Central Illinois Carpenters Health & Welfare Trust Fund

200 South Madigan Drive, Lincoln, IL 62656 Office Hours: 8:00 am to 4:30 pm Monday-Friday

Phone: 866-732-1919 ~ Website: www.cichealth.org

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IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR BENEFITS

January 2021

Dear Participant and Covered Dependent(s):

In light of the continued impact of COVID-19, the Trustees of the Central Illinois Carpenters Health and Welfare Trust Fund (the "Plan") recently amended the Plan to include the following benefit enhancements for you and your family:

Initial Eligibility and Lookback Eligibility Requirements

Effective **December 17, 2020**, the Plan was <u>temporarily</u> amended to provide the following eligibility assistance measures:

- The number of hours required for initial Welfare Plan eligibility for Actively at Work Participants shall be temporarily reduced, through August 31, 2021, from 500 hours to 400 hours in the prior consecutive 12-month period; and
- The Plan's 15-month eligibility "lookback" period is temporarily reduced for all Actively at Work Participants who are eligible for coverage during the December 2020/January 2021/February 2021 Benefit Quarter - from 1,000 hours to <u>750 hours</u> for the upcoming <u>March 2021/April 2021/May 2021</u> and <u>June 2021/July 2021/August 2021</u> Benefit Quarters.

Please note that both of the above Plan eligibility assistance measures **shall not be applicable or made available to retirees**, no matter whether the retiree is in self-pay status, running out accrued hours, or otherwise.

Welfare Plan COVID-19 Vaccine Benefits

Effective **January 1, 2021**, the Plan is hereby <u>temporarily</u> amended until April 21, 2021 (or to such later dates as required by the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services) to provide the following mandatory COVID-19 benefit enhancements:

• For both in-network and out-of-network providers, the Welfare Plan will temporarily cover 100% of the cost of COVID-19 vaccinations and related administrative services under the Plan's prescription drug benefit and medical benefit program.

OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION:

Quarterly Status Report

Your quarterly status report indicates your work hours reported to Fund Office and you should review it to ensure all of your work hours are being reported. You should contact the Fund Office about any discrepancy in hours within 15 days of receiving your report. This report is very important because it states if you are eligible or not for Health Plan benefits. The report is mailed to your address on file at the Fund Office each quarter: i.e. October, November and December work hours submitted to the Fund Office by January 31 with report mailed during early February. You are responsible to contact the Fund Office if you do not receive your quarterly status report. Please call the Fund Office with any questions concerning your hours.

EAP Provider Offers Free Services

The Employee Assistance Program is provided by ComPsych GuidanceResources. This program is free to members and their dependents. Services include counseling, legal and financial consultation and work-life assistance to all members and their household family members (dependents). The program is available 24 hours per day, 365 days a year and is confidential ~ no personal information will be shared with the Plan or its designees.

The EAP is designed to provide short-term counseling services with up to 6 sessions per issue per year. You also have access to a website with information on many topics including relationships, work, school, children, wellness, legal and financial. You may search for local child and elder care, attorneys and financial planners as well as ask questions, take self-assessments and more. The Plan's web ID is: CIC and then you can register for your own login at guidanceresources.com. The Plan has its own dedicated phone line at 800-272-7255 and you'll speak to a counseling professional who will listen to your concerns and guide you to the appropriate service.

Reciprocal Transfer

If you work out of the area of the Southern Region of the Chicago Regional Council of Carpenters, you will need to contact the Fund Office at 866-732-1919 to obtain a reciprocal (transfer) form to have your hours transferred back to the Central Illinois Carpenters Health and Welfare Trust Fund Office in Lincoln.

A Final Note

We are pleased to provide you and your family with comprehensive coverage and hope this information helps you get the most out of your benefits. If you have specific questions about your benefits, or the content of the Plan Description document, contact the Fund Office toll free at 866-732-1919.

Sincerely,

Board of Trustees

This announcement, which serves as a Summary of Material Modifications, contains only highlights of a recent change to the Central Illinois Carpenters Health & Welfare Plan. Full details are contained in the documents that establish the Plan provisions. If there is a discrepancy between the wording here and the documents that establish the Plan, the document language will govern. The Trustees reserve the right to amend, modify, or terminate the Plan at any time.