</p>	<p>House Bill 348 effective July 17, 2020 provides that certain provisions related to telemedicine in the Declaration of a State of Emergency for the state of Delaware dated March 12, 2020 due to COVID-19, as well as the 2nd and 10th Modification will not expire until July 1, 2020. Among the telemedicine provisions that remain in effect are: removal of requirement that there be an existing practitioner-patient relationship before delivery by telemedicine; that patient be in the state at the time telemedicine services are provided and requires that permitted telemedicine services receive same coverage as under existing law.</p>	<p><a href="https://laborfiles.delaware.gov/c19/IAB%20COVID-19%20Suspension%20Order.pdf">https://laborfiles.delaware.gov/c19/IAB%20COVID-19%20Suspension%20Order.pdf</a></p> <p><a href="https://laborfiles.delaware.gov/c19/IAB%20COVID-19%20Third%20Order.pdf">https://laborfiles.delaware.gov/c19/IAB%20COVID-19%20Third%20Order.pdf</a></p> <p><a href="#">House Bill 348</a></p> <p><a href="#">Senate Bill 247</a></p>

## District of Columbia

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<p>March 16, 2020 – May 25, 2021</p>	<p>Administrative Hearings Div. and Compensation Review Board extended suspension of all hearings until after April 27, 2020. They resumed on and after April 27, 2020.</p> <p>As of Feb. 25, 2021, the Administrative Hearings Division will only handle compensation orders, scheduling orders or other orders through the electronic filing system. Self-represented litigants are also encouraged to register with the e-Filing system to receive information more securely and timely.</p>	<p>Office of Workers' Compensation (OWC) remains operational, with staff on-hand to process workers' compensation claims and respond to inquiries.</p>	<p>On March 17, 2020 District of Columbia Dept. of Health issued a recommendation to postpone all elective medical procedures, non-urgent hospital and outpatient visits if the delay will not cause harm.</p> <p>Guidance provided for healthcare providers resuming elective procedures and non-emergency services May 26, 2020</p>	<p>B24-0058, the "Workplace Safety during the COVID-19 Pandemic Emergency Act of 2021" signed Feb. 26, 2021 in part amends the Workers' Compensation Act to include COVID-19 as a compensable injury if contracted in the course and scope of employment.</p> <p>The above act was to remain in effect for no longer than 90 days</p> <p><b>B24-0059, the "Workplace Safety during the COVID-19 Pandemic Temporary Amendment Act of 2021" extends the workers' compensation provisions for 225 days after the May 13, 2021 effective date or Dec. 24, 2021</b></p>	<p>No</p>	<p><a href="#">Update on Department of Employment Services (DOES) Operating Status Update</a></p> <p><a href="#">COVID-19 Scenarios and Benefits Available</a>  <a href="https://does.dc.gov/sites/https://does.dc.gov/sites/limitations-of-elective-and-non-urgent-medical-procedures">https://does.dc.gov/sites/limitations-of-elective-and-non-urgent-medical-procedures</a></p> <p><a href="#">Phase 1 Guidance for Elective Surgery</a></p> <p><a href="#">Phase 2 Guidelines for Elective Surgery</a></p> <p><a href="#">DOES 2021 Stakeholder's Letter</a></p> <p><a href="#">B24-0058</a></p> <p><a href="#">B24-0059</a></p>

## Florida

Dates agency COVID-19 guidance issued	Status of dispute resolutions proceedings	Status of operations (i.e. forms, timeframes, etc.)	Addresses medical treatment?	Addresses compensability?	Addresses telehealth?	Website Link
<p>March 13, 2020 – May 15, 2021</p>	<p>Florida OJCC issued update mandating all mediations to be telephonic through May 31, 2020.</p> <p>The OJCC has mandated all state mediation to be telephonic from July 1 thru Feb. 26, 2021. Mandatory telephonic mediation ended as of March 1, 2021 and now proceeding under the published Rules of Procedure.</p>	<p>DWC operations continue.</p> <p>CFO Directive 2020-06 suspended strict compliance with the requirement that workers' compensation insurers mail informational brochures and allowed delivery by other means such as e-mail or fax.</p> <p><b>DWC announced</b> that CFO Directive 2021-04 revokes CFO Directive 2020-06 and beginning June 27, 2021, the injured Workers Information Brochure in English or Spanish <b>must</b> be mailed to the injured the injured worker as required by Florida Statutes 440.185(3) and Florida Administrative Code 69L-3.0035.</p>	<p>Effective March 20, 2020, medically unnecessary, non-urgent or non-emergency procedures or surgery prohibited. Expires upon expiration of Executive Order 20-52</p> <p>Section 5 of Executive Order 20-112 issued on May 4, 2020 allowed the resumption of elective procedures at subject to specified conditions.</p>	<p>On March 30, 2020 Florida CFO issued Directive 2020-05 that directs the Florida Division of Risk Management to process workers' compensation claims submitted by frontline state employees who have tested positive for COVID-19 through a reliable method as compensable unless the state can show by preponderance of the evidence that COVID-19 was contracted outside scope of employment. "Frontline state employee" is defined.</p> <p>FLOIR Directive 2020-5M issued April 6, 2020 remind carriers that first responders, health care workers and others that contract COVID-19 due to work related exposure would be eligible for workers' compensation benefits under Florida Statute 440.151.</p>	<p>DWC issued notice reminder that telehealth/telemedicine services by licensed practitioners to WC patients is permitted and billing requirements.</p>	<p><a href="#">Administrative Orders AODOAH20-01</a></p> <p><a href="#">Administrative Orders AODOAH20-02</a></p> <p><a href="#">Administrative Orders AODOAH20-03</a></p> <p><a href="#">Administrative Orders AODOAH20-04</a></p> <p><a href="#">Administrative Orders AODOAH20-05</a></p> <p><a href="#">CFO Directive 2020-05</a></p> <p><a href="#">CFO Directive 2020-06</a></p> <p><a href="#">FLOIR Directive 2020-5M</a></p> <p><a href="#">Executive Order 20-72</a></p> <p><a href="#">Executive Order 20-112</a></p> <p><a href="#">OJCC Mandatory telephonic mediation Announcement</a></p> <p><a href="#">OJCC Blog Announcement March 2, 2021</a></p> <p><a href="#">Florida DWC April 2021 COVID-19 Report</a></p>

## Georgia

Dates agency COVID-19 guidance issued	Status of dispute resolutions proceedings	Status of operations (i.e. forms, timeframes, etc.)	Addresses medical treatment?	Addresses compensability?	Addresses telehealth?	Website Link
<p>March 17, 2020 – May 15, 2021</p>	<p>Hearings and in-person mediations for March 16 thru July 12, 2020 postponed and reset notices will be sent.</p> <p>In-person hearings resumed July 13, 2020 within the Guidelines issued by the Board. Each ALJ has discretion to vary the guidelines.</p> <p>Board continues to handle settlements, Petitions for Medical Treatment, motions, conference calls and emergency situations.</p> <p>Mediations continue to be conducted in person, via Zoom or by telephone. For in-person mediations, all persons must meet CDC and local health department guidelines.</p>	<p>Georgia State Board of Workers' Compensation continues to be open for business.</p> <p>Deadlines extended for statute of limitations, time for completion of discovery or time within which to appeal from March 14 thru June 12, 2020.</p>	<p>Effective April 28, 2020, insurers and hospitals advised elective procedures are again being undertaken in Georgia</p>	<p>No</p>	<p>Effective April 1, 2020 Board provided guidance for provision and reimbursement of telemedicine services.</p>	<p><a href="#">Notice-regarding-hearings-and-mediations</a></p> <p><a href="#">Virtual Hearing and Submission of Issues on the Record</a></p> <p><a href="#">Board Order Addressing Deadline Extensions</a></p> <p><a href="#">Extension of Board Order through May 13, 2020</a></p> <p><a href="#">Extension of Board Order through June 12, 2020</a></p> <p><a href="#">Telemedicine Guidance 04012020</a></p> <p><a href="#">Winding Down COVID-19 Bulletins and Directives: Elective Surgeries</a></p> <p><a href="#">Notice Regarding Hearings and Mediations</a></p> <p><a href="#">Board's Extension Order Issued June 17, 2020</a></p> <p><a href="#">Guidelines for In-Person Hearings</a></p> <p><a href="#">Notice Regarding Hearings and Mediations</a></p>

## Hawaii

Dates agency COVID-19 guidance issued	Status of dispute resolutions proceedings	Status of operations (i.e. forms, timeframes, etc.)	Addresses medical treatment?	Addresses compensability?	Addresses telehealth?	Website Link
<p>March 19, 2020 - Nov. 25, 2021</p>	<p>The governor’s proclamation allows agency to require hearings by telephone or video. The DCD continued processing stipulations throughout the emergency.</p> <p>Appeals Board office remains physically closed to the public, but parties may make in-office appointments to review their case filed by contacting office.</p> <p>Appeals are being accepted via e-mail.</p> <p>Appeals Board is now conducting virtual and remote conferences and hearings using Microsoft Teams platform.</p>	<p>Operations continue. The DCD is accepting documents via mail. Authorized carriers who have previously filed WC-1s electronically may continue to do so.</p> <p>The DCD cannot waive statutory requirement but will consider the impact that COVID-19 had on reporting requirements and/or time frames. The DCD will require documentation to explain why certain actions or inactions occurred. The DCD will consider these documented impacts when reviewing extensions of reporting requirements or time frames.</p>	<p>Executive Order 20-25 ordered all healthcare facilities and providers to render assistance in support of the state’s response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The term “render assistance” included cancelling or postponing elective surgeries and procedures as each facility determines appropriate under the circumstances.</p> <p>The DCD posts information regarding CMS Telehealth information for physician and practitioners.</p>	<p>Yes. COVID-19 Labor Benefits Fact Sheet and the COVID-19 Questions and addresses eligibility for workers’ compensation.</p>	<p>By Executive Orders, individuals currently and actively licensed as required are allowed to engage in telehealth in Hawaii without an in-person consultation or a prior existing physician-patient relationship.</p> <p>The 10<sup>th</sup> proclamation reinstates all prior proclamations and Executive Orders through August 31, 2020</p>	<p><a href="https://labor.hawaii.gov/ui/files/2020/03/COVID-19-Labor-Benefits-Fact-Sheet-20200319.pdf">https://labor.hawaii.gov/ui/files/2020/03/COVID-19-Labor-Benefits-Fact-Sheet-20200319.pdf</a></p> <p><a href="#">Telehealth Information for Physicians and Practitioners</a></p> <p><a href="#">COVID-19 Employer Workers’ Compensation FAQs</a></p> <p><a href="#">COVID-19 Questions and Answers</a></p> <p><a href="#">Executive Order 20-25</a></p> <p><a href="#">10th Proclamations related to the Coronavirus Emergency 07/17/2020</a></p> <p><a href="#">Labor and Industrial Relations Appeals Board Order # 8 relating to proceedings in response to COVID-19 public health emergency</a></p>

## Idaho

Dates agency COVID-19 guidance issued	Status of dispute resolutions proceedings	Status of operations (i.e. forms, timeframes, etc.)	Addresses medical treatment?	Addresses compensability?	Addresses telehealth?	Website Link
<p>March 23, 2020 – June 9, 2021</p>	<p>Emergency Orders March 23 through June 29, 2020 postpone all in-person hearings currently scheduled and are rescheduled for a later date unless hearing officer finds that proceedings can be conducted and adequately recorded through telephonic or video means.</p> <p>Also, by temporary amendment of Judicial Practice and Procedure, attorneys are required to use e-Filing when possible.</p> <p>Effective June 9, 2021, mask use and social distancing may be required subject to the discretion of the hearing office.</p>	<p>Commission operations continue, but protocols put in place regarding who is allowed to enter Commission facilities.</p> <p>Commission services are available via telephone, the Commission website, and scheduled appointments. The Commission will not be accepting any paper documents through reception at this time. All correspondence is required to be submitted via email, fax, or postal delivery.</p> <p>Effective June 9, 2021, individuals fully vaccinated may enter Commission premises and office and not required to wear a mask. If not deemed fully vaccinated, wearing a mask and social distancing is required.</p>	<p>No</p>	<p>On Oct. 7, 2020, the Idaho Industrial Commission issued an interpretation of existing law related to the filing of COVID-19 claims under workers' compensation and the compensability evaluation.</p>	<p>Commission issued policy memo about telehealth and telemedicine use noting workers' compensation statutes are silent, encouraging collaboration between providers and payers and indicating for billing purposes the CMS and AMA coding should be followed.</p>	<p><a href="https://iic.idaho.gov/Judicial-Rules-of-Practice-and-Procedure-eff.-03-23-2020-Amended-Emergency-Order-April-10-2020">https://iic.idaho.gov/Judicial Rules of Practice and Procedure eff. 03-23-2020 Amended Emergency Order April 10, 2020</a></p> <p><a href="#">Second Amended Order updated May 18, 2020</a></p> <p><a href="#">Notice re: Electronic Services and Document Delivery</a></p> <p><a href="#">Telehealth Policy Memo March 16, 2020</a></p> <p><a href="#">Amended Emergency Order re: COVID-19 June 29, 2020</a></p> <p><a href="#">Idaho Industrial Commission Oct. 7, 2020 Memo re: COVID-19 Claim Filing</a></p> <p><a href="#">COVID-19 Notice Commission Public Door Notice 2021</a></p> <p><a href="#">Commission Fifth Amended Emergency Order June 9, 2021</a></p>

## Illinois

Dates agency COVID-19 guidance issued	Status of dispute resolutions proceedings	Status of operations (i.e. forms, timeframes, etc.)	Addresses medical treatment?	Addresses compensability?	Addresses telehealth?	Website Link
March 16, 2020 – May 25, 2021	<p>Commission suspended regular operations thru April 30, 2020. Cases were continued to their next regularly scheduled 90-day continuance date.</p> <p>Arbitrator monthly status calls, pre-trial or status hearings resumed virtually via WebEx. <a href="#">Click here to view Arbitration Monthly Procedures for Feb. 2021 through April 2021.</a></p> <p><a href="#">Effective June 1, 2020 in-person hearings</a> resumed. Attendees must provide their own PPE.</p> <p>As of July 22, 2020, settlement Contracts and Approvals filed electronically through CompFile.</p> <p>All in person hearings <a href="#">discontinued from Nov. 14, 2020</a> through Jan. 31, 2021. New special process implemented for emergency in-person hearings and pro se settlements.</p>	All other Commission operations continue as usual.	<p>The Illinois Dept. of Public Health issued guidance regarding elective surgical procedures that recommended cancelling all elective surgeries and procedures if not urgent or emergent.</p> <p>Beginning May 11, 2020 hospitals and ambulatory surgery treatment centers may begin to perform procedures provided specific criteria have been met.</p>	<p><a href="#">House Bill 2455</a> signed into law June 5, 2020 provides that for specified first responders and front-line workers, there is a rebuttable presumption that an injury or occupational disease resulting from exposure to and contraction of COVID-19 arose out of and in the course of employment and is causally connected to the hazards or exposures of their employment. This presumption applies from March 9 through Dec. 31, 2020.</p> <p>With the enactment of this bill, the employer has the burden to rebut the presumption; however, this bill gives guidance on evidence to rebut the presumption of compensability.</p> <p>House Bill 4276 signed Feb. 26, 2021 retroactively extended the rebuttable presumption from Dec. 31, 2020 to <b>June 30, 2021</b>.</p>	<p>Notice of an update to the Illinois Fee Schedule was issued April 24, 2020. CPT and HCPCS codes added for COVID-19 tests. Further CPT codes for which the modifier 95 was increased until further notice to include physician visits as well as physical therapy. “Distance” and “rural” requirements associated with telemedicine are suspended temporarily.</p>	<p><a href="https://www2.illinois.gov/sites/iwcc/Pages/default.aspx">https://www2.illinois.gov/sites/iwcc/Pages/default.aspx</a></p> <p><a href="#">Suspension of in-person operations March 17, 2020</a></p> <p><a href="#">Emergency Motion Call--19MAR20 Ill.pdf</a></p> <p><a href="#">IWCC Emergency In-Person Motion Call 20MAR27V.pdf</a></p> <p><a href="#">IWCCFilingmemo3232020.pdf</a></p> <p><a href="#">Illinois Dept. of Health Guidance regarding elective surgical procedures</a></p> <p><a href="#">Elective Surgeries and Procedures Update</a></p> <p><a href="#">Medical Fee Schedule Update April 24,2020</a></p> <p><a href="#">IWCC Emergency Process Update</a></p> <p><a href="#">May 2020 Special Circumstance Arbitration Procedures</a></p> <p><a href="#">June 2020 Special Circumstance Arbitration Procedures</a></p> <p><a href="#">House Bill 2455</a></p> <p><a href="#">House Bill 4276</a></p>

## Indiana

Dates agency COVID-19 guidance issued	Status of dispute resolutions proceedings	Status of operations (i.e. forms, timeframes, etc.)	Addresses medical treatment?	Addresses compensability?	Addresses telehealth?	Website Link
March 13, 2020 – May 25, 2021	<p>Pretrial conferences are cancelled through May 1, 2020. All in person hearings are suspended and will be handled telephonically or through written submissions during this time. Electronic signatures will be accepted on settlement agreements. Only settlements are to be sent to the district email boxes.</p>	<p>Effective March 24th thru May 1, 2020, the Worker’s Compensation Board’s offices are closed to the public.</p> <p>Notice of penalties will be issued soon for untimely filing of FROIs after May 1, 2020 and thereafter notices will be sent out approximately monthly for untimely FROIs.</p> <p>Effective June 15, 2020 the Board’s offices will be open to the public by appt. only</p>	<p>Effective April 21, 2020, hospitals allowed to conduct clinical procedures to diagnose screen and treat medical conditions.</p> <p>Elective procedures in other medical and clinical practices to resume April 27, 2020 if personal protective equipment (PPE) supply sufficient. Suspension started April 1, 2020.</p>	<p>Senate Bill 232 signed by Governor April 29, 2021 retroactive to Jan. 1, 2020 adds any variant of severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS) including COVID-19 to the list of “exposure risk disease” for which emergency and public safety employee death and disability is presumed to be in the line of duty.</p> <p>On April 2, 2020, Workers’ Compensation Board posted Website Notice addressing COVID-19 compensability decision.</p>	No	<p><a href="https://www.in.gov/wcb/">https://www.in.gov/wcb/</a></p> <p><a href="#">Executive Order 20-13</a></p> <p><a href="#">Executive Order 20-24</a></p> <p><a href="#">Website Notices 06/12/2020</a></p> <p><a href="#">Senate Bill 232</a></p>



## Iowa

Dates agency COVID-19 guidance issued	Status of dispute resolutions proceedings	Status of operations (i.e. forms, timeframes, etc.)	Addresses medical treatment?	Addresses compensability?	Addresses telehealth?	Website Link
<p>March 13, 2020 – May 25, 2021</p>	<p>Order issued changing the method by which all regular proceeding hearings scheduled to occur between March 18, 2020 and June 16, 2020 from in person to internet-based video using CourtCall. The DWC shall pay associated fees.</p> <p><b>Suspension of in-person hearings extended through July 23, 2021.</b></p> <p>To minimize in-person interaction, the Commissioner has eliminated the notarization requirements when permitted in the agency rules and forms published to the DWC website including settlement documents through September 14, 2020.</p> <p>Through Dec. 31, 2020 the Commissioner temporarily authorizes filing by email for self-represented parties and persons exempt from using WCES.</p>	<p>Effective March 23, 2020, the DWC closed to public access past lobby.</p>	<p>From March 27, thru April 30, 2020, all non-essential or elective surgeries and procedures utilizing personal protective equipment (PPE) prohibited by any hospital, outpatient surgery provider, whether public, private, or nonprofit.</p> <p>Effective April 27, 2020 and continuing during disaster proclamation, a hospital, outpatient surgery provider or outpatient procedure may conduction inpatient surgeries and procedure that if further delayed will pose significant risk to quality of life and outpatient surgeries or procedures if specified requirements are met.</p> <p>As of May 6, 2020, dental offices allowed to resume operations.</p>	<p>No</p>	<p>No</p>	<p><a href="https://www.iowaworkcomp.gov/coronavirus-covid-19">https://www.iowaworkcomp.gov/coronavirus-covid-19</a></p> <p><a href="#">Order of the Commissioner: Impact of COVID-19 on Regular Proceeding Hearings March 13, 2020</a></p> <p><a href="#">DWC closed to public-access past-lobby-effective- march-23-2020</a></p> <p><a href="#">Order: In the Matter or Ongoing provisions for COVID-19 impact on Agency Services</a></p> <p><a href="#">Public Health Proclamation of Disaster Emergency</a></p> <p><a href="#">Public Health PPE Shortage Order</a></p> <p><a href="#">Executive Proclamation dated April 24-2020</a></p> <p><a href="#">Executive Proclamation dated May 6, 2020</a></p> <p><a href="#">Order: COVID-19 Impact on Hearings through September 14, 2020 (June 1, 2020)</a></p> <p><a href="#">Order: Ongoing Provisions for COVID-19 Impact on Agency Services (June 1, 2020)</a></p> <p><b><a href="#">Order: COVID-19 Impact on Hearings through July 23, 2021</a></b></p>

## Kansas

Dates agency COVID-19 guidance issued	Status of dispute resolutions proceedings	Status of operations (i.e. forms, timeframes, etc.)	Addresses medical treatment?	Addresses compensability?	Addresses telehealth?	Website Link
May 21, 2020	<p>No changes announced. Due to the COVID-19 emergency.</p> <p>With the implementation of the Online System for Claims Administration Research/Regulation (OSCAR) in Nov. 2018, the Kansas workers' compensation system was already digital with nearly all submissions to the Division by stakeholders required to be in OSCAR.</p>	<p>Kansas Dept. of Labor offices are closed to the public, but operations continue.</p> <p>Claims form filing primarily via EDI and in OSCAR, the state's workers' compensation management system.</p>	No	No	No	<a href="https://www.dol.ks.gov/wc">https://www.dol.ks.gov/wc</a>

## Kentucky

Dates agency COVID-19 guidance issued	Status of dispute resolutions proceedings	Status of operations (i.e. forms, timeframes, etc.)	Addresses medical treatment?	Addresses compensability?	Addresses telehealth?	Website Link
<p>March 13, 2020 – June 14, 2021</p>	<p>All in-person BRC and Hearings were cancelled through May 17, 2020, with exceptions for emergency circumstances.</p> <p>ALJs initially allowed to temporarily use telephonic or video technology for necessary proceedings. As of April 16, 2020, <u>all</u> ALJs were able to conduct video proceedings through the Zoom platform if all parties agreed to participate. As of June 10, 2020, participation in virtual proceeding are mandatory absent extraordinary circumstance.</p> <p>Administrative order issued to allow electronic signature on any document and notarization of claimant signature for Form 109 for duration of State of Emergency. Court reporter may take remote depositions.</p> <p><b>Per June 14, 2021 COVID-19 policy update the above remains policy of the Dept. of Workers' Claims.</b></p>	<p>By March 27, 2020, 75% of ALJs, workers' compensation board and field office staff are working from home. Remain open for business and operating as close to normal as possible.</p> <p>In <a href="#">Memo dated Jan. 8, 2021</a>, the Dept. of Workers' Claims learned of a limitation with the Litigation Management System (LMS) that prevents the filing of a claim for benefits due to alleged COVID-19 as an occupational disease, instead of an injury. Reprogramming to occur to address and DWC takes no position on whether claim should be asserted as injury or occupational disease.</p> <p>On June 14, 2021 the Kentucky Dept. of Workers' Claims issued update on effect of continued state of emergency and policy remains same on TTD, presumption</p>	<p>Effective March 18, 2020, all non-emergency, non-urgent medical surgical, dental, and other healthcare procedures suspended, unless delay would result in serious or irreparable harm to a patient.</p> <p>Cabinet for Health and Family Services issued an order allowing resumption of outpatient procedures as of May 6, 2020, but requiring certain guidelines be met including all patients having a pre-procedure COVID-19 screening and/or test. A subsequent order allowed inpatient procedures to resume at 50% of pre-COVID volume.</p> <p>Notice that any COVID-19 test administered in 2020 is eligible for payment. Codes and fees to be reimbursed provided and remain effective until <b>July 1, 2022</b>.</p>	<p>Per Executive Order 2020-215 and subsequent Executive Order 2020-277, TTD benefits if an employee is removed from work by a physician due to occupational exposure to COVID-19. Occupational exposure is presumed for employees of a healthcare facility, first responders, corrections officers; military; activated National Guard, domestic violence shelter workers; child advocacy workers; grocery workers; postal service workers and childcare workers. Waiting period is waived.</p> <p><b>Valid for duration of state of emergency; although the governor's authority to declare a state of emergency beyond a specified period is being litigated.</b></p> <p><a href="#">Executive Order 2021-326</a> extended State of Emergency effective May 13, 2021 for a period of 30 days.</p>	<p>On March 23, 2020, guidance issued on provision of telehealth services during state of emergency. Injured worker has right to decline to participate.</p> <p><b>Per June 14, 2021 COVID-19 policy update the above remains policy of the Dept. of Workers' Claims.</b></p>	<p><a href="http://labor.ky.gov/comp">http://labor.ky.gov/comp</a></p> <p><a href="#">Workers' Compensation Hearings Canceled</a></p> <p><a href="#">Department of Workers' Claims Policy Regarding Court Reporters and Remote Depositions</a></p> <p><a href="#">Update on Department of Workers' Claim Operations</a></p> <p><a href="#">Telehealth Services during State of Emergency</a></p> <p><a href="#">Administrative Order 2020-001 on Electronic signatures and Notarization</a></p> <p><a href="#">Administrative Order 2020-001.signatures.pdf</a></p> <p><a href="#">Executive Order 2020-277</a></p> <p><a href="#">Dept. of Workers' Claims Guidance on Executive Order 2020-215</a></p> <p><a href="#">Video Conference Proceedings rev. 06/10/2020</a></p> <p><a href="#">Extension of Cancellation of In-Person Proceedings</a></p> <p><a href="#">COVID-19 Test Codes and Fees</a></p> <p><a href="#">KY Dept. of Public Health Directive of May 1, 2020 and Directive of May 8, 2020</a></p> <p><a href="#">COVID-19 Policy Update June 14, 2021</a></p>

## Louisiana

Dates agency COVID-19 guidance issued	Status of dispute resolutions proceedings	Status of operations (i.e. forms, timeframes, etc.)	Addresses medical treatment?	Addresses compensability?	Addresses telehealth?	Website Link
<p>March 13, 2020 – April 1, 2021</p>	<p>Except for unrepresented/ pro se settlements, all court appearances and in-person mediations are cancelled until further notice. In-person trials, hearings, and mediations will be rescheduled on an expedited basis.</p> <p>Effective April 30, 2020, telephone mediations are permitted and encouraged. No pleadings will be accepted by email, except for Settlement Petitions and Attorney Fee Petitions.</p> <p>Settlements and attorney fee petitions will be reviewed and approved from 1 to 5 pm each day by district or division office.</p> <p><a href="#">Protocols for April 1, 2021 OWC District offices reopening</a> for in-person proceedings</p>	<p>Operations continue with staff working remotely, but the Office of Workers' Compensation Administration including workers' compensation closed to the public thru June 26, 2020 pursuant to the governor's extension of Stay at Home Order.</p> <p>An approved LWC-WC-1010 to be accepted longer than 30 days if treatment facility is closed due to COVID-19.</p>	<p>Injured workers to be allowed refills for at least 30 days and up to 90 days. Pharmacist allowed to refill most medications one time even if unable to reach patient physician.</p> <p>Louisiana Dept. of Health will allow for elective medical and dental procedures starting April 27, 2020. Suspension began March 27, 2020.</p> <p>The Dept. of Health issued an updated order effective June 5 through July 5, 2020 noting medical and surgical procedures are allowed based on the documented needs of the specific patient subject to pre-operative evaluation, supply of PPE, social distancing.</p>	<p>No</p>	<p>Bulletin issued regarding telephone office visits allowed for established patients.</p> <p>Emergency rule issued regarding billing acceptance of use of modifier 95 to note telehealth/ telemedicine.</p>	<p><a href="#">Office of Workers' Compensation COVID-19 Information page</a></p> <p><a href="#">Bulletin: Telephone Office Visits 04/05/2020</a></p> <p><a href="#">Bulletin: Amended Order on Settlement and Attorney Fee Petitions 04/30/2020</a></p> <p><a href="#">OWC Emergency Rule re: UR Procedure, Pharmacy Reimbursement, Prescription Drug Coverage and Prior Authorizations</a></p> <p><a href="#">OWC Emergency Rule 2 re: Telehealth/Telemedicine</a></p> <p><a href="#">LDH Notice #2020-COVID19-ALL-010</a></p> <p><a href="#">LDH Provider Memorandum Update June 4, 2020</a></p>

## Maine

Date agency COVID-19 guidance issued	Status of dispute resolutions proceedings	Status of operations (i.e. forms, timeframes, etc.)	Addresses medical treatment?	Addresses compensability?	Addresses telehealth?	Website Link
<p>March 16, 2020 – Feb. 20, 2021</p>	<p>Hearings are being conducted by phone or other form of remote technology (Court Call, Zoom and Teams).</p> <p>All mediations are being conducted only by phone.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Central, Regional and Advocate offices are closed to the public.</li> <li>• Many Board employees are working from home or on a “staggered” in-office schedule.</li> <li>• Limited staff available to receive mail, deliveries, and Board filings.</li> <li>• Troubleshooting will be conducted by phone.</li> <li>• Where Board has discretion to waive or adjust penalties, issues related to COVID-19 will be considered.</li> <li>• Board’s best practice recommendation is that a coronavirus stimulus checks cannot be used to reduce weekly workers’ comp benefits, but binding decision will depend on ALJ or appellate division decision.</li> </ul>	<p>No</p>	<p>FAQ document addresses compensability</p>	<p>FAQ indicates healthcare providers may bill for telemedicine services</p>	<p><a href="https://www.maine.gov/wcb/">https://www.maine.gov/wcb/</a></p> <p><a href="https://www.maine.gov/wcb/COVID_FAQ_3-27-2020.pdf">https://www.maine.gov/wcb/COVID_FAQ_3-27-2020.pdf</a></p> <p><a href="#">COVID-19 FAQ Updated May 4, 2020</a></p> <p><a href="#">COVID-19 FAQ Updated Feb. 18, 2021</a></p>

## Maryland

Dates agency COVID-19 guidance issued	Status of dispute resolutions proceedings	Status of operations (i.e. forms, timeframes, etc.)	Addresses medical treatment?	Addresses compensability?	Addresses telehealth?	Website Link
<p>March 26, 2020 – June 15, 2021</p>	<p>As of March 26, 2020, all scheduled dockets thru May 1, 2020 were cancelled. All claims scheduled to be heard between March 16 and April 3, 2020 postponed and reset on a priority basis beginning May 4, 2020. As of April 20, 2020, Commission started to conduct hearings remotely by audio or video using Microsoft Teams.</p> <p>In-person hearings resumed June 8, 2020 with precautions.</p> <p>State moved to normal level effective June 1, 2021, thus ending temperature checks and screening questionnaire completion.</p> <p>As of the Aug. 2021 docket, Commission resumes normal system of setting cases. Video hearings continue. Hearing exhibits still to be submitted electronically at least 3 days prior to hearing.</p>	<p>Commission offices remain close to the public thru May 1, 2020, but a limited group of staff will continue working onsite. Remainder of employees permitted to telework whenever possible.</p> <p>All statutory and regulation deadlines related to the initiation of matters required to be filed with the Commission including statute of limitations are tolled or suspended by the number of days that the Commission remains closed to the public due to COVID-19 emergency order. Deadlines are to be extended by a period of 30 days beyond the end of the state of emergency as evidenced by an order reopening the Commission to receive in-person filings at its Baltimore office.</p>	<p>Directive and Order issued March 23, 2020 requires all elective and non-urgent medical procedures that are not critically necessary for the maintenance of health of patient to cease effective March 24, 2020</p> <p>Effective May 7, 2020 all licensed healthcare facilities and healthcare providers allowed to resume elective and non-urgent medical procedures and appointment provided specific requirements are in place.</p>	<p>No</p>	<p>No</p>	<p><a href="https://www.wcc.state.md.us/">https://www.wcc.state.md.us/</a></p> <p><a href="#">Directive and Order Regarding Various Healthcare Matters</a></p> <p><a href="#">Administrative Order 2020-01</a></p> <p><a href="#">Administrative Order 2020-02 Extending Deadlines</a></p> <p><a href="#">Amended Directive and Order Regarding Various Healthcare Matters</a></p> <p><a href="#">Instructions for Video Hearing Requests, Exhibit submissions and Courtroom Protocols</a></p> <p><a href="#">Commission June 1, 2021 operation level announcement</a></p> <p><a href="#">Commission Notice to Practitioners re: Aug. 2021 Docket</a></p> <p><a href="#">Order ending state of emergency in 2 Phases: July 1, 2021 - Emergency mandates and restrictions, then 45-day administrative grace period through Aug. 15, 2021</a></p>

## Massachusetts

Dates agency COVID-19 guidance issued	Status of dispute resolutions proceedings	Status of operations (i.e. forms, timeframes, etc.)	Addresses medical treatment?	Addresses compensability?	Addresses telehealth?	Website Link
<p>March 8, 2020 – June 9, 2021</p>	<p>Trial courts closed to public March 16-17, 2020. Beginning March 23, 2020, all Conciliations, Conferences and ALJ Oral Arguments conducted via the WebEx Video Connect or telephone conference calls.</p> <p>DIA reopens for In-person Hearings and Conferences July 6, 2021. Conciliations will remain virtual.</p> <p>Lump Sum Settlements still to be submitted in PDF form with employee affidavit and Section 15 petitions via e-mail.</p> <p><a href="#">DIA reopened offices</a> to resume only limited in-person hearings Sept. 28, 2020.</p> <p><a href="#">Emergency Administrative Bulletin 7</a> provide reopening process for in-person hearings. <a href="#">Emergency Administrative Bulletin 8</a> provides 2021 update.</p>	<p>The best way to contact DIA for general information is through their general email at <a href="mailto:Info2@mass.gov">Info2@mass.gov</a></p> <p>Required forms must be filed electronically using the DIA's CMS portal. Registration is required. Mailed paper forms will not be processed.</p> <p>Effective July 1, 2020 Form 105 must be e-mailed to <a href="mailto:DIA-Form105conciliation@mass.gov">DIA-Form105conciliation@mass.gov</a>. Also Form 113 must be e-mailed to <a href="mailto:DIA-Form113conciliation@mass.gov">DIA-Form113conciliation@mass.gov</a>. Forms 105 and 113 not submitted via e-mail will not be reviewed or considered for approval.</p>	<p>From now until further notice, for all scheduled 11A impartial exams contact the 11A physician's office to confirm if exam will occur. If canceled and/or rescheduled, contact Judge's office and Impartial Scheduling clerk with info updated info. 11A physicians are not allowed to conduct video conference exams and record reviews are not permitted.</p> <p>On March 15, 2020, Dept. of Health issued order that mandated hospitals to cancel non-essential elective procedures. From May 18 to June 8, 2020, health care providers that complete an attestation certifying clinical capacity, safety standards and governance requirements met allowed to resume non-essential elective procedures.</p>	<p>No</p>	<p>Announced April 17, 2020 that telehealth services are allowed for services beginning March 16, 2020 and will remain in place until the State of Emergency is lifted. Billing requirements provided.</p> <p>The state of emergency lifted on June 15, 2021. In response, <a href="#">Senate Bill 2475</a> passed June 15, 2021 to extend certain emergency measures.</p>	<p><a href="https://www.mass.gov/guides/court-system-response-to-covid-19">https://www.mass.gov/guides/court-system-response-to-covid-19</a>; <a href="https://www.mass.gov/alerts#undefined">https://www.mass.gov/alerts#undefined</a></p> <p><a href="#">DIA ER Bulletin 2 for updated protocols for dispute-resolution-</a></p> <p><a href="#">Administrative Bulletin #3 –Impartial Exams</a></p> <p><a href="#">Order of the Commissioner of Public Health</a></p> <p><a href="#">DPH Guidance Memo regarding elective procedures order</a></p> <p><a href="#">Status Conferences during Health Emergency Crisis</a></p> <p><a href="#">Rates for Services under the Workers' Compensation Act – Telehealth</a></p> <p><a href="#">Administrative Bulletin #4 – Online Filing</a></p> <p><a href="#">Administrative Bulletin #5 – June 23, 2020</a></p> <p><a href="#">DPH guidance memo on urgent elective invasive procedures</a></p> <p><a href="#">DPH Order re: Non-essential elective invasive procedures</a></p>

## Michigan

Date agency COVID-19 guidance issued	Status of dispute resolutions proceedings	Status of operations (i.e. forms, timeframes, etc.)	Addresses medical treatment?	Addresses compensability?	Addresses telehealth?	Website Link
<p>March 16, 2020 – May 25, 2021</p>	<p>In-person hearings before Workers' Disability Agency and Workers' Compensation Board of Magistrates suspended from March 17 until <b>July 12, 2021</b>. The local agency where case is pending should be contacted for all scheduling of motions, facilitations, etc. to be held telephonically.</p> <p>Included among the exceptions to hearing sites for in-person trials starting July 12, 2021</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Magistrates and staff will work behind plastic shields until further notice.</li> <li>Any individual with COVID-19 symptoms should not enter hearing sites.</li> <li>Fully vaccinated individuals will not be required to wear face masks.</li> <li>Masks will be required in hearing sites if not fully vaccinated with exceptions.</li> <li>Hearings may be adjourned due to safety concerns.</li> </ul>	<p>Agency operations continue. The Workers' Disability Compensation Agency will accept claims forms through mail, fax and email. The fax number is 517-284-8920. The email address is <a href="mailto:fedewai5@michigan.gov">fedewai5@michigan.gov</a>.</p> <p>Agency indicates claims not to be disputed for non-compliance with medical treatment. "Demands or threats made to injured workers relative to attending evaluations or conducting job searches may be considered a violation of the Executive Orders."</p>	<p>Agency advises that 3% late fee if medical bill not paid within 30 days to be waived during COVID-19 restrictions.</p> <p>Effective March 21, 2020, all hospitals, freestanding surgical outpatient facilities and dental offices required to postpone non-essential procedures until termination of state of emergency. <a href="#">Executive Order</a> effective May 29, 2020 rescinded order prohibiting elective procedures.</p>	<p><a href="#">Executive Order 20-128</a> issued June 18, 2020 clarified the scope of <a href="#">Executive Order 20-125</a> issued June 17, 2020 to replace emergency rules filed March 30, 2020 related to the state of emergency and disaster declared in <a href="#">Executive Order 20-127</a>. This order provided, subject to rebuttal by specific facts to the contrary, a first-response employee confirmed as COVID-19 positive on or after March 18, 2020, either by physician or by test, is presumed to have suffered a "personal injury" arising out of and in the course of employment.</p> <p>After Michigan Supreme Court invalidated some of governor's COVID-related orders, LOE Director issued emergency rule on Oct. 16, 2020 that reinstates a rebuttable presumption for first response employees diagnosed with COVID-19 from March 18, 2020 through <b>March 20, 2021</b></p>	<p>The Agency expects provision of increased access to health care services through telemedicine delivery platforms and encouragement of use of telemedicine delivery options to limit the amount of in-person health care services sought.</p>	<p><a href="https://www.michigan.gov/leo/0,5863,7-336-78421_95508---,00.html">https://www.michigan.gov/leo/0,5863,7-336-78421_95508---,00.html</a></p> <p><a href="#">Workers' Disability Compensation Agency Emergency Rules related to COVID-19 and first response employees</a></p> <p><a href="#">Workers Compensation Board of Magistrates Reassigned Dates April 20 thru May 1, 2020</a></p> <p><a href="#">Executive Order 2020-17 on Temporary Restrictions on non-essential medical and dental procedures</a></p> <p><a href="#">Workers' Disability Compensation Board of Magistrates hearing schedule update</a></p> <p><a href="#">Executive Order 20-125</a></p> <p><a href="#">Executive Order 20-127</a></p> <p><a href="#">Executive Order 20-128</a></p> <p><a href="#">Emergency Order 2020-211</a></p> <p><a href="#">May 25, 2021 memo re: Hearing sites reopening</a></p>



## Minnesota

Dates agency COVID-19 guidance issued	Status of dispute resolutions proceedings	Status of operations (i.e. forms, timeframes, etc.)	Addresses medical treatment?	Addresses compensability?	Addresses telehealth?	Website Link
<p>March 16, 2020 – May 25, 2021</p>	<p>As of March 23, 2020, the Department of Labor and Industry will conduct administrative conferences and mediations remotely by telephone or video conference. Parties also have the option of rescheduling events to a later date.</p>	<p>Operations continue, but no longer allowing walk-in customers and visits until further notice.</p> <p>E-mailing of certain documents is being temporarily allowed if specified requirements are met; however, do not email the forms that can already be submitted on-line.</p> <p>The Department reminds employers, insurers and claim administrators that a layoff due to the COVID-19 pandemic is not a reason to discontinue workers' compensation benefits. A notice of intent to discontinue workers' compensation benefits (NOID) No. 3 must state the date of intended discontinuance and clearly indicate the reason for the action.</p>	<p>Until further notice, DLI will not take enforcement action against any QRC who conducts a rehab consultation with an injured worker by telephone or video.</p> <p>Beginning March 23, 2020 until rescinded, all non-essential or elective surgeries and procedures that utilize PPE or ventilators are postponed unless delay will result in threat to life or permanent dysfunction.</p> <p>Executive order signed to allow hospitals, ambulatory surgical centers, and clinics to resume currently delayed procedures effective May 10, 2020</p>	<p>House Bill 4537 creates a rebuttable presumption effective April 8, 2020 that first responders and other specified employees including those in health care who contract COVID-19 have an occupational disease brought on by employment. Dept. of Labor and Industry <a href="#">FAQ</a> updated to reflect new law.</p> <p>The sunset date for this presumption is moved from May 1, 2021 to <b>December 31, 2021</b> by House File 2253.</p>	<p>Executive order issued to resume elective surgeries strongly encourages use of telehealth whenever possible.</p>	<p><a href="#">House Bill 4537</a></p> <p><a href="#">FAQ re: House Bill 4537</a></p> <p><a href="#">FAQ for employers and employees related to COVID-19</a></p> <p><a href="#">Emergency Executive Order 20-09 directing postponement of non-essential or elective surgeries</a></p> <p><a href="#">Emergency Executive Order 20-51</a></p> <p><a href="#">Suspected or Confirmed Cases of COVID-19 in the Workplace</a></p> <p><a href="#">Emailing of certain documents temporarily allowed</a></p> <p><a href="#">Minnesota COVID-19 worker' compensation claims statistics</a></p> <p><a href="#">House File 2253</a></p>

## Mississippi

Dates agency COVID-19 guidance issued	Status of dispute resolutions proceedings	Status of operations (i.e. forms, timeframes, etc.)	Addresses medical treatment?	Addresses compensability?	Addresses telehealth?	Website Link
March 16, 2020 – May 21, 2021	As much as reasonable Administrative Judge hearings will be conducted telephonically. All settlements are to be mailed or filed through ATOS with all required signatures. Expect delays. Claimant signatures must either be notarized or include a copy of claimant's driver's license or ID and a sworn statement certifying claimant signed the petition. Attorneys may electronically sign their statement and include MS Bar number.	Commission was closed to the public from March 26 thru June 12, 2020, but operations continued with limited staff.	<p>Commission will not approve telemedicine IMEs or EMEs at this time.</p> <p>All surgeries and procedures that are not immediately medically necessary are postponed from March 19 – April 27, 2020.</p> <p>Health Alert issued May 7, 2020 indicated all elective procedures and surgeries allowed to resume May 11, 2020 under specified guidelines.</p> <p>State Health Officer issued <a href="#">Order</a> postponing non-urgent surgeries and procedures requiring hospitalization from July 12, 2020 until beyond July 20, 2020.</p>	No	<p>The Mississippi Workers' Compensation Commission temporarily expanded its 2019 Medical Fee Schedule rules for telemedicine services from March 16 until June 30, 2020.</p> <p>The Commission will not approve telemedicine IME or EMEs at this time.</p>	<p><a href="https://mwcc.ms.gov/pdf/AttorneyCommunication.pdf">https://mwcc.ms.gov/pdf/AttorneyCommunication.pdf</a></p> <p><a href="#">Bulletin regarding Telemedicine during COVID-19 Crisis</a></p> <p><a href="#">Appendix P for Telemedicine Codes</a></p> <p><a href="#">Mississippi Workers' Compensation Commission Policies and Procedures</a></p> <p><a href="#">Mississippi Health Alert: Postpone Elective Medical Procedures and Non-Essential Medical Visits</a></p> <p><a href="#">Executive Order No. 1470 on Postponement of surgeries and procedures not immediately medically necessary</a></p> <p><a href="#">Communication to WC Community Update May 11, 2020</a></p>

## Missouri

Dates agency COVID-19 guidance issued	Status of dispute resolutions proceedings	Status of operations (i.e. forms, timeframes, etc.)	Addresses medical treatment?	Addresses compensability?	Addresses telehealth?	Website Link
<p>March 16, 2020 – May 21, 2021</p>	<p>All in-person docket settings and trials were canceled through April 17, 2020. All conferences, pre-hearings and show cause dismissal settings were cancelled from April 20 through May 29, 2020.</p> <p>Division scheduling hearings by teleconference, videoconference and in-person settings with priority given to emergency hearings, PTD, and some complex PPDs where credibility and liability are at issue. Other type hearings and complex mediations may be scheduled as time/space allowed.</p> <p><i>Pro se</i> claimant signature must be notarized after telephone appearance before an ALJ.</p>	<p>The DWC continues offer most services remotely and electronically with some in-person matters heard by appointment only.</p> <p>Effective March 27, 2020 payment made be made by electronic transfer or other manner authorized agreed to by claimant that will not result in a delay in payment or transaction fees to the claimant.</p>	<p>No</p>	<p>Emergency rule, <a href="#">8, MO ADC 50-5.005</a>, adopted to create a retroactive rebuttable presumption that law enforcement officers, firefighters or emergency medical technicians (EMTs), who have contracted or been quarantined for COVID-19 have an occupational disease arising out of and in the course of their employment. This rule is effective April 22, 2020 and expires Feb. 1, 2021.</p> <p>A new <a href="#">emergency rule</a> effective Feb. 1, 2021 continues protections related to the COVID-19 public health emergency. This rule directs that an affirmation from the employer of a first responder that job duties were such as to create an exposure to COVID-19 not typically required of general public may be relied upon as competent and substantial evidence that occupational exposure was the prevailing factor in causing disability or death due to COVID-19. <b>Expires July 30, 2021.</b></p>	<p>No</p>	<p><a href="https://labor.mo.gov/sites/labor/files/3.16.20DWC_Covid-19_Notice.pdf">https://labor.mo.gov/sites/labor/files/3.16.20DWC_Covid-19_Notice.pdf</a></p> <p><a href="https://labor.mo.gov/sites/labor/files/3.19.20%20UPDATED%20DWC%20COVID-19%20Notice.pdf">https://labor.mo.gov/sites/labor/files/3.19.20%20UPDATED%20DWC%20COVID-19%20Notice.pdf</a></p> <p><a href="#">EFT and Electronic Benefit Payments Allowed</a></p> <p><a href="#">Emergency Rule regarding Presumption of Occupational Disease for First Responders</a></p> <p><a href="#">DWC Operational Update June 22, 2020</a></p> <p><a href="#">Emergency Rule Jan. 15, 2021</a></p>

## Montana

Dates agency COVID-19 guidance issued	Status of dispute resolutions proceedings	Status of operations (i.e. forms, timeframes, etc.)	Addresses medical treatment?	Addresses compensability?	Addresses telehealth?	Website Link
March 19–25, 2020	Workers' compensation court is accepting electronic filings accepted at: <a href="mailto:dliwccfilings@mt.gov">dliwccfilings@mt.gov</a> .	Operations continue.	No	Montana Dept. of Labor & Industry provides FAQ regarding compensability for COVID-19 as well as a tool that compares various eligibility scenarios including workers' compensation.	No	<a href="#">Montana Workers' Compensation Coverage COVID-19 FAQ</a>  <a href="#">COVID-19 Scenarios &amp; Benefits Available</a>  <a href="#">COVID-19 Office Status Update</a>

## Nebraska

Dates agency COVID-19 guidance issued	Status of dispute resolutions proceedings	Status of operations (i.e. forms, timeframes, etc.)	Addresses medical treatment?	Addresses compensability?	Addresses telehealth?	Website Link
March 17, 2020 – May 25, 2021	<p>Court were not allowed to close unless or until Chief Justice of Nebraska Supreme Court issued an order. E-File with the Nebraska Workers' Compensation Court requested as much as possible.</p> <p>Trials held live and in-person unless video is requested and ordered by the trial judge.</p> <p>Mask guidance provided by Administrative Orders dated Nov. 10 and Dec. 28, 2020 <a href="#">rescinded May 25, 2021</a>.</p>	No	<p>On April 3, 2020, elective medical and dental procedures prohibited unless done to preserve the patient's life or physical health.</p> <p>Effective May 4, 2020, elective surgeries may resume if hospital and healthcare facilities meet requirements for bed capacity and have adequate PPE.</p>	No	No	<a href="https://www.wcc.ne.gov/home/court-news/2020-2-news">https://www.wcc.ne.gov/home/court-news/2020-2-news</a>  <a href="#">Nebraska Supreme Court administrative order regarding novel coronavirus and COVID-19 disease 05-21-2021</a>  <a href="#">Administration/emergency/adminorder040620.pdf</a>  <a href="#">Directed Health Measure Order 2020-009</a>  <a href="#">Gov. announcement to relax health measures</a>  <a href="#">Message to attorneys regarding trials in the Nebraska Workers' Compensation Court</a>

## Nevada

Dates agency COVID-19 guidance issued	Status of dispute resolutions proceedings	Status of operations (i.e. forms, timeframes, etc.)	Addresses medical treatment?	Addresses compensability?	Addresses telehealth?	Website Link
<p>March 19, 2020 – Sept. 5, 2020</p>	<p>Time limits set by statute or regulation for appeals in Dept. of Administration Hearings Divisions are extended from April 1, 2020 until 30 days from date state of emergency is terminated. See Notice of Declaration Directive 009 (revised)</p> <p>Time tolled recommenced effective July 31, 2020. See Notice of Declaration 026</p>	<p>Beginning March 17, 2020 offices will be closed to walk-in traffic until further notice. Essential services provided on-line, via telephone and by e-mail.</p> <p>Nevada businesses that owed a debt to Workers' Compensation Section allowed to postpone payments due between March 25, 2020 and May 29, 2020.</p> <p>All licenses and permits issued by the State of Nevada, Boards, Commissions, Agencies, or political subdivisions, that expired between March 12, 2020 and June 30, 2020 was deemed valid and expired on Sept. 28, 2020. See Notice of Declaration 026</p> <p>PEOs licenses that expired between April 1, 2020 and June 30, 2020 deemed valid and expired Sept. 28, 2020. See Notice of Declaration 026</p>	<p>No</p>	<p>No</p>	<p>No</p>	<p><a href="#">DIR Office Closure</a></p> <p><a href="#">WCS Payment Extension Notice</a></p> <p><a href="#">Notice of Declaration of Emergency Directive 009 (Revised)</a></p> <p><a href="#">Nevada Division of Insurance Guidance for Workers' Compensation Insurers Regarding Effects of the COVID-19 Emergency</a></p> <p><a href="#">Notice of Declaration of Emergency Directive 026 Related to Legal Proceedings, Permits and Licenses: Workers' Compensation Section</a></p>

## New Hampshire

Dates agency COVID-19 guidance issued	Status of dispute resolutions proceedings	Status of operations (i.e. forms, timeframes, etc.)	Addresses medical treatment?	Addresses compensability?	Addresses telehealth?	Website Link
<p>March 19, 2020 – May 28, 2021</p>	<p>Dept. is not conducting in person hearings. This applies to all administrative hearings at the Department. Scheduled hearings will be conducted either by Cisco WebEx video or telephone conference.</p> <p>Parties scheduled to appear for a 1<sup>st</sup> level workers' compensation hearing or wage hearings are encouraged to email <a href="mailto:DOLhearings@dol.nh.gov">DOLhearings@dol.nh.gov</a> with any questions.</p> <p>Questions regarding the scheduling of a Workers' Compensation Appeals Board hearing should be directed to <a href="mailto:Danielle.Albert@dol.nh.gov">Danielle.Albert@dol.nh.gov</a> and <a href="mailto:Terry.Beyer@dol.nh.gov">Terry.Beyer@dol.nh.gov</a></p>	<p>Operations continue but closed to public. You can call 603-271-3176 or 603-271-3177 for questions. There is staff in the building if you need to pick up or drop off documents.</p>	<p>No</p>	<p>On April 24, 2020, Governor Chris Sununu issued <a href="#">Emergency Order 36</a> that effective immediately created a prima facie or rebuttable presumption that a first responder's COVID-19 exposure and infection is occupationally related. The Order defines "first responder." <b>This Order remains in effect for the duration of the state of emergency declared in Executive Order 2020-04 extended on May 28, 2021 for 14 days by Executive Order 2021-10. Presumption has now expired, and burden of proof has shifted back to injured employee.</b></p> <p>On June 17, 2020 <a href="#">Emergency Order 53</a> was issued to amend Emergency Order 36. This order adds any member of the New Hampshire National Guard ordered into active state service. All other provisions of Emergency Order 36 remain in full force and effect.</p>		<p><a href="https://www.nh.gov/labor/index.htm">https://www.nh.gov/labor/index.htm</a></p> <p><a href="#">Executive Order 36</a></p> <p><a href="#">Executive Order 53</a></p> <p><a href="#">Executive Order 2021-90</a></p> <p><a href="#">Executive Order 2021-10</a></p>

## New Jersey

Dates agency COVID-19 guidance issued	Status of dispute resolutions proceedings	Status of operations (i.e. forms, timeframes, etc.)	Addresses medical treatment?	Addresses compensability?	Addresses telehealth?	Website Link
March 16, 2020 – May 28, 2021	<p>All workers' comp court calendars suspended from March 17 thru April 3, 2020. While courts remain closed to the public and non-essential court personnel until further notice, on April 6, 2020 judges began hearing matters by telephone or video conferencing, including settlements. In person workers' compensation court limited to extremely emergent matters and certain on-going motions for medical and temporary benefits and trials, in which case social distancing will be enforced.</p> <p>Filings are accepted electronically through COURTS On-line.</p>	<p>Operations continue.</p> <p>Executive Order No. 159 extended various statutory deadlines, including allowing workers' compensation insurers 60 days after the public health emergency ends to notify the Second Injury Fund of the need to supplement death benefits.</p> <p><a href="#">Assembly Bill 5820</a> signed by Gov. on June 3, 2021, in part terminates all but 14 executive orders in 30 days with the remaining in place until Jan. 1, 2022 unless modified or rescinded. Also authorizes continued issuance of orders, directives, and waivers under the authority of the Emergency Health Powers Act until Jan. 11, 2022 to prevent the transmission of COVID-19. <a href="#">Executive Order 244</a> immediately signed ending the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency</p>	<p>All elective surgeries that can be delayed without undue risk to current or future health of patient suspended as of March 27, 2020 to preserve PPE.</p> <p>Executive Order No. 145 allows elective surgeries and invasive procedures, both medical and dental, to resume on May 26, 2020 at 5 am. These procedures will resume according to policies issued by the New Jersey Dept. of Health and the Division of Consumer Affairs.</p> <p>An <a href="#">update</a> on restarting elective procedures for hospitals, ambulatory surgery centers and dental offices issued Dec. 11, 2020.</p>	<p>Senate Bill 2380 signed Sept. 14, 2020 creates a rebuttable presumption for "essential employees" that the contraction of COVID-19 is work-related and compensable under workers' comp retroactively to March 9, 2020.</p> <p>"Essential employee" is defined and includes public safety workers; medical and health care providers; essential employees whose jobs involve physical proximity to public or as defined by executive order.</p>	No	<p><a href="#">Suspension of all Workers' Compensation Court Calendars</a></p> <p><a href="#">Limited Reopening of Workers' Comp Courts</a></p> <p><a href="#">Workers' Comp Court Closed to Public until April 27, 2020</a></p> <p><a href="#">Workers' Comp Closed to Public until May 11, 2020</a></p> <p><a href="#">Workers' Comp Court Closed to Public until May 26, 2020</a></p> <p><a href="#">Workers' Comp Court Closed to Public until June 8, 2020</a></p> <p><a href="#">Executive Order 109 Suspending Elective Surgeries, Invasive Procedures</a></p> <p><a href="#">Executive Order 145</a></p> <p><a href="#">Workers' Comp Court Closed to Public until further notice July 10, 2020</a></p> <p><a href="#">Executive Order No. 159</a></p> <p><a href="#">Senate Bill 2380</a></p> <p><a href="#">Senate Bill 2476</a></p> <p><a href="#">Assembly Bill 5820</a></p> <p><a href="#">Executive Order 244</a></p>

## New Mexico

Dates agency COVID-19 guidance issued	Status of dispute resolutions proceedings	Status of operations (i.e. forms, timeframes, etc.)	Addresses medical treatment?	Addresses compensability?	Addresses telehealth?	Website Link
<p>March 12, 2020 – April 15, 2021</p>	<p>As of April 12, 2021, the WCA Clerk’s Office reopened for in-person services.</p> <p>Effective March 13, 2020, the WCA cancelled Lump Sum Tuesdays and trials.</p> <p>As of April 17, 2020, became Lump Sum Fridays. All Director’s Hearings scheduled before workers’ comp judges and mediations converted from in-person to telephonic or via internet web platform.</p> <p>Employers’ counsel required to set up and provide call- in info to all parties. Employers also responsible for cost and arrangement of qualified interpreters. However, trial judge may schedule evidentiary and formal hearings for telephonic or video oral arguments.</p>	<p>Operations continue with limited on-site operations.</p> <p>Beginning March 24, 2020 all WCA transactions conducted telephonically.</p> <p>Ombudsman hotline remained active for callers in Albuquerque and at field locations statewide.</p>	<p>Effective March 27, 2020 for duration of Executive Order 2020-004, all hospitals, ambulatory surgical facilities, and other health care facilities were prohibited from providing non-essential health care services, procedures, and surgeries.</p> <p>On April 30, 2020 a <a href="#">public health order</a> was issued that provided conditions under which medical providers could gradually resume operations. This guidance remained in effect until a <a href="#">public order</a> reimposed the prohibition on non-essential surgeries from Dec. 11 through Jan. 4 2021</p>	<p><a href="#">Executive Order 2020-25</a> directs all state executive agencies to employ a presumption that specified agency employees and eligible volunteers who contract COVID-19 suffered a compensable occupational disease under the New Mexico Occupational Disease Disablement Law. As used in the Order, “eligible volunteer” means any volunteer or contractor temporarily assisting the state during the COVID-19 emergency. This presumption applies if COVID-19 is contracted within two weeks of providing direct care or assistance to COVID-19 patients, or within two weeks of working in inside a facility that provides direct care, assistance, or housing to COVID-19 patients. According to the Order. Local governments and/or insurers are only encouraged to adopt this workers’ compensation presumption.</p>	<p>On March 25, 2020, Director’s Order issued to provide guidance on use of telemedicine, including billing.</p> <p>The order remained in place until the implementation of the 2021 Health Care Providers’ Fee schedule effective Jan. 1, 2021.</p>	<p><a href="https://workerscomp.nm.gov/Communications">https://workerscomp.nm.gov/Communications</a></p> <p><a href="https://workerscomp.nm.gov/sites/default/files/documents/publications/Telemedicine_Directive.pdf">https://workerscomp.nm.gov/sites/default/files/documents/publications/Telemedicine_Directive.pdf</a></p> <p><a href="#">Public Health Order imposing temporary restrictions on non-essential health care services</a></p> <p><a href="#">Lump Sum Announcement April 8, 2020</a></p> <p><a href="#">Executive Order 2020-25</a></p>



## New York

Dates agency COVID-19 guidance issued	Status of dispute resolutions proceedings	Status of operations (i.e. forms, timeframes, etc.)	Addresses medical treatment?	Addresses compensability?	Addresses telehealth?	Website Link
<p>March 15, 2020 – April 15, 2021</p>	<p>Effective March 17, 2020, all hearings by remote attendance thru the Board’s virtual hearings. Board will consider exercising its discretion for late filings by either party due to the coronavirus outbreak.</p> <p><a href="#">Original handwritten signature requirements</a> waived during COVID-19 pandemic. Attestations to be submitted by claimants, attorneys, payers and administrators during the state of emergency.</p> <p>Due to closure of State Offices in response to the COVID-19 outbreak, the <a href="#">Board will accept service of subpoenas</a> at this time only by mail.</p> <p>Extensions will no longer be granted for completion and submission of depositions as of April 21, 2021 without a stated valid reason for request submitted prior to initial deposition.</p>	<p>Board locations closed March 17, 2020 but operations continued remotely.</p> <p>Regarding compliance with 90-day medical evidence requirement, Board will consider assertion of inability to secure required medical report due to outbreak. Benefits also not to be suspended if claimant offers reasonable excuse for failure to attend IME.</p> <p>Penalties payable to Board may be waived.</p> <p>Board announced not requiring injured workers to demonstrate labor market attachment during the disaster emergency in the state of New York. Requirement will be reviewed upon declaration that period of emergency is over. Issue will be adjourned during period emergency in cases ready for permanency classification if issue raised.</p>	<p>Board will consider if carrier is impeded in acquiring IMEs due to coronavirus outbreak.</p> <p>In a <a href="#">speech</a> on March 21, 2020, Gov. Cuomo ordered cancellation of all elective surgeries starting March 25, 2020. In an announcement on April 21, 2020 Gov. Cuomo stated that outpatient treatments could resume in counties and hospitals without significant risk of a COVID-19 surge.</p> <p>On April 7, 2021 <a href="#">Section 329-1.3(d) of Title 12 NYCRR permanently adopted to allow reimbursement for COVID-19 testing</a> when there is a claim for workers' compensation benefits due to workplace exposure to COVID-19. Previous emergency rule. See <a href="#">Subject No. 046-1347</a>.</p> <p>IME Extensions (EC-81.7) will no longer be granted as of April 21, 2021 without stated valid reason timely submitted.</p>	<p>On April 15, 2020, NYS Workers’ Compensation Board issued letter to Carriers and Payers of Workers’ Compensation urging that investigations be conducted as quickly as possible; claims be reviewed carefully and liability accepted whenever legally required; using payment without accepting liability instead of denial if unsure of compensability and using Rocket-Docket procedures to resolve denied claims.</p> <p>COVID-19 &amp; Workers’ Compensation Q&amp;A provides information on work environments more likely to result in COVID-19 clams and the information needed to show that a COVID-19 claim is work related.</p>	<p><a href="#">Board adopted emergency regulations</a> to allow telemedicine visits to authorized providers when medically appropriate effective for 90 days upon filing March 16, 2020. See <a href="#">Subject No. 046-1313</a>; <a href="#">Subject No. 046-1344</a>; <a href="#">Subject No. 046-1361</a></p> <p>Emergency Rule has been extended since that time. Last extension <a href="#">filed April 13, 2021 for 90 days</a></p>	<p><a href="http://www.wcb.ny.gov/content/main/TheBoard/WCB-Response-COVID-19.jsp">http://www.wcb.ny.gov/content/main/TheBoard/WCB-Response-COVID-19.jsp</a></p> <p><a href="#">Notice of Remote Hearings and Board Offices Closure</a></p> <p><a href="#">Labor Market Attachment During COVID-19 Pandemic</a></p> <p><a href="#">Emergency Relief from Original Signature Requirements on Listed Documents</a></p> <p><a href="#">NYS Workers’ Compensation Board COVID-19 Outbreak Response 4-20</a></p> <p><a href="#">NYS Workers’ Compensation Board to Carriers and Payers of Workers’ Compensation</a></p> <p><a href="#">COVID-19 &amp; Workers’ Compensation Q&amp;A</a></p> <p><a href="#">Service of Subpoenas on the Workers’ Compensation Board during the Coronavirus Shutdown</a></p> <p><a href="#">NYS Workers’ Compensation Board COVID-19 Response Update 9-20</a></p> <p><a href="#">Extensions for submission of IME for Permanent Injury or depositions to develop record 03-22-2021</a></p>

## North Carolina

Dates agency COVID-19 guidance issued	Status of dispute resolutions proceedings	Status of operations (i.e. forms, timeframes, etc.)	Addresses medical treatment?	Addresses compensability?	Addresses telehealth?	Website Link
March 13, 2020 – May 14, 2021	<p>All hearings to be heard on or after March 16, 2020 thru April 2020, except medical motion hearings were reset unless notified otherwise. All Full Commission oral arguments were conducted by conference call. <a href="#">In-person hearing guidelines</a> issued July 16, 2020.</p> <p>Mediations prior to April 13, 2020 conducted remotely or rescheduled. Effective June 16, 2020 mediations to be held remotely unless all parties agree to conduct in person or ordered by Commission.</p> <p>Agreements signed via DocuSign or written affirmation accepted in lieu of notarization.</p> <p>In-person mediations and hearing postponed from Dec. 14, 2020 thru Jan. 14, 2021.</p> <p>As of May 14, 2021, decisions related to face masks left to discretion of local courts.</p>	<p>Commission operations continue. To contact Claims Section, email inquiry to: <a href="mailto:claimsadm@ic.nc.gov">claimsadm@ic.nc.gov</a>. To contact Information Specialists, email inquiry to: <a href="mailto:infospec@ic.nc.gov">infospec@ic.nc.gov</a>.</p> <p>All form filing requirements including EDI and EDP remain in effect.</p>	<p>Effective March 23 thru April 30, 2020, medical motion hearings to be held remotely.</p> <p>Additionally, hospitals and ambulatory surgery centers have been asked to suspend all elective and non-urgent surgeries and procedures effective March 23, 2020.</p> <p>Effective May 1, 2020, elective and non-urgent procedures and surgeries allowed to resume in accordance with guidance developed by the North Carolina Healthcare Association and additional considerations in letter.</p>	No	Commission issued FAQ indicating telehealth visits are allowed.	<p><a href="https://www.ic.nc.gov/">https://www.ic.nc.gov/</a></p> <p><a href="https://www.ic.nc.gov/COVID-19%20FAQs%20from%20Health%20Care%20Providers.pdf">https://www.ic.nc.gov/COVID-19%20FAQs%20from%20Health%20Care%20Providers.pdf</a></p> <p><a href="https://files.nc.gov/ncdhs/COVID-19-Elective-Surgeries.pdf">https://files.nc.gov/ncdhs/COVID-19-Elective-Surgeries.pdf</a></p> <p><a href="#">Elective surgeries update of May 1, 2020</a></p> <p><a href="#">Industrial Commission Mediation Policies per 11 NCAC 23G.0104-Emergency Rule Amendment eff. 6-16-2020</a></p> <p><a href="#">Emergency Directive 21: Guidelines for In-person Hearings 07-16-2020</a></p> <p><a href="#">Temporary Mediation Rule (11 NCAC 23G.0104) 08-20-2020</a></p> <p><a href="#">Emergency Directive 1 of the Dec. 14, 2020 Order of the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of North Carolina</a></p> <p><a href="#">Revised Industrial Commission Guidelines for Face Coverings at In-Person Hearings 05-14-2021</a></p>

## North Dakota

Dates agency COVID-19 guidance issued	Status of dispute resolutions proceedings	Status of operations (i.e. forms, timeframes, etc.)	Addresses medical treatment?	Addresses compensability?	Addresses telehealth?	Website Link
March 16, 2020 – May 21, 2021	No change announced.	Claims handled by monopolistic state agency.	No	<p>Effective March 25, 2020, by order workers' comp extended for first responders and front-line health care providers with COVID-19. Order amended on April 16, 2020 to include funeral service personnel. WSI issued revised FAQ for employees April 17, 2020.</p> <p>On July 28, 2020, eligibility for the presumption extended effective July 1, 2020 to providers of direct treatment, care, programs, or services to individuals with intellectual or developmental disabilities. The Order is effective for the duration of the state of emergency.</p> <p><a href="#">Executive Order 2021-09</a> rescinds COVID-19 State of Emergency effective <b>April 30, 2021</b>, which terminates the presumptions.</p>	<p>WSI temporarily expanded eligible telemedicine services, including therapy services during the duration of the emergency declaration.</p> <p>Emergency declaration terminated <b>April 30, 2021</b>.</p>	<p><a href="https://www.workforcesafety.com/sites/www/files/documents/employers/resources/WSI%20COVID%20Employers.pdf">https://www.workforcesafety.com/sites/www/files/documents/employers/resources/WSI%20COVID%20Employers.pdf</a></p> <p><a href="https://www.workforcesafety.com/sites/www/files/documents/claims/WSI%20COVID%20Exec%20Order%20Employees.pdf">https://www.workforcesafety.com/sites/www/files/documents/claims/WSI%20COVID%20Exec%20Order%20Employees.pdf</a></p> <p><a href="#">Executive Order 2020-12.1 to add funeral service personnel</a></p> <p><a href="#">Coronavirus (COVID-19) FAQ for Employees</a></p> <p><a href="#">Coronavirus (COVID-19) FAQ for Employers</a></p> <p><a href="#">Coronavirus (COVID-19) for Medical Providers</a></p> <p><a href="#">Executive Order 2021-09</a></p>

## Ohio

Dates agency COVID-19 guidance issued	Status of dispute resolutions proceedings	Status of operations (i.e. forms, timeframes, etc.)	Addresses medical treatment?	Addresses compensability?	Addresses telehealth?	Website Link
<p>March 12, 2020 – March 24, 2021</p>	<p>All hearings suspended March 16-17, 2020. Agency started telephonic hearings on March 18, 2020.</p> <p>Section 22 (A)(1)(c) of House Bill 197 tolls the statute of limitations for any applicable administrative action or proceeding as provided under the Revised Code or the Administrative Code that are set to expire between March 9, and July 30, 2020.</p> <p>On March 27, 2020 the Supreme Court of Ohio also issued an <a href="#">order</a> tolling all deadlines established by the Ohio Rules of Court, with limited exceptions.</p> <p>Any oath or an affirmation required by a rule of the Court allowed to be administered remotely by use of audio or video communication technology if person taking oath can be positively identify person.</p>	<p>Bureau operations continue. Face-to-face audits have been suspended and scheduled paper and virtual audits will continue.</p> <p>Bureau waived all safety education and training for July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020 for private and public employers during calendar year 2019.</p> <p>Penalties for late paid self-insured semi-annual assessments that were due Feb. 28, 2020 were waived, but waiver does not apply to future semi-annual assessments.</p> <p>Tolls statutes of limitations set to expire between March 9 and July 30, 2020. See House Bill 197, Section 22.</p>	<p>Gov. issued order March 18, 2020 postponing elective surgeries and procedures in Ohio's hospitals to conserve personal protective equipment (PPE) until end of state of emergency.</p> <p>On April 22, 2020 elective surgery order directed healthcare providers to review any postponed procedures or surgeries with patients. Order requires patients be informed of the risk of contracting COVID-19 and impact during the post-operative recovery process.</p>	<p>Bureau FAQ addresses workers' compensation compensability.</p>	<p>Temporary telehealth policy change initiated to allow flexibility in provision of care effective until the state of emergency related to COVID-19 is lifted.</p>	<p><a href="http://www.ic.ohio.gov/news/news2020/news03_20.html">http://www.ic.ohio.gov/news/news2020/news03_20.html</a></p> <p><a href="#">Ohio Bureau of Workers' Compensation Temporary Telehealth Policy – COVID-19 State of Emergency</a></p> <p><a href="#">Director's Order for the Management of Non-essential Surgeries and Procedures throughout Ohio</a></p> <p><a href="#">COVID-19 Elective Surgery Update</a></p> <p><a href="#">House Bill 197</a></p> <p><a href="#">COVID-19 FAQ updated March 24, 2021</a></p>

## Oklahoma

Dates agency COVID-19 guidance issued	Status of dispute resolutions proceedings	Status of operations (i.e. forms, timeframes, etc.)	Addresses medical treatment?	Addresses compensability?	Addresses telehealth?	Website Link
<p>March 15, 2020 – June 18, 2021</p>	<p>All Commission dockets in Oklahoma City and Tulsa stricken until April 30, 2020. During that period, if parties unable to resolve an issue by agreement the ALJ was available by e-mail to address issues that could be resolved remotely. Cases reset.</p> <p>Effective March 30, 2020 alternative process to effectuate approval of joint petition settlements started.</p> <p>Filing deadlines, including statutes of limitations, extended to May 15, 2020. Deadlines enforced beginning May 16, 2020.</p> <p>In-person appellate proceeding resumed on May 22, 2020.</p> <p>Guidelines issued for all in-person trials starting June 1, 2020.</p> <p><a href="#">July 6, 2021 in-person appearances for Prehearing Conferences (PHC's) in assigned venue resume.</a></p>	<p>Administrative offices in Oklahoma City and Tulsa were closed March 16-27, 2020. Offices reopened in limited capacity March 30, 2020.</p> <p>Payments accepted via on-line payment portal.</p> <p>Form filings to be sent via mail to 1915 North Stiles Ave., Oklahoma City, OK 73105 and electronically where available. If file copies needed a self-addressed envelope to be included.</p> <p>Effective April 10, 2020 forms may also be sent to <a href="mailto:records@wcc.ok.gov">records@wcc.ok.gov</a>.</p> <p><a href="#">OWCC announced on Nov. 13, 2020</a> that all in-person processes modified to remote electronic and telephonic methods.</p> <p><a href="#">OWCC Alert re: Masks and other Health and Safety Procedures on WCC Premises effective April 30, 2021.</a></p>	<p>Per Executive Order, all elective surgeries, minor medical procedures are to be postponed from March 24 thru April 24, 2020.</p> <p>Beginning April 24, 2020 any procedure for conditions that are not life-threatening and which, if not provided would have the potential for increasing morbidity can be performed. All minor medical procedures and non-emergency outpatient surgeries and dental procedures may resume.</p>	<p>No</p>	<p>Executive Order indicates telemedicine to be used to maximum potential and allowed for non-established patients for the purposes of the COVID-19 response.</p> <p>The <a href="#">Oklahoma 2020 Medical Fee Schedule effective July 1, 2020</a> indicates modifier 95 to be appended to services listed in Appendix P of CPT 2020, which are codes for services typically performed face-to-face but may be rendered via a real-time interactive audio and video telecommunications system.</p>	<p><a href="https://www.ok.gov/wcc/">https://www.ok.gov/wcc/</a></p> <p><a href="https://www.ok.gov/wcc/documents/WCC%203-17-2020%20WCC%20Agency%20Closure%20Update%20.pdf">https://www.ok.gov/wcc/documents/WCC%203-17-2020%20WCC%20Agency%20Closure%20Update%20.pdf</a></p> <p><a href="#">Executive Dept. Second Amended Executive Order 2020-13</a></p> <p><a href="#">Alert Regarding Electronic Submission of Filings</a></p> <p><a href="#">Process for Approval of Joint Petition Settlements</a></p> <p><a href="#">Executive Memorandum 2020-02 establishing priorities for elective surgeries reinstated April 24, 2020</a></p> <p><a href="#">Executive Order 2020-13</a></p> <p><a href="#">WCC Lifts Stay of Filing Deadlines and Statutes of Limitations for Commission Cases and Appeals</a></p> <p><a href="#">Interim Guidance for Commission Appellate Proceedings</a></p> <p><a href="#">Interim Guidelines for Trials</a></p>

## Oregon

Dates agency COVID-19 guidance issued	Status of dispute resolutions proceedings	Status of operations (i.e. forms, timeframes, etc.)	Addresses medical treatment?	Addresses compensability?	Addresses telehealth?	Website Link
<p>March 17, 2020 – Feb. 1, 2021</p>	<p>Hearings have resumed telephonically.</p> <p>On Sept. 14, 2020 the WCB started accepting requests for video hearings using Zoom for Government and mediations.</p>	<p>Office is closed to the public, but the Division is available by phone or mail.</p> <p>Advises that temporary disability continues until changed by attending physician.</p> <p>Will consider impact on COVID-19 where there is discretion to penalize or take action.</p>	<p>From March 23 thru June 15, 2020, all elective and non-urgent procedures across all care settings that utilize PPD must be cancelled or rescheduled no earlier than June 15, 2020.</p> <p>Ban lifted effective May 1, 2020 if specific guidelines met.</p> <p>Division adopted a temporary rule regarding new CPT codes for coronavirus testing effective July 13, 2020 until September 20, 2020</p>	<p>The Oregon Workers' Compensation Division (WCD) adopted <a href="#">permanent changes to OAR 436-060-0140(1) effective Feb. 1, 2021</a> intended to promote appropriate and consistent processing of claims for COVID-19 exposure. The new rule provides that insurers must conduct a "reasonable investigation" before denying any claim and describes steps for a "reasonable investigation" for COVID-19 or exposure to SARS-CoV-2. This new rule also provides the process for the division to audit denied claims related to COVID-19 to ensure a "reasonable review or investigation" was conducted. Previously on Sept. 30, 2020, WCD issued a temporary change to this rule. Audits started Oct. 2020.</p> <p>WCD developed an <a href="#">informational flier</a> to address COVID-19 and workers' compensation for workers and employers.</p>	<p>Division encourages when possible and medically appropriate use of telehealth to replace in-person visits.</p> <p>Temporary fee schedule increases rates for certain telehealth services provided on or after March 8, 2020.</p>	<p><a href="#">WCD COVID-19 Processes Update</a></p> <p><a href="#">WCD COVID-19 Claims Processing Industry Notice</a></p> <p><a href="#">Guidance to self-insured employers on payments to employees of businesses closed due to pandemic</a></p> <p><a href="#">Executive Order 20-10 to Preserve PPE</a></p> <p><a href="#">OHA Framework for Restarting Non-Emergent and Elective Procedures in Hospitals and Ambulatory Surgery Centers</a></p> <p><a href="#">OHA Framework for Restarting Non-Emergent and Elective Procedures in Medical and Dental Offices</a></p> <p><a href="#">Oregon Workers' Compensation Division COVID-19 updates</a></p> <p><a href="#">Announcement re: Zoom Hearings 091420</a></p> <p><a href="#">Oregon WCD COVID-19 and workers' compensational informational flier</a></p> <p><a href="#">OAR 436-060-0140(1) effective Feb. 1, 2021</a></p>

## Pennsylvania

Dates agency COVID-19 guidance issued	Status of dispute resolutions proceedings	Status of operations (i.e. forms, timeframes, etc.)	Addresses medical treatment?	Addresses compensability?	Addresses telehealth?	Website Link
<p>March 13, 2020 – May 31, 2021</p>	<p>Most judges and staff have been trained on conducting telephonic hearings. To assist with continuance of petition’s unit process, additional staff brought into process mail and printings.</p> <p>Telephonic C&amp;R approval hearings began March 16, 2020. C&amp;R are no longer required to be attested by two witnesses or a notary for duration of disaster declaration.</p> <p>Telephonic petition hearings began March 30, 2020.</p> <p>Appeals scheduled before WCAB were being decided “on briefs-only.” In accordance with Executive Order of July 10, 2020, hearings conducted by Teams for upcoming hearings.</p>	<p>Bureau operations continue. The WCAIS system is web-based so many staff members can work from home and continue to perform their daily functions.</p> <p>BWC staff requests that filing of agreements and notifications of modification/suspension be uploaded to WCAIS using the Actions Tab.</p> <p>As part of the disaster declaration, Section 413 of the Workers’ Compensation Act was suspended. An insurer may suspend or modify compensation upon notice to employee and filing with BWC. Notice must be provided within 7 days and a notarized signature of the employer is no longer required. Employee has only 20 days to contest the change in status.</p>	<p>Effective March 20, 2020 ambulatory surgical facilities not allowed to perform any elective surgeries or procedures unless the surgery or procedure would preserve organ function or avoid further harms.</p> <p>Effective April 27, 2020 hospitals and ambulatory surgery centers allowed to perform elective surgeries and procedures if an affirmative decision is made that doing so will not jeopardize the safety of patients and staff.</p> <p>Health care providers allowed to resume non-urgent and elective care in addition to providing urgent and emergency care when appropriate PPE is available, and telemedicine is not clinically sufficient.</p>	<p>Guidance on employee filing options for claims provided.</p>	<p>On March 18, 2020, the Pennsylvania Bureau of Workers’ Compensation reminded employers, employees, and healthcare providers that telemedicine and virtual care may be sought by workers’ sustaining injuries and illness for treatment.</p> <p>Department of State’s Bureau of Professional and Occupational Affairs (BPOA) released guidance clarifying that health care professional licensed under any of its licensing boards can provide services to patients via telemedicine for the duration of the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency (PHE).</p> <p>Telemedicine visits can be used for new injuries sustained in the workplace.</p>	<p><a href="#">COVID-19 Workers’ Compensation Benefits Guidance</a></p> <p><a href="#">COVID-19 Guide: Scenarios and Benefits Available Chart</a></p> <p><a href="#">Message for Director of Adjudication (March 27, 2020)</a></p> <p><a href="#">Guidance on Ambulatory Surgical Facilities’ Responses to COVID-19 April 27, 2020</a></p> <p><a href="#">Guidance of Hospitals’ Response to COVID-19 updated May 12, 2020</a></p> <p><a href="#">Guidance on COVID-19 for Health Care Providers in Pennsylvania May 9, 2020</a></p> <p><a href="#">Workers’ Compensation &amp; COVID-19 FAQs</a></p> <p><a href="#">COVID-19 Workers’ Compensation Updates</a></p> <p><a href="#">COVID-19 Workers’ Compensation Claims Statistics</a></p> <p><b>House Resolution 106 terminates March 6, 2020 proclamation of disaster June 10, 2021.</b></p> <p><b>House Bill 854 signed June 11, 2021 extends some protections of declarations until Sept. 30, 2021.</b></p>

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## Rhode Island

Dates agency COVID-19 guidance issued	Status of dispute resolutions proceedings	Status of operations (i.e. forms, timeframes, etc.)	Addresses medical treatment?	Addresses compensability?	Addresses telehealth?	Website Link
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<p>March 17 – June 18, 2021</p>	<p>From March 23, through May 17, 2020, the court conducted telephonic pretrial conferences of uncontested matters as well as commutations, denials, and dismissals.</p> <p>As of April 20, 2020, the Court hears pretrial calendar, commutations, denials and dismissals either telephonically or by video conference. By agreement of parties, the Court will hear mediations remotely.</p> <p>In lieu of employee's testimony, parties are to file an employee affidavit or interrogatories.</p> <p>The public can listen to Workers' Compensation Court hearings by courtroom as each has a telephone number and access code listed for the public to call into.</p>	<p>Operations continue.</p>	<p>All Court Impartial Medical exams are suspended through May 7, 2020.</p> <p>The suspension of all court impartial medical exams is rescinded May 11, 2020.</p> <p><a href="#">Information Letter 20-01</a> announced the addition of three COVID-19 codes to the 2020 Workers' Compensation Medical Fee Schedule: CPT code 87636 and HCPCS codes U0001 and U0002.</p>	<p>No</p>	<p>Rhode Island Insurance Division issued Bulletin 2020-5 on April 6, 2020 specifying that all insurers, regardless of type of insurance must expand access to telemedicine services as required by <a href="#">Executive Order 20-06</a>.</p> <p><a href="#">Executive Order 21-70</a> issued June 18, 2021 extends the above Order through at least July 9, 2021</p>	<p><a href="#">Workers' Compensation Court Administrative Order No. 2020-02</a></p> <p><a href="#">Dept. of Business Regulation Bulletin 2020-5 Emergency Telemedicine Measures COVI-19</a></p> <p><a href="#">Workers' Compensation Court Administrative Order No. 2020-05</a></p> <p><a href="#">Workers' Compensation Court Administrative Order No. 2020-07</a></p> <p><a href="#">DWC Information Letter 2020-01</a></p> <p><a href="#">COVID-19 Public Access to Court Hearings</a></p>
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## South Carolina

Dates agency COVID-19 guidance issued	Status of dispute resolutions proceedings	Status of operations (i.e. forms, timeframes, etc.)	Addresses medical treatment?	Addresses compensability?	Addresses telehealth?	Website Link
<p>March 17, 2020 – May 28, 2021</p>	<p>Effective March 21, 2020 all live hearings suspended until June 1, 2020, except for emergency situations. Commissioners' dockets managed in best manner possible using Court Call, telephone, and other electronic methods. Motions, pleadings, and settlements not issued electronically to be submitted by USPS. Responses to pleadings must be emailed to: <a href="mailto:judicialanalysts@wcc.sc.gov">judicialanalysts@wcc.sc.gov</a></p> <p>In-person docketed hearings and informal conferences resumed June 1, 2020. Click <a href="#">here</a> for current Advisory on In-person Hearings and Informal Conferences.</p> <p>Each party responsible for paying fee per connection to CourtCall.</p> <p><a href="#">Effective May 28, 2021 Commission</a> received grant to pay CourtCall fees for virtual hearings.</p>	<p>Commission offices reopened to the public starting July 6, 2020.</p> <p>Operations continued during the period that the office was closed to the public.</p> <p>Appointments are required to see a Commission employee. Call 803-737-5700 or email <a href="mailto:aneast@wcc.sc.gov">aneast@wcc.sc.gov</a>.</p> <p>In person delivery of documents will not be accepted until further notice. Reference <a href="#">Advisory Notice July 16, 2020</a>. Claim related documents that cannot be submitted electronically to be submitted by USPS.</p>	<p>No</p>	<p>No</p>	<p>Commission encourages use of telemedicine when possible for provision of medical care to the injured workers in April 3, 2020 notice.</p>	<p><a href="#">Commission Advisory Notice March 19, 2020</a></p> <p><a href="#">Advisory Notice re: Commissioner Hearings March 21, 2020</a></p> <p><a href="#">Advisory Notice about Court Call March 23, 2020</a></p> <p><a href="#">Advisory Notice Procedural Clarifications April 3, 2020</a></p> <p><a href="#">Commissioner's Hearings Advisory Notice April 20, 2020</a></p> <p><a href="#">Commissioner's Advisory Notice re: In-person Hearing May 12, 2020</a></p> <p><a href="#">Commissioner's Advisory Notice re: In-person Hearings and Informal Conferences</a></p> <p><a href="#">Advisory Notice CourtCall and Informal Conferences</a></p> <p><a href="#">Advisory Notice-Commission opens to Public July 6, 2020</a></p> <p><a href="#">SWCC Order</a> prohibits the recording of Commission proceedings</p>

## South Dakota

Dates agency COVID-19 guidance issued	Status of dispute resolutions proceedings	Status of operations (i.e. forms, timeframes, etc.)	Addresses medical treatment?	Addresses compensability?	Addresses telehealth?	Website Link
April 1 - 28, 2020	No changes announced.	Operations continue with non-essential personnel working remotely.	All non-essential elective surgeries were postponed from March 23 thru May 31, 2020 to conserve supplies of personal protective equipment; however, this order was rescinded April 28, 2020.	South Dakota Division of Labor provides information regarding when COVID-19 may be compensable.		<a href="#">Workers' Compensation Coverage and COVID-19</a>  <a href="#">Executive Orders 2020-08 and 2020-12</a>  <a href="#">Executive Order 2020-20 rescinding Executive Order 2020-12</a>

## Tennessee

Dates agency COVID-19 guidance issued	Status of dispute resolutions proceedings	Status of operations (i.e. forms, timeframes, etc.)	Addresses medical treatment?	Addresses compensability?	Addresses telehealth?	Website Link
<p>March 18, 2020 – April 13, 2021</p>	<p>Beginning March 23, 2020 all settlement approval hearings to be telephonic. All status, scheduling and motion hearings will be conducted by phone as scheduled. In-person expedited, and compensation hearings will occur as scheduled unless a party requests a continuance by motion.</p>	<p>Bureau operations continue telephonically. Electronic filing of documents over use of mail.</p>	<p>Bureau of Workers' Compensation suspended requirement for a face-to-face meeting to protect case managers from exposure to COVID-19 and penalties are temporarily suspended.</p> <p>Utilization Review Appeals for denied treatments continue to be processed as usual.</p> <p>From March 23 thru April 30, 2020, all healthcare professional and facilities directed to postpone surgical and invasive procedures not required to sustain life or prevent substantial impairment. Order expired.</p>	<p>Senate Bill 995/House Bill 553, signed into law April 13, 2021, added to those infectious diseases for which an emergency rescue worker is presumed to have a disability suffered in the line of duty "a virus or other communicable disease for which:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A pandemic has been declared by the World Health Organization (WHO) or the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC); and</li> <li>The governor of the state has declared a state of emergency.</li> </ul> <p>The presumption can be rebutted by a preponderance of the evidence to the contrary.</p> <p>This bill became effective upon signing.</p>	<p>Bureau issued notice indicating that physician chosen from Form 42 or a panel chosen physician may utilize telehealth in the treatment of an injured worker. Pay per CMS guidelines.</p> <p>Expansion of billable services expanded under CMS Telehealth waiver is effective for the Tennessee Bureau of Workers' Compensation upon implementation by CMS.</p> <p>Tennessee regulations suspended to the extent necessary to allow services provided by a physical therapist, occupational therapist, or speech pathologist to be delivered via telemedicine.</p>	<p><a href="#">Face-to-Face Meetings Temporarily Waived for Case Managers March 18, 2020</a></p> <p><a href="#">BWC Operations Update March 19, 2020</a></p> <p><a href="#">Telehealth-for-workplace-injuries March 25, 2020</a></p> <p><a href="#">Temporary-guidance-on-telehealth-for-workers-compensation April 1, 2020</a></p> <p><a href="#">Executive Order 25</a></p> <p><a href="#">Executive Order 32 and Workers' Comp</a></p> <p><a href="#">Billable Services Expand Under CMS Telehealth Waiver</a></p> <p><a href="#">Senate Bill 995/House Bill 553</a></p>

## Texas

Dates agency COVID-19 guidance issued	Status of dispute resolutions proceedings	Status of operations (i.e. forms, timeframes, etc.)	Addresses medical treatment?	Addresses compensability?	Addresses telehealth?	Website Link
<p>March 13, 2020 – May 31, 2021</p>	<p>Benefit Review Conferences (BRC) to be held by telephone. DWC staff will contact parties to provide details.</p> <p>Contested Case Hearings (CCH) for March 16-27, 2020 will be rescheduled.</p> <p>Effective March 27, 2020, the DWC has waived the signature requirements for receipt of CCH decisions, orders, Appeals Panel decisions; medical fee disputes, medical fee dispute decisions and orders, and approved or denied DWC Form-064, Medical Interlocutory Order Requests.</p> <p>On March 30, 2020, CCHs resumed and are conducted by telephone.</p> <p><b>House Bill 1752</b> signed by Gov. and effective June 4, 2021 adds that DWC may conduct BRCs by videoconferencing or telephonically without the injured worker consent.</p>	<p>In-person customer service discontinued. Essential services continue. DWC can be contacted by calling 800-252-7031.</p> <p>DWC encourages use of fax for form submission due to increased telecommuting.</p> <p>Work search standards for SIBs suspended until further notice.</p> <p>Claim-handling deadlines imposed by the state's prompt payment laws extended for an additional 15 days to help carriers respond to the COVID-19 outbreak, but carriers must continue to promptly: 1) identify, evaluate, and resolve claims. 2) acknowledge receipt of a claim. 3) make appropriate assignments for investigation of a claim.</p>	<p>Failure to timely submit medical bills will be deemed an exception due to a catastrophic event.</p> <p><a href="#">Health and Safety Code 81.050(j)</a> and <a href="#">TAC 122.3(c)</a> regarding 10-day testing requirement for first responders exposed to communicable diseases suspended.</p> <p>As of April 21, 2020, surgeries and procedures postponed March 22, 2020 resumed if hospital capacity or PPE is not depleted below 25% of capacity.</p> <p>Extension of pre-authorizations issued before March 22, 2020 encouraged without a request.</p> <p>Certain DD exams and RMEs resume June 15, 2020.</p>	<p>To extent necessary to ensure public safety employees likely to have been exposed to COVID-9 while in course of employment, the governor suspended <a href="#">Texas Government Code Sections 607.002(1) and (2)</a> until March 13, 2020 disaster declaration is lifted or expires. This suspension does not impact employee's eligibility to workers' compensation. Disaster declaration <a href="#">extended May 5, 2021</a>.</p> <p><b>Senate Bill 22</b> signed by Gov. and effective on June 1, 2021 provides a rebuttable presumption that death or total or partial disability to custodial officers, detention officers, firefighters, peace officers, or emergency medical technicians who suffer from Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARSCoV2) or Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) is contracted during the course and scope of employment if specified criteria is met.</p>	<p>Emergency rule effective March 17, 2020 required insurers to cover telemedicine services, including mental health visits, at same rate as in-person visits. The rule set to expire July 14, 2020 was extended through September 12, 2020.</p> <p>Doctors are not allowed to bill and be reimbursed for MMI and IR evaluations conducted through telemedicine or telehealth. Doctors or other health care providers who violate these rules may violate and jeopardize their DWC certifications.</p>	<p><a href="#">Executive Order GA-15</a></p> <p><a href="#">Gov. Abbott waives certain regulation for telemedicine care in Texas</a></p> <p><a href="#">Commissioner's Bulletin # B-0007-20</a></p> <p><a href="#">Commissioner's Bulletin # B-0012-20</a></p> <p><a href="#">Commissioner's Bulletin # B-0015-20</a></p> <p><a href="#">Emergency Rules on Telemedicine</a></p> <p><a href="#">Suspension of Certain Labor Code and Rules related to Workers' Compensation</a></p> <p><a href="#">MMI and Impairment Rating Evaluation are not permitted through telemedicine</a></p> <p><a href="#">Preauthorization Extensions May 14, 2020</a></p> <p><a href="#">Commissioner's Bulletin #B-0030-20</a></p> <p><a href="#">TDI extends telemedicine emergency rule</a></p>

## US Office of Workers' Compensation (OWCP)

Dates agency COVID-19 guidance issued	Status of dispute resolutions proceedings	Status of operations (i.e. forms, timeframes, etc.)	Addresses medical treatment?	Addresses compensability?	Addresses telehealth?	Website Link
March 13, 2020- March 18, 2021	No change announced.	<p>In response to the on-going coronavirus pandemic, operations have temporarily moved to telephone contact only.</p> <p>Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation beneficiaries encouraged to use the <a href="#">Energy Document Portal (EDP)</a> to upload documents directly to their case file.</p>	<p>For Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation beneficiaries, on April 7, 2020 OWCP issued Bulletin 20-03 that provides instructions for Medical Benefits Examiners to accept telemedicine in lieu of face-to-face examinations for home and residential health care renewals and new requests for DME. Additionally, on April 30, 2020, Bulletin 20-04 implements temporary procedures to allow for use of telemedicine in place of non-emergency, routine medical appts.</p> <p>Federal Black Lung claimants will not be penalized for postponing or rescheduling their examination during the pandemic. Day-supply limits increased to 90 days for all but Schedule II medications.</p>	<p>Section 4016 of the American Rescue Plan of 2021 provides that a federal employee or postal worker diagnosed with COVID-19 is deemed to have an injury that is proximately caused by employment, if required to carry out duties that required contact with patients, members of the public or co-workers, or included a risk of exposure to COVID-19 prior to the diagnosis. Applies for period from Jan. 27, 2020 to Jan. 27, 2023.</p> <p>Previously the Division of Federal Employees' Compensation (DFEC) provided guidance for federal employees outlining Federal Employees' Compensation Act coverage as it relates to the novel coronavirus.</p>	<p>FECA issued a new policy concerning telehealth services available to employees receiving medical benefits under the FECA making it optional although not required. The FECA program previously allowed telehealth services in accordance with the discretion granted to DOL and delegated to OWCP.</p>	<p><a href="#">Office of Workers' Compensation Programs Response to Coronavirus</a></p> <p><a href="#">EEOICPA Bulletin 20-03</a></p> <p><a href="#">EEOICPA Bulletin 20-04</a></p> <p><a href="#">DEEOIC Notice of Resource Center Operating Status</a></p> <p><a href="#">Claims under the Federal Employees' Compensation Act due to the 2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19)</a></p> <p><a href="#">Division of Coal Mine Workers' Compensation (DCMWC) COVID-19 FAQ</a></p> <p><a href="#">Division of Coal Mine Workers' Compensation Special Notice: Impact of COVID-19 on Selection of Provider, Authorization of Medical Evaluations and Scheduling of Appointments</a></p> <p><a href="#">Section 4106 of the American Rescue Plan</a></p> <p><a href="#">FECA Bulletin No. 21-02 re: Telemedicine for Routine Appointments</a></p>

## Utah

Dates agency COVID-19 guidance issued	Status of dispute resolutions proceedings	Status of operations (i.e. forms, timeframes, etc.)	Addresses medical treatment?	Addresses compensability?	Addresses telehealth?	Website Link
March 13-June 1, 2021	No change announced.	<p>Utah Labor Commission offices closed to public March 2020 but operations continued.</p> <p>Offices reopened to the public on June 1, 2021. Assistance can be received in one of three ways:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Online by going to <a href="http://laborcommission.utah.gov">laborcommission.utah.gov</a> for info and assistance.</li> <li>2. Call (801)530-6800 for questions regarding workers' compensation.</li> <li>3. In Person: Meetings by appointment preferred. Call to set up appointments.</li> </ol>	<p>From March 23 to April 25, 2020, all licensed health care facilities ordered to postpone all elective surgeries and procedures.</p> <p>Order requiring postponement of elective surgeries and procedures was rescinded and elective surgeries and procedures could resume as of May 1, 2020, if specified requirements met.</p>	<p>On April 22, 2020 Governor Gary Herbert signed <a href="#">House Bill 3007</a> into law that creates a rebuttable presumption for first responders and healthcare workers who contract COVID-19.</p> <p>On June 18, 2020 <a href="#">House Bill 5006</a> was enacted to amend the workers' compensation presumption during 5th special session. This legislation clarified the definition of a first responder covered under the rebuttable presumption if COVID-19 is contracted by exposure during the course of performing the duties of a first responder. Provisions expire <b>June 1, 2021</b>.</p>	No	<p><a href="#">House Bill 3007</a></p> <p><a href="#">Utah Restricts Non-Urgent Surgeries</a></p> <p><a href="#">Utah Issues Public Health Order Allowing Hospital and Physicians to Resume Some Elective Surgeries</a></p> <p><a href="#">State Public Health Order May 1, 2020</a></p> <p><a href="#">Utah Labor Commission Issues Guidance to Employers to Protect Staff who are High Risk for COVID-19</a></p> <p><a href="#">House Bill 5006</a></p> <p><a href="#">Utah Labor Commission reopens June 1, 2021</a></p>

## Vermont

Dates agency COVID-19 guidance issued	Status of dispute resolutions proceedings	Status of operations (i.e. forms, timeframes, etc.)	Addresses medical treatment?	Addresses compensability?	Addresses telehealth?	Website Link
<p>March 18, 2020 – May 21, 2021</p>	<p>For the foreseeable future public access to the Dept. of Labor building is being limited. Contact Administrative Law Judge for changes in handling of formal hearings, pre-trials. Forms, medical records and other evidence and correspondence can be submitted by secure email.</p>	<p>Workers' comp staff to work remotely when possible. Calls are being forwarded to the staff member's location if they are not in the office.</p> <p><a href="#">Senate Bill 342</a> signed into law July 13, 2020 grants the Commissioner of Labor temporary authority during a declared state of emergency related to COVID-19 to issue guidance, adopt procedures to extend deadlines or temporarily amend or waive specific requirements of Vermont's workers compensation laws and regulations.</p> <p>Click <a href="#">here</a> to review COVID-19 industry updates and notifications issued by the Commissioner to date on topics such as the application of Rule 11 and Rule 12 during the COVID-19 pandemic</p>	<p>Emergency declaration of March 20, 2020 required postponement of non-essential adult elective surgery and medical procedures thru April 15, 2020. Addendum 9 extended suspension. On May 4, 2020 Order issued allowing limited resumption of outpatient elective surgeries and medical procedures in accordance with the mitigation requirements and procedures issued by the Vermont Dept. of Public Health.</p> <p>Division advises that no independent medical examination (IME) shall be conducted unless the IME is able to demonstrate compliance with guidelines by Vermont Health Dept.</p>	<p>On July 13, 2020 Governor Scott signed <a href="#">Senate Bill 342</a> that in part provides a rebuttable presumption for specified "front-line workers" or "non-front-line workers" who receive a positive laboratory test for COVID-19 or a diagnosis of COVID-19 from a licensed healthcare provider that the disease was contracted in the course and scope of employment. Application dates and rebuttal of the presumption differ between "front-line" and "non-front-line" workers in this bill.</p> <p><b>Senate Bill 9 extends the COVID-19 presumption created by Senate Bill 342. This bill is effective retroactive to Jan. 15, 2021. Bill is prospectively repealed 30th day following end of state of emergency declared by Executive Order 01-20 in response to COVID-19, wu—currently extended to June 15, 2021.</b></p>	<p>Emergency Rule requires coverage for healthcare services via telehealth or audio-only. Must reimburse same as in-person visit. Cannot require providers to have existing patient relationship.</p>	<p><a href="#">Workers' Compensation Update – Changes Being Made in Handling Claims March 18, 2020</a></p> <p><a href="#">Vermont Dept. of Financial Regulation Emergency Rule H-2020-02-E regarding telehealth</a></p> <p><a href="#">Addendum 3 to Executive Order 01-02 suspending all non-essential adult elective surgery and medical surgery procedures</a></p> <p><a href="#">Addendum 9 to Executive Order 01-02 extending postponement of non-essential and elective surgeries and procedures</a></p> <p><a href="#">Amendment to Addendum 3 to Executive Order 01-20 allowing resumption of elective surgeries and procedures</a></p> <p><a href="#">Applying Rule 11 During the COVID-19 Pandemic</a></p> <p><a href="#">Applying Rule 12 during COVID-19 Pandemic</a></p> <p><a href="#">Applying Rule 6 during COVID-19 Pandemic</a></p> <p><a href="#">Senate Bill 342</a></p> <p><b><a href="#">Senate Bill 9</a></b></p>



## Virginia

Date agency COVID-19 guidance issued	Status of dispute resolutions proceedings	Status of operations (i.e. forms, timeframes, etc.)	Addresses medical treatment?	Addresses compensability?	Addresses telehealth?	Website Link
<p>March 13, 2020 – June 16, 2021</p>	<p>All in-person mediations and hearings cancelled through April 30, 2020.</p> <p>On March 26, 2020 notarization requirement of Rule 1.7(C)(3) suspended. <a href="#">June 16, 2021 Order</a> advises notarization requirement of Rule will be reinstated effective Aug. 1, 2021.</p> <p>Commission</p> <p>All hearings scheduled May 1 to June 10, 2020 converted to video hearings. All evidentiary hearings to be conducted via video conferencing until in-person hearings can resume.</p> <p>All evidentiary hearings scheduled on or after June 11, 2020 will be conducted in-person subject to specified requirements.</p>	<p>Effective April 7, 2020, office closed, and employees teleworked. Webfile system remains operational.</p> <p>Headquarters reopened April 21, 2020. Filing deadline for any item required to be filed with Commission during closure extended to April 21, 2020.</p>	<p>March 25, 2020 executive order prohibit surgeries and procedures requiring PPE at all inpatient and outpatient surgical hospitals, endoscopy centers, physician, and dental offices thru April 24, 2020, unless delay will cause harm leading to death or disability. This order was extended through April 30, 2020. This order expired and procedures resumed.</p>	<p><a href="#">House Bill 2207</a> establishes a presumption that COVID-19 causing the death or disability of firefighters, emergency medical services personnel, law-enforcement officers, correctional officers, and regional jail officers is an occupational disease compensable under workers' compensation, unless the presumption is overcome by a preponderance of competent evidence to the contrary. This presumption is retroactively applicable to any death or disability occurring on or after July 1, 2020 and prior to Dec. 31, 2021.</p> <p><a href="#">House Bill 1985</a> establishes a presumption that COVID-19 causing the death or disability of health care providers who are directly involved in diagnosing or treating persons known or suspected to have COVID-19, is an occupational disease compensable under workers' compensation. The presumption applies for any death or disability caused by infection from the COVID-19 virus occurring on or after March 12, 2020 and prior to Dec. 31, 2021 when specified criteria is met.</p>	<p>In response to inquiries surrounding fee schedules and telemedicine, Commission advised it not provide advisory opinion as to whether any particular circumstance will be compensable.</p>	<p><a href="#">In-Person Mediation and Hearings Cancelled through April 30, 2020</a></p> <p><a href="#">Update to Commission Rule 1.7(C)(3)</a></p> <p><a href="#">Special Order to Conduct Evidentiary Hearings via Video Conference</a></p> <p><a href="#">Order of Public Health Emergency Two</a></p> <p><a href="#">Extension Order of Public Health Emergency Two</a></p> <p><a href="#">Notice of VWC Headquarters Reopen on April 21, 2020</a></p> <p><a href="#">Response to Stakeholder COVID-19 Inquiries</a></p> <p><a href="#">Commission Moves Forward with Converting All Hearings to Video Hearings</a></p> <p><a href="#">Order re: Return to In-Person Hearings</a></p> <p><a href="#">House Bill 2207</a></p> <p><a href="#">House Bill 1985</a></p>

## Washington

Dates agency COVID-19 guidance issued	Status of dispute resolutions proceedings	Status of operations (i.e. forms, timeframes, etc.)	Addresses medical treatment?	Addresses compensability?	Addresses telehealth?	Website Link
<p>March 6, 2020 – May 31, 2021</p>	<p>No change announced.</p>	<p>Operations continue. Self-insurance and COVID-19 common questions.</p>	<p>March 19, 2020 proclamation issued to prohibit all hospitals, ambulatory surgery facilities, dental offices from providing health care services through May 18, 2020 that if delayed are not anticipated to cause harm to the patient in the next 3 months. Guidance provided April 29, 2020 provided hospitals and medical providers leeway to resume some non-urgent medical procedures.</p>	<p>Workers' compensation coverage extended to quarantined health care workers and first responders. Guidance provided in evaluating compensability of COVID-19 claims for all others.</p> <p>Effective May 11, 2021: <a href="#">Senate Bill 5190</a> adds for "health care worker" a rebuttable presumption during a public health emergency that any infectious or contagious diseases that are the subject of a public health emergency are occupational diseases arising out of employment.</p> <p><a href="#">Senate Bill 5115</a> adds for "frontline employees" a rebuttable presumption during a public health emergency that any infectious or contagious diseases transmitted by respiratory droplets or aerosol or contact with contaminated surfaces and subject of a public emergency are compensable occupational diseases.</p>	<p>From March 9, 2020 and <a href="#">extended until March 7, 2021</a> L&amp;I updated its payment policy temporarily to allow telehealth services to established patients treated by the physician or another physician of the same specialty who belongs to the same group practice within the past 3 years.</p> <p>Effective April 1, 2020 until July 3, 2020, L&amp;I is temporarily allowing work hardening to occur via telehealth.</p>	<p><a href="https://www.lni.wa.gov/agency/outreach/novel-coronavirus-outbreak-covid-19-resources">https://www.lni.wa.gov/agency/outreach/novel-coronavirus-outbreak-covid-19-resources</a></p> <p><a href="https://lni.wa.gov/agency/outreach/workers-compensation-coverage-and-coronavirus-covid-19-common-questions">https://lni.wa.gov/agency/outreach/workers-compensation-coverage-and-coronavirus-covid-19-common-questions</a></p> <p><a href="https://lni.wa.gov/agency/outreach/self-insurance-and-coronavirus-covid-19-common-questions">https://lni.wa.gov/agency/outreach/self-insurance-and-coronavirus-covid-19-common-questions</a></p> <p><a href="https://www.governor.wa.gov/sites/default/files/proclamations/20-24%20COVID-19%20non-urgent%20medical%20procedures%20(tmp).pdf">https://www.governor.wa.gov/sites/default/files/proclamations/20-24%20COVID-19%20non-urgent%20medical%20procedures%20(tmp).pdf</a></p> <p><a href="#">Interpretive Statement Related to Proclamation by the Governor 20-24, Restrictions on Non-Urgent Medical Procedures</a></p> <p><a href="#">Senate Bill 5190</a></p> <p><a href="#">Senate Bill 5115</a></p> <p><a href="#">Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)</a></p>

## West Virginia

Dates agency COVID-19 guidance issued	Status of dispute resolutions proceedings	Status of operations (i.e. forms, timeframes, etc.)	Addresses medical treatment?	Addresses compensability?	Addresses telehealth?	Website Link
<p>March 17, 2020 – January 19, 2021</p>	<p>OIC is no longer holding any in-person meetings in any OIC building with anyone from outside the agency including hearings at the Office of Judges (OOJ) and the Board of Review (BOR). Check with your point of contact in the OIC, at the OOJ or the BOR about how to communicate or how hearings will be held. If feasible these meetings and hearings will take place telephonically, via the Web, by Skype, etc.</p>	<p>Operations continue with most OIC employees working remotely, so communication with the OIC via email encouraged whenever possible to avoid delay of review.</p> <p>Workers' compensation insurers and other regulated entities prohibited from terminating or suspending a claimant's TTD benefits for failure to undergo examinations or needed treatment.</p> <p>Normal time standards for claims handling applicable to workers' compensation insurers and other regulated entities suspended until further notice provided adjustment continues as expeditiously as possible.</p>	<p>On March 31, 2020 executive order issued prohibiting all elective medical procedures effective April 1, 2020 unless medically necessary to preserve patient's life or long-term health.</p> <p>Effective April 20, 2020 more urgent elective medical procedure allowed to resume at a hospital or ambulatory surgical center if specified criteria is satisfied.</p>	<p>On January 19, 2021, the West Virginia Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC) issued <a href="#">Bulletin No. 21.01</a> reminding employers, insurers, self-insured employers and healthcare providers of their responsibilities regarding workers' compensation claims for COVID-19.</p>	<p>Workers' compensation insurers and other regulated entities ordered to immediately review and evaluate their telehealth or telemedicine programs to ensure that they are fully being utilized possible.</p>	<p><a href="#">Emergency Order 20-EO-03 – COVID-19 State of Emergency – Workers' Compensation Insurance.</a></p> <p><a href="#">West Virginia Insurance Bulletin No 20-07</a></p> <p><a href="#">Executive Order 16-20 – Elective Medical Procedures</a></p> <p><a href="#">Executive Order 28-20 – Process for Hospitals to Resume Elective Procedures</a></p> <p><a href="#">Bulletin No. 21.01</a></p>

## Wisconsin

Dates agency COVID-19 guidance issued	Status of dispute resolutions proceedings	Status of operations (i.e. forms, timeframes, etc.)	Addresses medical treatment?	Addresses compensability?	Addresses telehealth?	Website Link
<p>March 13, 2020 – Feb. 18, 2021</p>	<p>As of the week of March 23, 2020, the Office of Worker’s Compensation Hearings will stop conducting in-person hearings, prehearings, and mediations until further notice.</p> <p>All in-person hearings, prehearings, and mediation will continue to be converted to conferences conducted by telephone or video conference.</p>	<p>Operations continue.</p>		<p>Effective April 17, 2020, Assembly Bill 1038 provides that where an injury to a first responder is caused by COVID-19 during public health emergency declared by Executive Order 72 signed March 12, 2020 through 30 days after termination of order, injury is presumed to be caused by employment if accompanied by physician diagnosis or by positive COVID-19 test.</p> <p>Executive Order 72 <b>expired on May 11, 2020</b>, and the presumption ended 30 days after.</p> <p>DWD also provides info addressing coverage of COVID-19.</p>	<p>No</p>	<p><a href="#">Notice of the Office of Workers’ Compensation Hearings</a></p> <p><a href="#">WCD Workers’ Compensation COVID-19 Public Information</a></p> <p><a href="#">Assembly Bill 1038, Section 33</a></p> <p><a href="#">COVID-19 Testing: Reporting Guidance for Employers (DHS)</a></p>

## Wyoming

Date agency COVID-19 guidance issued	Status of dispute resolutions proceedings	Status of operations (i.e. forms, timeframes, etc.)	Addresses medical treatment?	Addresses compensability?	Addresses telehealth?	Website Link
March 20, 2020 – April 6, 2021	No changes announced.	Claims handled by monopolistic state agency.	On April 24, 2020, the Dept. of Health provided <a href="#">guidance</a> on resuming elective and non-emergent procedures, although not prohibited. The <a href="#">guidance</a> was updated Aug. 21, 2020.	<p>On May 20, 2020 Gov. Mark Gordon signed Senate File 1002 law which in part provides that for the period beginning January 1, 2020 through December 30, 2020, if any employee in an employment sector for which coverage is provided by the Workers' Compensation Act is infected with the COVID-19 coronavirus, it will be presumed that the risk of contracting the illness or disease was increased by the nature of employment.</p> <p>Senate File 19, signed into law April 6, 2021, extended the presumption set out above in SF 1002 to <b>March 31, 2022, unless otherwise extended by the legislature.</b></p>	Provides guidance regarding telehealth and e-visits billing and payment.	<p><a href="http://wyomingworkforce.org/docs/providers/bulletins/2020-13-covid19.pdf">http://wyomingworkforce.org/docs/providers/bulletins/2020-13-covid19.pdf</a></p> <p><a href="#">Senate File 1002</a></p> <p><a href="#">Senate File 19</a></p>