



Mississippi Workers' Compensation Commission

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Mark S. Formby, Chairman
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The Mississippi Workers' Compensation Commission has implemented the following policies and procedures in response to the Coronavirus State of Emergency declared by Governor Reeves on March 16, 2020. All policies and procedures shall remain in place until June 30, 2020, unless otherwise noted.

1. **Building Closure:**

The Offices of the Commission will not be open to the public through May 1, 2020. All Commission hearings scheduled will be on the record. As much as reasonable, Administrative Judge hearings will be conducted telephonically. In the event that an Administrative Judge hearing requires to be in person, all hearings will take place in Hearing Room C to provide ample distance between parties and Commission staff. There will be no admittance to the building without an appointment at the request of the Commission or an Administrative Judge.

2. **Settlement Procedure:**

All settlements are to be mailed in or filed through ATOS, with all signatures required present. In ATOS, settlements should be filed by choosing the "unrepresented claimant, proposed" selection. Settlements that are mailed in will be returned via mail once approved. Settlements filed in ATOS will be emailed to the parties after approval. *Pro se* settlement interviews will be conducted telephonically.

3. **Notarization of Claimant's Signature:**

Claimant signatures must either a) be notarized or b) include a copy of the claimant's driver's license or ID **AND** a statement by the claimant and claimant's attorney (or in the instance of an unrepresented claimant the employer/carrier attorney) certifying that the claimant signed the petition.

4. **Miss. Work. Comp. Comm. Rule 2.9:**

During the State of Emergency, the Commission waives the "sworn" requirement; therefore, no notarization of an attorney signature is required at this time. Attorneys may electronically sign their statement with an "s/" signature and include his or her MS Bar number.

5. Telemedicine:

The MWCC has authorized the expansion of the MWCC Fee Schedule's electronic communication rule via Telemedicine/Telehealth/Virtual services to workers' compensation patients not only to physicians but also to include the following: physician assistants, nurse practitioners, physical therapists, occupational therapists, speech therapists, psychiatrists, clinical psychologists, dietitians who are licensed to practice in Mississippi. Reimbursement for services provided via Telemedicine/Telehealth/Virtually shall not be denied by workers' compensation payors for CPT codes noted with a star icon and billed with Modifier 95. These codes are listed in Appendix P of the CPT manual and will be posted separately on the MWCC website. Additionally, CPT codes for services that are typically billed by PT/OT/ST on pages 295 and 296 of the 2019 Fee Schedule are authorized to be provided via electronic communication

6. IME/EME Telemedicine

At this time, the Commission will not approve telemedicine Independent Medical Examinations or Employer Medical Examinations at this time.