



MINNESOTA

COURT OF
ADMINISTRATIVE
HEARINGS

Veronica Walther

Deputy Chief Judge

WCAC | March 18, 2026

IME Timing and Extensions

Minn. Stat. § 176.155

Subd. 1 (b) IME report must be served on the employee and the attorney representing the employee, if any, no later than 14 calendar days within the issuance of the report.

Subd. 1 (c) IME shall be completed and the report served on the employee within 120 days of service of the claim petition. Requests for a good cause extension must be made within 120 days of service of the claim petition, unless

- There has been a change to the employee's claim regarding the nature and extent of the injury; a change to the permanency benefits claimed by the employee, including a change in PPD percentage; or a new claim for indemnity benefits;
- The employment relationship is not admitted by the uninsured employer.

Subd. 1 (e) Good cause for an extension includes that there is a limited number of providers available with expertise in the particular injury or disease; the complexity of the medical issues; and needing to gather additional information not included on the petition as required by Minn. Stat. § 176.291.

2026 IME Extensions

Through March 11, 2026

- 205 Agreements to IME Extension
- 75 Motions to Extend Time for IME
 - 4 Objections
- 74 Orders Extending IME Deadline
 - Most Orders note no objection by any party

2026 Continuances

Through March 11, 2026

- 481 Motions for Continuance filed
- 1 Objection to Motion for Continuance
- 19% of proceedings scheduled in 2026 were continued
 - Includes hearings, settlement conferences, administrative conferences, motion hearings

Observations by WC Judges

- Anecdotal evidence matches data
- Limited impact of 2023 law changes
- Additional considerations

Questions?

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Thank you!