



Important Information Concerning Availability of Pennsylvania Bureau of Mediation Services for the Private Sector in Pennsylvania

ABOUT

The Pennsylvania Bureau of Mediation (PA-BOM) has a long history of providing labor mediation services. While the majority of the work performed by PA-BOM has focused on public sector employers and employees since the passage of the Public Employee Relations Act in 1970, PA-BOM has consistently provided mediation services in a **limited** number of private sector cases each year.

Since its inception in 1947, the Federal Conciliation and Mediation Service (FMCS) had provided the majority of service in private sector cases within Pennsylvania's borders. Approximately 550–800 private sector dispute notices are filed in Pennsylvania per year, each with the possibility of requiring mediation services to avoid or minimize a disruption of commerce and potentially critical services.

PA-BOM endeavors to be available to parties involved in private sector labor disputes if our services are requested and without disrupting our capacity to meet statutory mandates regarding service to the public sector.

CRITERIA

In addition to BOM having timely operational capacity, parties seeking to utilize the services of the PA-BOM in private sector cases must also meet the following criteria:

1. The parties requesting mediation assistance have determined that no FMCS mediator is available to meet the request.
2. The case concerns collective bargaining applicable to an employer and/or facilities exclusively or primarily located within Pennsylvania.
3. The bargaining unit covered by the CBA consists primarily of employees residing in Pennsylvania.
4. No travel will be required outside of Pennsylvania. All collective bargaining and mediation will occur within Pennsylvania borders.
5. The parties have submitted a completed LIMS-102 "Private Sector Dispute Notice" at least 30-days prior to the expiration of a collective bargaining agreement (CBA) or no later than 30-days following the commencement of negotiations in the case of negotiations for an initial contract. The notice requirement to PA-BOM is 60-days prior to CBA expiration in the case of a dispute involving a healthcare institution.
6. **The Bureau of Mediation will only establish a case and assign a mediator if a properly executed LIMS-102 is submitted. We are unable to assign a mediator and establish a dispute case with the submission of a FMCS F-7 Notice or other method.** Please utilize the Bureau of Mediation's LIMS-102 "Private Sector Dispute Notice" to request PA-BOM in private sector cases.