



PEARSON KOUTCHER LAW

**Disclaimer:** Pearson Koutcher Law is a workers' compensation law firm practicing in Pennsylvania and New Jersey. While the information below are general questions and answers about the interplay between workers' comp in the State of Delaware and COVID 19, Pearson Koutcher does not practice law in the State of Delaware. If you want to discuss your certain situation or have any questions about Delaware workers' compensation, we can direct you to a lawyer who handles workers' compensation in Delaware. Please just call (215) 627-0700.

**Q&A**

**Q: Are you entitled to workers' compensation benefits if you contract the COVID-19 at work?**

A: You may be. Delaware workers' compensation is a system that provides benefits to workers who are injured or contract an occupational disease while working.

In Delaware, if you acquire the virus within the course and scope of your employment, meaning while you are working, you may be entitled to benefits and a petition for benefits could be filed.

**Q: Am I be entitled to permanent impairment compensation after contracting the Coronavirus at work?**

A: It is too early to definitively say whether COVID-19 can cause a permanent impairment of any kind. This is a new disease and there is limited research on the possibility of permanent effects after having the virus. But, there is a chance that individuals can experience reduced lung function, and other limitations.

Once treatment has been completed, your doctor may be able to determine whether you are permanently impaired.

**Q: Does workers' compensation cover me if I am working from home?**

A: Yes. You do not need to be injured on the employer's premises to be entitled to benefits but you need to show that you were acting in your employer's best interest at the time of your injury.

Employees who work from home are entitled to the same benefits as employees who work on company property. When you are working from home, home is your work premises. It is often understood that the hazards an employee encounters when performing work at home are also the hazards of your employment.

**Q: What do Delaware workers' compensation benefits include?**

A: You may be entitled to:

- Medical care
- Disfigurement compensation
- Compensation for an injury that resulted in a permanent impairment
- Lost wages
- Transportation expenses