

The Fund Office Report

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Quarterly Union Meeting



Please be advised that the Fund Administrator, Bill Turnbull, will be in attendance at the Union quarterly meeting on October 21st to provide updates on the status of your Trust Funds.

MTB Collective Bargaining Agreement

On Sunday, June 8, 2025, the new Metal Trades Collective Bargaining Agreement was ratified by a vote of 115-67.

This new agreement will be effective July 1, 2025 and terminates on June 30, 2029.

There are significant changes that are beneficial to the members. Once you receive your copy, please review these important changes.

If you have any questions on this agreement, please call the Union Office at 718-392-3420.



Paid Family Leave

You may be eligible to take NY State Paid Family Leave (NYSPFL) and maintain your health care coverage.

NYSPFL is available to those members who are bonding with a **new child**, caring for a family member with a **serious health condition**, and assisting with family needs related to a family member's **military deployment**.

New Child: You can take Paid Family Leave during the first 12 months following the birth, adoption or fostering of a child. Expectant mothers cannot take Paid Family Leave for their own pregnancy. Paid Family Leave for the birth of a child begins after the birth. It is not available for prenatal conditions.

Serious Illness: You can take Paid Family Leave to care for a family member with a serious health condition. These relatives can live outside of New York State and even outside the country. You cannot take Paid Family Leave for your own health condition. A serious health condition is an illness, injury, impairment, or physical or mental condition that involves:

- Inpatient care in a hospital, hospice, or residential health care facility, or
- Continuing treatment or continuing supervision by a health care provider.

A family member includes: spouse, domestic partner, child and stepchild, parent and stepparent, parent-in-law, grandparent, grandchild, sibling (biological, adopted, half, and step).

Military Active Service Deployment: You can take Paid Family Leave to assist with family situations arising when your spouse, domestic partner, child, or parent is deployed abroad on active military service or has been notified of an impending military deployment abroad. You cannot use Paid Family Leave for your own qualifying military event.

For more information, contact your employer or visit NYSPFL [New York State Paid Family Leave] website at <https://paidfamilyleave.ny.gov/> or call 1-844-337-6303.

If you qualify, you must provide the Fund Office with official proof by submitting copies of your paystubs from NYSPFL indicating the days you were paid for Paid Family Leave. Each day that you receive payment from Paid Family Leave, the Fund Office will credit you eight (8) hours, which will be counted toward your 100 hours for your Welfare Fund eligibility.

Protect Your Data!



In recent weeks, several major companies and platforms have reported data breaches, potentially exposing users' personal information such as email addresses, passwords, and even payment details. These incidents serve as a critical reminder: your digital security is only as strong as your habits.

Why this matters:

- Hackers often sell or leak stolen credentials on the dark web.
- If you reuse the same passwords across multiple sites, one breach can give attackers access to many of your accounts.
- Breaches can lead to identity theft, financial fraud, and unauthorized access to sensitive data.

What you should do:

- Change your passwords immediately if you suspect you've been affected or haven't updated them in a while.
- Use strong, unique passwords for each account. Consider using a trusted password manager.
- Enable two-factor authentication (2FA) wherever possible for an added layer of security.
- Stay alert for phishing emails and suspicious activity on your accounts.

Even if you weren't directly affected by a breach, it's smart to treat these events as wake-up calls. Proactive steps today can prevent serious problems tomorrow.

Annual Pension Statements

Your annual Pension statements titled "Metal YCS Letter" will be posted to participants accounts in early September. The Metal YCS letter is an important document and should be read carefully. The letter will provide your status in the Metal Trades Branch Local 638 Pension Fund. In addition, the letter details the number of service years, a calculation of your benefit, and retirement eligibility. If you have signed up for paperless delivery, an email notification will be sent when the letter is posted to the member's account. Those who are not signed up for paperless delivery will receive it by mail.



Vision Care Benefits

Vision Care Benefits are available to you and your qualifying dependents. This benefit will reimburse you for the cost of eye exams, frames, and /or lenses, including contact lenses. Vision Care Benefits are available in the maximum amount of \$400 per person each calendar year. Please note that the Welfare Fund requires proof of payment documentation (cancelled check, credit card statement, etc.). Should you have any questions regarding your Vision Care Benefits, please contact the Disbursements Department at (212) 465-8888, menu option 8.

Steamfitting Industry Assistance Program (SIAP)



We help members and their families dealing with alcoholism, drug abuse, misuse of prescription drugs and emotional problems. Contact our Director of SIAP, Roger Ross, at (212) 563-0342. Please be assured all calls are kept **STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL**.