

**American Rescue Plan (ARP) State  
Fiscal Recovery Funds (SFRF)  
Request Form**

Please complete this form in accordance with  
the process instructions.

**Agency/Point of Contact:** Administration/Gary Westman

**Title of Request:** All Agencies COVID-19 Workers' Compensation Costs

**Date:** 8/5/2021 **Request Amount:** \$ 3,175,000

**Expenditure Time Period:** 3/4/2021 to 6/30/2023

**Brief Summary of Request:** (Summary must be complete on this page with supporting information attached)

Minnesota amended its workers' compensation laws, adding a presumption for certain occupations that COVID-19 was deemed a presumptive occupational disease and covered under workers' compensation laws for illnesses that occur prior to December 31, 2021. This request seeks additional funds that allow for payment of workers' compensation claims for the occupations that continue to be covered by this law.

Occupations covered include licensed peace officers, firefighters, paramedics or emergency medical technicians, nurses or health care providers and workers, assistive employees in health care settings and corrections officers. Included in this claim are occupations with job titles that might not appear to fit the general description above. For example, in Corrections there are occupations that involve direct inmate supervision; these are considered corrections officers for purposes of applying the law.

State agencies with employees covered under the COVID-19 presumption are Corrections, Human Services, Natural Resources, Public Safety and the Minnesota Veterans Homes. These funds allow Admin to pay claims directly when they meet the requirements of the law. This simplifies claim processing and limits the number of transactions required.

For claims prior to July 22, 2020, state agencies continued to pay employees covered by this legislation for workers' compensation full wage continuation under the enterprise's COVID-19 Paid Leave Policy. Since July 22, 2020, when the Paid COVID-19 Leave was revised, both medical expenses paid for health care services associated with employees' COVID-19 occupational disease and wage continuation provided by workers' compensation laws will be paid in coordination with the revised COVID-19 Paid Leave Policy.

In FY20, we received \$33,753.22 in Coronavirus Relief Fund (CRF) reimbursement; in FY21, we received \$1.5M in CRF reimbursement, which left an outstanding balance of approximately \$625,000 in workers' compensation costs for state agencies; in FY22, we anticipate \$1.7M in workers' compensation costs for state agencies; in FY23, we anticipate \$850K in workers' compensation costs for state agencies. These estimates are based on actual claim experience.

Due to a recent increase in COVID-19 cases as a result of new variants, the cost impact for future workers' compensation presumption claims is unknown. Admin will monitor and if additional funds are required, an updated request for funds will be prepared. There will also be additional claim costs after December 31, 2024. These costs will be for long-term COVID-19 claims that will involve claim payments into the future for 10+ years.

**Lenora Madigan** Digitally signed by Lenora Madigan  
Date: 2021.08.17 19:28:23 -05'00'

Department Head Signature

8/17/2021

Date