

New York State Teamsters Council Health and Hospital Fund

Mailing Address:
PO Box 4928
Syracuse, NY 13221-4928
Telephone: 315.455.9790
Fax: 315.234.1046
E-mail: benefits@nytfund.org



TO: PEO's, Business Agents and Staff
Local Union's: 118, 264, 294, 317, 355, 445
449, 529, 687, and 1149

FROM: Ken Stilwell – Executive Administrator

DATE: April 9, 2020

RE: Health & Hospital Fund – COVID 19 coverage

On Thursday, April 9, 2020, the Board of Trustees approved to waive member cost-sharing for the treatment of COVID-19 through May 31, 2020. This waiver includes coverage for treatment administered during inpatient hospital stays.

The Board approved this initiative so that all of its members can get the medical care needed to fight this virus without incurring any out of pocket expense.

What does this mean?

Currently, the Federal regulation requires full coverage for the COVID-19 test and any provider visit related to the test, such as an office visit, urgent care or emergency room visit. For High Deductible Health Plans (HDHP), the IRS allows benefits to be paid for the testing and treatment of COVID-19 prior to the satisfaction of the applicable minimum deductible without the HDHP losing its HSA-qualified status.

Excellus BCBS has been given approval to expand the coverage to allow paid in full benefits for any COVID-related treatment, for otherwise-covered services, through May 31, 2020.

This approval will waive co-pays for inpatient admissions, observation care, skilled nursing, ambulance, home care or any claim for otherwise-covered service that is filed with a diagnosis of confirmed COVID-19.

Fortunately, the Fund's current reserves allow this important benefit to be added for coverage.

These certainly are trying times for all of us and if you have any questions or concerns, call me direct at 315.455.4640 or through e-mail at krstil@nytfund.org.

Regards.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Employer Representatives

Michael S. Scalzo, Sr.
Co-Chairman
Broad Brook, CT

Mark A. Gladfelter
Carlisle, PA

Samuel D. Pilger
Holland, MI

Daniel W. Schmidt
Lebanon, PA

Labor Representatives

John A. Bulgaro
Co-Chairman
Albany, NY

Brian K. Hammond
Potsdam, NY

George F. Harrigan
Orchard Park, NY

Mark D. May
Syracuse, NY

PARTICIPATING TEAMSTER LOCALS

118 Rochester, NY

264 Cheektowaga, NY

294 Albany, NY

317 Syracuse, NY

355 Baltimore, MD

445 Newburgh, NY

449 Buffalo, NY

529 Elmira, NY

687 Potsdam, NY

1149 Baldwinsville, NY