

State of Kansas

Kansas Department of Labor

Notice of Hearing on Proposed Administrative Regulations

The Kansas Department of Labor will conduct a public hearing at 1:30 p.m., Friday, July 31, 2026, at the Kansas Department of Labor, 401 SW Topeka Blvd., Topeka, Kansas 66603, Hearing Room 1, to consider the adoption of proposed amended regulations of the Kansas Department of Labor.

The time period between the publication of this notice and the scheduled public hearing constitutes a comment period of at least 60 days for the purpose of receiving written public comments on the proposed regulations. Interested parties may submit written comments prior to 5:00 p.m. on July 24, 2026 to Heather Wilke, Staff Attorney, 401 SW Topeka Blvd., Topeka, KS 66603-3182 or by email to Heather.Wilke@ks.gov. All interested parties will be given a reasonable opportunity to present their views orally regarding the adoption of the proposed regulations during the public hearing. In order to provide all parties an opportunity to present their views, it may be necessary to request that each participant limit any oral presentation to five minutes.

Any individual with a disability may request an accommodation in order to participate in the public hearing and may request the regulations and economic impact statements in an accessible format. Requests for accommodation to participate in the public hearing should be made at least 10 business days in advance of the hearing to Heather Wilke, Staff Attorney, 401 SW Topeka Blvd., Topeka, KS 66603-3182 or by phone at 785-581-7430. Handicapped parking is located at the west entrance to the building. Curbs at this entrance are accessible to individuals with disabilities.

Copies of the regulations and economic impact statements may be viewed at <https://www.dol.ks.gov/labor-relations/overview>.

Summaries of the proposed regulations and their economic impact follow. (Note: Statements indicating that “No costs are expected to be incurred by businesses, local governments, or individuals as a result of adopting this amendment.” are intended to indicate that no economic impact on the Kansas Department of Labor, other state agencies, persons subject to the proposed regulations, or the general public have been identified.)

K.A.R. 48-1-2. The Kansas Department of Labor is amending the regulation to allow the Agency to transmit hearing notices by email or posting to a claimant’s or employer’s portal account in the Kansas Unemployment portal unless that party notifies the Agency that the party wants to receive notice by U.S. mail. No costs are expected to be incurred by businesses, local governments, or individuals as a result of adopting this amendment, but the agency expects to save money on mailing costs.

K.A.R. 48-1-4. The Kansas Department of Labor is amending the regulation to allow an Appeals Referee to call a party back one time during a hearing if a party’s telephone connection is dropped or otherwise disrupted. The current regulation does not allow the Referee to do this

when a party appears by cellular telephone, instead requiring the Referee to proceed with the hearing without that party's participation. This amendment acknowledges the reality that phone disconnections occur while preserving the agency's responsibility to administer its appeals caseload efficiently. No costs are expected to be incurred by businesses, local governments, or individuals as a result of adopting this amendment.

K.A.R. 48-1-5. The Kansas Department of Labor is amending the regulation to allow the Agency to transmit continuance notices by email or posting to a claimant's or employer's portal account in the Kansas Unemployment portal unless that party notifies the Agency that the party wants to receive notice by U.S. mail. No costs are expected to be incurred by businesses, local governments, or individuals as a result of adopting this amendment, but the agency expects to save money on mailing costs.

K.A.R. 48-1-6. The Kansas Department of Labor is amending the regulation to allow the Agency to transmit Referee decisions by email or posting to a claimant's or employer's portal account in the Kansas Unemployment portal unless that party notifies the Agency that the party wants to receive notice by U.S. mail. No costs are expected to be incurred by businesses, local governments, or individuals as a result of adopting this amendment, but the agency expects to save money on mailing costs.

K.A.R. 48-3-2. The Kansas Department of Labor is amending the regulation to make technical corrections to align certain capitalizations with current legal convention, reference the appropriate Kansas Supreme Court Rule, and further clarify a definition of authorized representative. No costs are expected to be incurred by businesses, local governments, or individuals as a result of adopting this amendment.

K.A.R. 50-3-4. The Kansas Department of Labor is amending the regulation to clarify the regulation's original intent concerning good cause for late filing of claims for unemployment. No costs are expected to be incurred by businesses, local governments, or individuals as a result of adopting this amendment.

K.A.R. 51-3-1. The Kansas Department of Labor is amending the regulation to conform with K.S.A. 44-531, as amended by SB 430, which introduced an additional method for the termination of a claim. No costs are expected to be incurred by businesses, local governments, or individuals as a result of adopting this amendment.

K.A.R. 51-3-8. The Kansas Department of Labor is amending the regulation to incorporate changes that allow the recording and transcription of hearings, and to update language that acknowledges awards and orders are to be uploaded to the Workers Compensation electronic filing system rather than mailed with exceptions for pro se claimants. In addition, a new question was added to the pre-trial questions to respondents. No costs are expected to be incurred by businesses, local governments, or individuals as a result of adopting this amendment.

K.A.R. 51-3-9. The Kansas Department of Labor is amending the regulation to provide an exception to claimants testifying before any settlement award is issued if the settlement is done by settlement award on written stipulation. No costs are expected to be incurred by

businesses, local governments, or individuals as a result of adopting this amendment.

K.A.R. 51-9-10. The Kansas Department of Labor is amending the regulation to require healthcare providers to issue final bills within 90 days of completing treatment. The amendment also updates the terminology to reflect more current and comprehensive medical-field language. No costs are expected to be incurred by businesses, local governments, or individuals as a result of adopting this amendment.

K.A.R. 51-18-2. The Kansas Department of Labor is amending the regulation to require that applications for review to the Workers Compensation Appeals Board be submitted through the Workers Compensation Division's electronic filing system. An exception is provided for pro se claimants. The amendment also includes accommodations in the event the electronic filing system is temporarily inaccessible. No costs are expected to be incurred by businesses, local governments, or individuals as a result of adopting this amendment.

K.A.R. 51-18-4. The Kansas Department of Labor is amending the regulation to require that parties submit their briefs for the Workers Compensation Appeals Board through the Workers Compensation Division's electronic filing system and electronically serve on the opposing parties. An exception is provided for pro se claimants. No costs are expected to be incurred by businesses, local governments, or individuals as a result of adopting this amendment.

Amber Shultz
Secretary
Kansas Department of Labor