

From: [Mayor](#)
Subject: COVID-19 Update: Workers Compensation & Staying Healthy
Date: Thursday, March 19, 2020 5:00:59 PM
Attachments: [COVID-19 Workers Compensation Coverage FAQ 03192020.pdf](#)



Yvonne Howard

The City of Spokane **COVID-19 News Update for March 19**

Information about Coronavirus Disease 19 (COVID-19) is evolving rapidly. We want to make sure our City employees have up-to-date information. We will provide this update, as needed, to communicate what you need to know, while we work to reduce the spread of this disease in our community and continue to provide critical public services.

Staying Healthy

So, you're washing your hands, covering your coughs appropriately, and staying home when you're sick. But that's only part of staying healthy. Caring for your mental health and stress is important, too.

As the City of Spokane continues to respond to COVID-19, we wanted to assure you that the Employee Assistance Program remains a valuable resource for our employees. KEPRO, the provider of our EAP Program, has a business continuity plan in place that will allow them to serve our employees consistently with reasonable safety measures.

Click [here to access resources](#) on the City's Sharepoint site put together by our EAP service on how to manage stress, talk to your kids, and more. More resources and information related to COVID-19 are available on the KEPRO website [EAPHelpLink](#) (Use code: **CITSPO**), including two webinars on the topic in the webinar library.

For any needs related to EAP or Work-Life services, please contact the national call center toll-free number **1-800-999-1077**.

Worker's Compensation

Some of our employees have asked if COVID-19 is allowed as a work-related condition under workers compensation. Our HR team has put together a new fact sheet about COVID-19 and workers compensation. It is attached to this email.

Child Care Information

Many of you who are parents are undoubtedly starting to think about childcare needs for next week. Work continues on childcare options for City workers with some of first responders available through our partners at Spokane Public Schools. An internal team also is continuing to work on additional options. We will keep you posted on the latest information.

City Hall Closure

We announced that starting tomorrow, Friday, March 20, Spokane City Hall generally will be closed to the public. The lobby will be open for deliveries, and access to public meetings, including Council briefing sessions and legislative meetings, will be maintained. City Council also has moved its Monday afternoon committee meetings to Council Chambers so they can be shown live on CityCable 5 and streamed on the web site, allowing members of the public and staff to watch remotely.

The City Hall closure is needed to accommodate the City's efforts to reduce the spread of COVID-19, ensuring proper social distancing and allowing more employees to work from home as directed by the governor. A full [list of City service impacts](#) is available on the City's web site.

Employee Information Portal (<https://covid19.spokanecity.org/>)

Remember, this Employee Information Portal is a great resource for employees to stay current on what's happening with the COVID-19 response. The [Employee Information Portal](#) can be accessed from work or home, using a computer or mobile device. All of the emailed information we have sent to employees is archived here.