

State of New York
WORKERS' COMPENSATION BOARD

**REGISTRATION OF PARTICIPATION IN WORLD TRADE CENTER RESCUE,
RECOVERY AND/OR CLEAN-UP OPERATIONS**
(Affirmation Pursuant to Workers' Compensation Law §162)

Please read the background and instructions below completely and carefully before completing the Affirmation beginning on page 3.

BACKGROUND

1. On August 14, 2006, Workers' Compensation Law (WCL) Article 8-A was enacted to expand the time for a "participant" in World Trade Center rescue, recovery and/or clean-up operations who suffers, or may suffer in the future, from a "qualifying condition" to file a claim for workers' compensation lost wage and medical benefits and to permit the Board to reopen such claims previously denied as untimely. Article 8-A was recently amended to change the definition of "qualifying condition" and to extend the registration deadline.
2. A "Participant in World Trade Center rescue, recovery, or cleanup operations" (referred to as "participant") is defined in WCL §161(1) as any:
 - (a) **employee** who within the course of employment, or (b) volunteer upon presentation to the Board of evidence satisfactory to the Board that he or she:
 - (i) participated in the rescue, recovery, or cleanup operations at the World Trade Center site between September 11, 2001 and September 12, 2002, or
 - (ii) worked at the Fresh Kills Land Fill in New York City between September 11, 2001 and September 12, 2002, or
 - (iii) worked at the New York City morgue or the temporary morgue on pier locations on the west side of Manhattan between September 11, 2001 and September 12, 2002, or
 - (iv) worked on the barges between the west side of Manhattan and the Fresh Kills Land Fill in New York City between September 11, 2001 and September 12, 2002.
3. "World Trade Center site" is defined as "anywhere below a line starting from the Hudson River and Canal Street; east on Canal Street to Pike Street; south on Pike Street to the East River; and extending to the lower tip of Manhattan."
4. A "qualifying condition" is defined as "any of the following diseases or condition resulting from a hazardous exposure during participation in World Trade Center rescue, recovery or clean-up operations:
 - (a) Diseases of the upper respiratory tract and mucosae, including conditions such as conjunctivitis, rhinitis, sinusitis, pharyngitis, laryngitis, vocal cord disease, upper airway hyper-reactivity and trachea-bronchitis, or a combination of such conditions;
 - (b) Diseases of the lower respiratory tract, including but not limited to bronchitis, asthma, reactive airway dysfunction syndrome, and different types of pneumonitis, such as hypersensitivity, granulomatous, or eosinophilic;
 - (c) Diseases of the gastroesophageal tract, including esophagitis and reflux disease, either acute or chronic, caused by exposure or aggravated by exposure;
 - (d) Diseases of the psychological axis, including post-traumatic stress disorder, anxiety, depression, or any combination of such conditions; or
 - (e) New onset diseases resulting from exposure as such diseases occur in the future including cancer, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, asbestos-related disease, heavy metal poisoning, musculoskeletal disease and chronic psychological disease.
5. In order for the claim of a participant in World Trade Center rescue, recovery or cleanup operations to come within the application of Article 8-A of the Workers' Compensation Law, the participant is required to register with the Workers' Compensation Board ("Board"). The registration form (WTC-12) must be filed not later than September 11, 2026.
6. To register, this Affirmation must be accurately and truthfully completed and the original filed with the Board District Office or Downstate Central Mailing Center (see addresses below) not later than September 11, 2026.

INSTRUCTIONS

- A. If you were a "participant" in World Trade Center rescue, recovery, and/or cleanup operations, as that term is defined above, you are required to provide information requested by the Board in the accompanying Affirmation if you were exposed to hazardous conditions which cause you to suffer, or may cause you to suffer in the future, from a "qualifying condition" for which you will or may file or have filed a claim for workers' compensation benefits.

- B. Please complete the Affirmation by providing the following information:
- Item 1** - Give your current residential address, including apartment number (if applicable), street number, street name, city, state and zip code. Give mailing address if different from the residential address provided. Be sure to include your telephone number. Please provide your Social Security Number and your date of birth by month/date/year. **Item 2** - This sentence just states that you participated in the World Trade Center rescue, recovery and cleanup operations between September 11, 2001, and September 12, 2002, at the World Trade Center site, the Fresh Kills Land Fill, the New York City morgue or temporary morgue, or the barges between the west side of Manhattan and the Fresh Kills Land Fill.
- Item 3** - State whether you participated in the World Trade Center rescue, recovery and/or clean-up operations as an employee (in the course of your employment for pay) or as a volunteer (not in the course of your employment, but upon your own initiative without pay);
- Item 4** - List with a brief description any evidence of your activities as a volunteer, for example, badge, letters, statements, pictures, accommodations, etc.;
- Item 5** - Fill in the table. Specify the dates and locations of your participation in World Trade Center rescue, recovery and/or cleanup operations to the best of your ability. Describe the work you performed at each location on the date or dates you were there. Give the complete name and address of your employer (s) or the rescue entity/volunteer agency you volunteered with during the period of participation in World Trade Center rescue, recovery and/or clean-up operations, and if applicable and you know, the name of your employer's insurance carrier; and
- Item 6** - Indicate whether you previously filed a workers' compensation claim with the Board relating to your participation in World Trade Center rescue, recovery and/or cleanup operations. If you have, you must include the date the claim was filed and the WCB case number.
- Item 7** - This item states your understanding that filing the Affirmation, and thereby registering as a "participant," is not the same as filing a claim for workers' compensation benefits. To file a claim for benefits you must timely submit to the Board Form C-3 or Form WTCVol-3.
- Item 8** - This item states that you understand that the law penalizes those who submit false written documents to the Board and for making false statements.
- C. After you complete the Affirmation, please review it to insure that it is truthful and accurate.
- D. Sign the Affirmation. PLEASE NOTE: by signing this statement, you swear and affirm that the information provided and statements made therein are true under the penalty of perjury. You are also stating that you understand that the law prescribes penalties for perjury, for willfully making false statements in connection with an insurance claim, and for submitting a false instrument for filing.
- E. You must file the original Affirmation with the Board not later than September 11, 2026 to the Board's Centralized Mailing Address: P.O. Box 5205, Binghamton, N.Y. 13902.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- F. Filing this Affirmation with the Board is **NOT** considered the filing of a claim for workers' compensation benefits. In order to file a claim for workers' compensation benefits, you must submit a Form C-3 (Employee's Claim for Compensation) or WTCVol-3 (World Trade Center Volunteer's Claim for Compensation) to the Board in a timely manner.
- G. **PLEASE NOTE:** If you previously filed a claim for workers' compensation benefits relating to your participation in World Trade Center rescue, recovery and/or cleanup operations, which was disallowed by the Board because you did not give timely notice to your employer or did not file a claim with the Board within the time allowed, the Board will reopen and reconsider such claim PROVIDED your Affirmation is filed with the Board not later than September 11, 2026.
- H. **PLEASE NOTE:**
- "participant" must register by filing an Affirmation with the Board not later than September 11, 2026, in order for the extended claim filing period to apply to their claim.
 - If a "participant" has already filed a claim for workers' compensation benefits for a "qualifying condition" which was disallowed as untimely and now fails to timely file a Affirmation with the Board, the "participant's" claim will not be reopened and reconsidered by the Board. Except that a claim by a participant in the World Trade Center rescue, recovery or cleanup operations whose disablement occurred between September 11, 2012 and September 11, 2021, shall not be disallowed as barred by Section 18 or Section 28 of this chapter if such claim is filed on or before September 11, 2026. Any such claim by a participant in the World Trade Center rescue, recovery or cleanup operations whose disablement occurred between September 11, 2012 and September 11, 2021, and was disallowed by Section 18 or 28 of this chapter shall be reconsidered by the Board.
 - The extended period in which to file a claim will only apply to the claim of a "participant" who registers by filing a Affirmation with the Board not later than September 11, 2026.

Registration of Participation in World Trade Center
Rescue, Recovery and/or Clean-up Operations
(Affirmation Pursuant to Workers' Compensation Law §162)

REGISTRATION IS NOT THE FILING OF A CLAIM FOR WORKERS' COMPENSATION BENEFITS

In the Matter of the Registration of

_____, Participant

(Your first name, middle initial and last name)

AFFIRMATION

Regarding Participation in World Trade Center
Rescue, Recovery and/or Clean-up Operations.

WCL§162

I, _____ (print first name, middle initial and last name) **affirm**

1. I am the above named Participant, and I reside at _____
_____ (provide street number and name, city, state, zip code and
country if not U.S.A.). My mailing address (if different from residential address is

My telephone number is _____ (area code, number). My Social Security Number is
_____ (optional) and my date of birth is _____.
2. I was a participant in World Trade Center rescue, recovery, and/or clean-up operations as that term is defined in Workers' Compensation Law §161 (1). (See instruction page for complete definition.)
3. I participated in the World Trade Center rescue, recovery and/or clean-up operations as defined in Workers' Compensation Law §161 (1) as (specify whether participated as an **employee** or **volunteer**)
_____. (A person participated as an employee if they were in the course of their employment and was paid. A person participated as a volunteer if it was not part of their employment they were not directed to participate by the employer and they were not paid for the services performed.)
4. I have the following evidence of my activities as a **volunteer** _____
_____ (list any
evidence such as pictures, badges, letters, etc. of your volunteer activities). (If you did not participate as a volunteer, cross out this paragraph.)
5. The date(s) and location(s) where I worked as a participant, a description of the work I performed, the name and address of my employer while a participant or the name of the agency or entity that directed my volunteer participation, and the insurance carrier, if applicable and/or known for my employer are as follows:

Date(s) Participated	Location(s) Where Participated	Description of Work Performed	Name of Employer/ Rescue Entity or Agency	Address of Employer/ Rescue Entity or Agency	Name of Employer's Insurance Carrier (if known)

6. I (state whether you **have or have not**) _____ filed a claim with the Workers' Compensation Board (hereinafter referred to as "Board") relating to my participation in World Trade Center rescue, recovery and/or clean-up operations as defined in Workers' Compensation Law §162 (1). I filed my claim on _____ (*date claim was filed with the Workers' Compensation Board*) and the "WCB Case No." for the claim filed is _____ (*eight digit number assigned by the Workers' Compensation Board*).
7. I understand that by filing this Affirmation with the Board I am not filing a claim for benefits and the Board will not create a case file. I understand that to file a claim I must timely submit to the Board Form C-3, Employee's Claim for Compensation, or Form WTCVol-3, World Trade Center Volunteer's Claim for Compensation.
8. I understand that the law prescribes penalties for perjury, for knowingly making false statements in a written instrument offered for filing with a public entity such as the Board, and for willfully making false statements in connection with an insurance claim. By signing my name below I swear and affirm under penalty of perjury that the information and statements I have made herein are true.

Complete Signature

(ink only -- use blue ballpoint pen if possible)

I affirm this _____ day of _____, _____ under the penalties of perjury under the laws of New York, which may include a fine or imprisonment, that the foregoing is true, and I understand that this document may be filed in an action or proceeding in a court of law.