

# IMPORTANT COVID-19 UPDATE

## WC PRESUMPTION OF COMPENSABILITY FOR CERTAIN EMPLOYEES WILL END JULY 3

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During the height of the COVID-19 pandemic, New Jersey changed the standard of compensability under workers compensation statute for “essential employees.” The law created a rebuttable presumption that the exposure took place at work, which would trigger the compensability of benefits under workers compensation. This change in the law is only effective while the public health emergency remains in effect.

The Declared State of Emergency in New Jersey is set to expire on July 3, 2021, and, as a result, the burden of proof for establishing compensability for a COVID-19 infection will revert back to the higher standard of establishing “work-related.”

For a state-by-state tracker on COVID-19 Workers’ Compensation legislation enacted in **2021** click [here](#). For a state-by-state tracker on COVID-19 Workers’ Compensation legislation enacted in **2020** click [here](#).

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Conner Strong & Buckelew continues to monitor developments and will provide additional information as it becomes available. Please contact your Conner Strong & Buckelew account representative toll free at 1-877-861-3220 with any questions. For a complete list of Legislative Updates issued by Conner Strong & Buckelew, visit our online [Resource Center](#).