

Navigating the Colorado Division of Workers' Compensation Website

Everything providers need to know about workers' compensation is readily available at the Colorado Division of Workers' Compensation (DOWC) website: <https://cdle.colorado.gov/dwc>

The landing page has links for forms and rules, and a section for medical provider resources such as the medical treatment guidelines, the fee schedule and provider education. Many of the resources are available from several tabs, as they are cross-referenced from the rules and the medical provider sections.

Forms

The "Forms" tab gives descriptions of the forms along with links for the PDF and Word formats of commonly used forms for physician reports, worksheets and billing disputes. Searches can be performed by form number or by type (physician reports/worksheets/disclosures).

<https://cdle.colorado.gov/resources/forms>

Statute, Rules & Guidance

Proposed, amended and adopted final rules are available in PDF and Word versions. The Rules title describes the content, and the effective date of implementation is listed. This section also includes interpretive bulletins for fee-schedule and non-fee-schedule issues.

<https://cdle.colorado.gov/statute-rules-guidance>

The most common rules referenced by medical providers include:

- Rule 8 – Authorized Treating Physician
- Rule 10 – Medical Utilization Review
- Rule 12 – Permanent Impairment Rating Guidelines
- Rule 13 – Provider Accreditation
- Rule 16 – Utilization Standards
- Rule 17 – Medical Treatment Guidelines (with nine exhibits on body regions)
- Rule 18 – Medical Fee Schedules (with three exhibits for E&M guidelines, dental fee schedule, and facility codes)

Interpretive Bulletins – Non-fee or fee schedule issues

These provide guidance on the practical applications of the Colorado Workers' Compensation Act through the Director's interpretation of statute and other factors. They provide more consistency and predictability as to how the Colorado system is intended to operate.

Proposed and Adopted Rules

<https://cdle.colorado.gov/attorneys/workers-compensation-proposed-and-adopted-rules>

Providers, payers, and any other stakeholders may subscribe to the DOWC Rule Hearings Notice mailing list by registering on this webpage.

- Adopted Rules with their effective dates can be found on the webpage:
 - o Exhibits to the Medical Fee Schedule are presented in table format.

- o Excel Colorado WC Medical Fee Schedules are in spreadsheet format.
- Proposed Rules – These are online after the hearing following the director’s approval.
- Stakeholder Meetings – These in-person and online meetings are held during the first five months of the year and a hearing is held in June as part of the rule-making process. Comments may be submitted in writing following instructions on the notice.
- Notices of Rule Hearings – Meetings are held in person or online to present the proposed amendments to the rules for the following year.
- Archived Rules of Procedure

Medical Providers

One of the sections on the main page for Workers’ Compensation is specifically for medical providers: <https://cdle.colorado.gov/dwc/medical-providers>

The links on this page include:

- Medical Treatment Guidelines – references and links to Rule 17 and exhibits
 - o <https://cdle.colorado.gov/medical-providers/medical-treatment-guidelines>
- Medical Fee Schedule – links to Rule 18, events and training, and webinars
 - o <https://cdle.colorado.gov/medical-providers-fee/schedule-rule-18>
 - o Contacts are provided for key DOWC representatives.
- Utilization Standards / Medical Billing Dispute Resolution – links to rules and forms
 - o <https://cdle.colorado.gov/medical-providers/utilization-standards-medical-billing-disputes>
 - o Contacts are provided for key DOWC representatives.
- Provider Education:
 - o <https://cdle.colorado.gov/medical-providers/provider-education>
 - o Course catalog for accreditation courses for prospective and existing providers
 - o Directories of accredited and QPOP-certified providers
 - o Provider directories of accredited impairment rating and apportionment worksheets and treatment resources
 - o Answers to frequently asked questions and calendar of upcoming events
 - o Contact information and photos for department team members

Search options

The search function is in the upper right above the blue menu bar.

With this tip sheet, navigating the website should be easier and could result in successful answers to questions about workers’ compensation in Colorado.

Contact information for the DOWC: 303-318-8700 or 888-390-7936

Email: cdle_wccustomer_service@state.co.us

Questions? Please contact us at billingsuccess@pinnacol.com or 303-361-4940