

# Agency Bulletin

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## Workers' Compensation – Coronavirus (COVID-19)

If a person diagnosed with COVID-19 wishes to make a workers' compensation claim, Agencies are to submit the claim to the Insurance Commission through the normal channel within 3 days of lodgment along with the following information:

- Have there been any other suspected cases of COVID-19 in the workplace? If yes, please provide details including:
  - When they were in the work place.
  - Where they worked/visited? e.g. ward, block etc.
  - Whether they were in direct contact with the claimant.
  - Whether they have been tested and if so what was the result?
- What safety measures were in place to prevent exposure?
- What date did the claimant commence self-isolation?
- Are you aware of any recent overseas travel by the claimant? If yes, provide details including dates and locations of travel.
- Are you aware of any other possible exposure to COVID-19 by the claimant outside of work? If yes, provide details.

The [WorkCover WA Notice](#) sets out that a worker's eligibility for compensation requires that a disease must have been contracted in the course of employment and the employment must have been a significant contributing factor to the contraction of the disease.

In relation to COVID-19 where exposure can occur in public settings questions may arise as to the exact time and place of contracting the virus. As a result, it may be difficult to determine that employment was a significant contributing factor.

Each claim would need to be considered on its individual merits, having regard to the individual circumstances and evidence of each claim.

Claims will be coded consistently for reporting purposes.

The Insurance Commission recommends all entities to refer to the [Department of Health website](#) for practical measures to prevent the spread of the COVID-19.

Please call your regular workers' compensation claims contact if you have any questions.

## Key Points

- **Keep records of suspected and confirmed cases of COVID-19 within your organisation.**
- **Submit claims within 3 days to the Insurance Commission.**



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of Western Australia**

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