

COVID-19

• Q & A about COVID -19 on website

WORKER'S COMPENSATION COVID-19 PUBLIC INFORMATION

https://dwd.wisconsin.gov/covid19/public/wc.htm

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Legislative Changes: ch. 102, Wis. Stats.

- 2021 Wis. Act 29 (SB-11) became effective April 29, 2021
- 2021 Wis. Act 29 contains the following amendments to ch. 102, Wis. Stats.

PEOs and Employee Leasing Companies

An employer or client is permitted to enter into an employee leasing agreement with a PEO or employee leasing company and elect to provide WC insurance coverage for the leased employees under the terms of an employee leasing agreement.



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Legislative Changes: ch. 102, Wis. Stats.

Medical Billing Format

• Health care providers are required to provide WC insurance carriers and their representatives with a copy of a complete itemized billing statement on a standard billing format required by the federal government within 30 days after a request. (102.13 (2))

Statute of Limitations

• The statute of limitations was amended to clarify that it applies to all parties to a WC claim including employers, insurance carriers and other entities. (102.17(4))

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Legislative Changes: ch. 102, Wis. Stats.

Work Injury Supplemental Benefit Fund (WISBF)

- WC insurance carriers and self-insured employers are authorized to make advance or lump sum payments into the Work Injury Supplemental Benefit Fund (WISBF).
- The WISBF is not permitted to collect death benefits when there is a violation of the employer's drug/alcohol policy that was casual to the employee's death and there are no surviving dependents.

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Legislative Changes: ch. 102, Wis. Stats.

PTSD

- Law enforcement officers and full-time firefighters may now receive WC benefits based on PTSD where there is no physical injury without establishing the condition was caused by unusual stress.
- An employee will no longer be required to show the PTSD is based on unusual stress of greater dimensions than the day-to-day emotional strain and tension experienced by similarly situated employees.



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Legislative Changes: ch. 102, Wis. Stats.

PTSD (cont.)

- The PTSD is to be diagnosed by a licensed psychiatrist or psychologist.
- The conditions of liability are to be proven by a preponderance of the evidence and the mental injury cannot be the result of or first reported during a good faith employment action on the part of an employer.

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Legislative Changes: ch. 102, Wis. Stats.

PTSD (cont.)

- Liability for disability and treatment is limited to no more than 32 weeks and an employee cannot make a claim for PTSD more than three (3) times during his or her lifetime.
- The PTSD amendments became effective for injuries reported on and after October 1, 2021.

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Proposed Legislative Changes: ch. 102, Wis. Stats.

AB-487 and SB-485 were recently introduced

• Provide that if certain conditions were met, delivery network couriers/drivers for delivery/transportation network companies are not employees of the companies for purposes of worker's compensation, insurance, minimum wage and hour, and unemployment insurance.

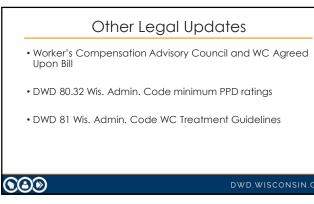
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Proposed Legislative Changes: ch. 102, Wis. Stats.

- The bills provide that application-based drivers are not employees for worker's compensation purposes if the network company does not engage in **all** of the following:
 - Prescribe specific dates, times of day, or minimum number of hours during which the driver must be logged into the network company's on-line application, software, or system.
 Terminate driver's contract for not accepting a specific request for transportation or delivery service.

 - Prohibit driver from performing services through other network companies except while performing services through that network company.
 - Restrict driver from working in any other lawful occupation or business.





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Important Contact Information

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