

Mediation – Department of Labor and Industry

The Department of Labor and Industry (DLI) provides free mediation services to all parties to any workers' compensation dispute. Mediation is an informal process where a neutral third-party assists disputing parties in reaching a mutually acceptable resolution of the dispute.



DLI mediators now offer worksites a short, on-site presentation about mediation and the alternative dispute-resolution services the department has available.

While the most effective way to conduct mediations is usually in-person, the location of the parties and time constraints do not always make that possible. So, DLI staff members will conduct mediations by telephone, fax, email or teleconferencing, whatever is appropriate to accommodate the parties' needs.

DLI offers the following features to facilitate the mediation process.

- The department provides Internet access for laptop use during mediation sessions.
- Additional rooms at DLI now accommodate more mediations.
- If the parties cannot be at the DLI office, but are all present, it may be possible for DLI to prepare a mediation resolution agreement and award while the parties wait.
- If a mediation is by telephone, DLI can fax or email the mediation agreement in advance for review and signature.
- Mediation resolutions and awards may be drafted and exchanged by email or fax to expedite filing.
- A “settlement day” can be scheduled with one or more mediators, in St. Paul or elsewhere, to set a group of cases for mediation, particularly if the cases include similar issues or parties.
- Last but not least, DLI has video conferencing capabilities. All parties can participate without the need for extensive travel, providing a significant cost savings.

DLI mediators are a talented, diverse group of professionals; a composite resume is available on the DLI website at www.dli.mn.gov/WC/PDF/WcMedSymp6b.pdf.

To request a presentation about mediation, discuss ways to prevent or resolve a workers' compensation dispute, or get general questions answered, call (651) 284-5032 or 1-800-365-4584.

Visit www.dli.mn.gov/WC/DispRes.asp to learn more about DLI's alternative dispute-resolution and mediation services.