

The Fund Office Report

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Vacation Plan Payout Checks



The semiannual Vacation Plan disbursements will be processed the second week of April. For those members who have enrolled in direct deposit, otherwise known as Electronic Fund Transfer (EFT), disbursements will be processed on Wednesday, April 9th and the funds should be received in your bank account on Thursday, April 10th. For those members who will be receiving a check by mail, checks should be processed and mailed from the Fund Office by Friday, April 11th. You should receive the check by Friday, April 18th, at the latest.

Please make sure that the Fund Office has your current address on file. Please remember, you may enroll in direct deposit **at any time**. The quickest and easiest way to add a bank account to have your funds received by direct deposit is to do so through your member self-services account. You can find the link at www.steamfitters.com by selecting member at the top of the page which will direct you to the member login screen. You can also enroll in direct deposit by submitting an "EFT Authorization Form" which can be found online at www.steamfitters.com, in the Forms section, or by calling the Fund Office at (212) 465-8888, option 9 to request a form. For those members who are currently enrolled in direct deposit and have changed or closed the account on file, please contact the Fund Office at the above number **immediately**.



Encircle Rx (OMADA)



In our January 2025 Newsletter, we introduced a new program, maintained by our pharmacy manager, Express Scripts, called Encircle Rx. This program requires those members who are taking GLP-1's for weight loss, i.e., Zepbound and Wegovy to enroll in the OMADA program.

The purpose of this program is to pair better lifestyle habits along with the proper use of these prescriptions. The reason for this program is to ensure you take an active role in your health care journey by interacting with counselors through the OMADA program. If you are currently taking or have recently been prescribed one of these drugs, you should be enrolled in the program by now.

We wish you luck on your weight loss journey and congratulate you on taking an active role in your health care.

As always, if you have any additional questions, feel free to call the Fund Office Welfare Department at (212) 465-8888, option 4.



Cyber Security—Personal Information

PROTECT YOUR INFORMATION!



Cyber criminals are active 24/7 to try and obtain your personal information. The Fund Office is vigilant in protecting your information. However, we need YOUR HELP! You should **never** email the Fund Office sensitive information, such as your or your dependent's Social Security Numbers, bank account information, or private health information. The safest way to share this information is to use either the message option or document upload option inside your member portal. If you have any questions, or need help accessing these options, please call the Fund Office at (212) 465-8888, extension 236.

2025 Retirement Seminar

This year, the Retirement Seminar will be held on Saturday, September 6, 2025 at the LaGuardia Marriott. Invitations will be sent this summer.

There will be presentations on the following: Pension & Welfare benefits, Social Security, Estate Planning and the Steamfitters' Industry Assistance Program.

Breakfast and lunch are included!



Student Loan Repayment Benefit



The Security Benefit Fund now offers a Student Loan Repayment Benefit. You are eligible to be reimbursed for student loan re-payments for post-secondary education, made on or after June 1, 2024. Covered expenses under this section include, but are not limited to loan principle, interest charges, late fees, and legal counsel fees. You must apply for each student loan repayment; provided, however, that multiple payments towards the same loan, or group of loans with the same provider or servicer, may be consolidated into a single application. To access more details regarding this benefit, [click here](#).

If you have any questions about the process or the eligibility of expenses, please contact the Disbursements Department at the Fund Office by calling (212) 465-8888, option 8.



Health Reimbursement Account



We want to take this opportunity to remind you about the benefits of the Health Reimbursement Account (HRA) and the ways it can assist you in covering your out-of-pocket medical expenses.

As a participant in the HRA, you can be reimbursed, tax free, for out-of-pocket medical expenses not covered by your insurance. You can also be reimbursed for similar expenses incurred by your legal dependents. This includes COBRA, dental, hospital, medical, long-term care insurance premiums, prescription drugs, Medicare Part B & D premiums, over-the-counter (OTC) medicinal products, vision, hearing & other health insurance or assisted living medical costs. Furthermore, the CARES Act has made feminine care products and over-the-counter (OTC) medicines such as allergy and cold medicine, pain relievers, and digestive aids eligible expenses as well.

To receive reimbursement for any of the above-listed expenses, you must submit an HRA application along with the required documentation listed on the application.

Finally, we want to remind you that your HRA account balance is accrued from contributions received on your behalf by a contributing employer. If your reimbursement expenses exceed your HRA account balance, the remainder can be reimbursed from your Security Benefit Fund.

If you have any questions about the process or the eligibility of expenses, please contact the Disbursements Department at the Fund Office by calling (212) 465-8888, option 8.

Life Insurance Benefit



Life Insurance coverage is provided to you if you are eligible for benefits under the Welfare Fund.

- Your eligibility must be based on employment (excludes those covered by COBRA or Retiree coverage).
- Life Insurance is \$50,000. If you die from any cause, your designated beneficiary will be paid. MetLife has been selected by the Trustees to provide group life insurance benefits.
- In the event of your death, a family member should call the Fund Office to report your death.
- You should review your beneficiary designations periodically to ensure they are in line with your intentions.
- If you wish to change your beneficiary, complete the “Designation of Beneficiary” form found in the Forms section of the website, www.steamfitters.com, or call the Fund Office at (212) 465-8888, option 4.

Additional Coverages:

- Accidental Death & Dismemberment (AD&D) - If, while you are insured, you are injured in a non-employment related accident & the accident is the sole cause of the injury, the injury is the sole cause of the covered loss, & the covered loss occurs within one year of the date of accident.
- Accelerated Benefit Option—If you should become terminally ill while covered under the Welfare Fund for Life Insurance, you or your legal representative may request that MetLife pay an Accelerated Benefit Option (ABO). A terminal illness diagnosis due to injury or sickness requires that the life expectancy must be no longer than 12 months.

For more information on Life Insurance Coverages, please call (212) 465-8888, menu option 4.