FAQs: Filing a Workers' Compensation Claim for COVID-19

I think I might have COVID-19 caused by exposure at work. Will my claim be accepted?

Your claim will most likely be accepted if the following criteria are met:

- I am a health care worker or first responder. Other occupations are considered on a case-by-case basis.
- If not for my job, I would not have been exposed to the virus.
- I can identify a specific source or event that resulted in exposure to the new coronavirus while working, such as treating a patient with the virus.

See https://lni.wa.gov/agency/outreach/workers-compensation-coverage-and-coronavirus-covid-19-common-questions for additional information.

How may I file a claim?

See https://risk.uw.edu/wc for information about filing claims at the University of Washington (UW) or UW Medicine. If you have questions when filing your claim or about what benefits you are entitled to as part of your claim, contact the Harborview Center of Occupational Health and Education (COHE):

Email: cohe@uw.edu

Website (AMC ID required): https://hmc.uwmedicine.org/BU/COHE/Pages/COVID-19.aspx

How long do I have to file a claim?

File your claim as soon as possible to receive benefits in a timely manner, including coverage of medical costs and wage replacement. For some UW Medicine workers, claim filing is expected within 48 hours per union agreement.

Which doctor should I see for work-related COVID-19, including completing the provider portion of the Report of Accident?

If you need or want a provider visit related to your claim, you can choose to visit your primary care provider or various occupational health clinics in the region, including:

- HMC OEM Clinic https://www.uwmedicine.org/locations/occupational-and-environmental-harborview. Please call the contact center faculty and staff line at 206.520.5050 or the OEM clinic at 206.744.3261 to schedule an appointment. Telehealth visits will be offered as long as LNI allows them. Provide a claim number when calling.
- Other clinics such as those listed at https://risk.uw.edu/treasury/riskmgmt/wc/seek

What if I need work restrictions from a doctor, completion of an Activity Prescription Form (APF), and/or release to full or light duty after diagnosis of COVID-19 for my claim?

If you need additional care under an L&I claim after the first visit, you'll need to select a provider in the L&I Network (see provider search tool at https://secure.lni.wa.gov/provdir/). The occupational health clinics listed above may provide these services.