



## TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE

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### Division of Workers' Compensation

7551 Metro Center Drive, Suite 100, Austin, Texas 78744-1645

(512) 804-4000 | F: (512) 804-4001 | (800) 252-7031 | TDI.texas.gov | @TexasDWC

To: Designated Doctors and Certifying Doctors

From: Cassie Brown, Commissioner of Workers' Compensation

Date: July 27, 2020

Re: Required Certification Training for Designated Doctors (DD) and Certifying Doctors

Beginning September 1, 2020, the Texas Department of Insurance, Division of Workers' Compensation (DWC) will offer DD and certifying doctor certification trainings online, including prerecorded video presentations and live interactive webinars. Providing this training online allows greater flexibility for attendees, avoids travel costs, and requires less time away from the doctor's practice.

Doctors seeking DD certification must view all prerecorded video presentations and attend all live interactive webinars. Doctors seeking maximum medical improvement (MMI) and impairment rating (IR) certification are only required to attend live interactive webinars. The prerecorded presentations are offered at no charge. Registration cost for the four required live interactive webinars is \$120.

### **Prerecorded Video Presentations**

Beginning September 1, 2020, DWC will provide these presentations:

- DWC Overview
- Extent of Injury with Evidence-based Medicine
- Return to Work and MD Guidelines
- MMI and the Official Disability Guidelines

Attendees must register for the live interactive webinars before viewing the prerecorded video presentations and attest that they have viewed these presentations before they can attend the live interactive webinars. Continuing medical education (CME) hours **will not** be offered for these presentations. DWC is offering an optional live interactive webinar, "DD Questions and Answers", to review the information presented in the video presentations and answer any questions. CME hours **will not** be offered for this optional webinar.

**Live Interactive Webinars**

| <b>Dates</b>                 | <b>Webinar Name</b>                                | <b>Duration</b> |
|------------------------------|--|-----------------|
| Friday, September 18, 2020   | DD Questions and Answers                           | One hour        |
| Friday, September 25, 2020   | Upper Extremity MMI & IR                           | Three hours     |
|                              | Lower Extremity MMI & IR                           | Three hours     |
| Saturday, September 26, 2020 | Spine MMI & IR                                     | Two hours       |
|                              | Non-Musculoskeletal MMI & IR<br>(MD, DO, DDS only) | Two hours       |

|                             |  |             |
|-----------------------------|--|-------------|
| Friday, November 6, 2020    | DD Questions and Answers                           | One hour    |
| Friday, November 13, 2020   | Upper Extremity MMI & IR                           | Three hours |
|                             | Lower Extremity MMI & IR                           | Three hours |
| Saturday, November 14, 2020 | Spine MMI & IR                                     | Two hours   |
|                             | Non-Musculoskeletal MMI & IR<br>(MD, DO, DDS only) | Two hours   |

The live interactive webinars will contain case-based training and allow participants to ask questions and view a demonstration of examination techniques. DWC will continue to facilitate CME hours for these live interactive webinars, except for the "DD Questions and Answers" webinar, and will issue Certificates of Completion after receiving the attestation of viewing the prerecorded video presentations and attending the live interactive webinars.

Attendees already registered for the in-person trainings in September and November 2020, will be automatically registered for the live interactive webinars. DWC will issue refunds to registrants for the difference in the registration fees.

July 22, 2020

Page 3

As a reminder, applications for designated doctor certification must include certificates certifying that the doctor has successfully completed the required training and passed the required testing within the past 12 months.

To register for the live interactive webinars, visit the DD homepage at: [www.tdi.texas.gov/wc/dd/index.html](http://www.tdi.texas.gov/wc/dd/index.html).

For certification questions, contact Rose Tello at [rosemarie.tello@tdi.texas.gov](mailto:rosemarie.tello@tdi.texas.gov) or (512) 804-4766.