



## CHICAGO & VICINITY LABORERS' DISTRICT COUNCIL RETIREE HEALTH & WELFARE PLAN

11465 CERMAK ROAD  
WESTCHESTER, ILLINOIS 60154-5768

Telephone: (708) 562-0200  
Toll Free: (866) 906-0200  
Welfare Fax: (708) 562-0716  
e-mail: Claims@chilpwf.com  
www.chicagolaborersfunds.com

### Important Notice of Changes to Plan Benefits under Retiree Plan 3

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February 2021

Dear Retiree:

The Board of Trustees of the Chicago & Vicinity Laborers' District Council Retiree Health & Welfare Plan (the "Retiree Plan") is pleased to announce the following enhancements to the benefits under Retiree Plan 3.

#### **Bariatric Surgery Benefits for Retiree Plan 3**

Effective for eligible claims incurred on or after February 1, 2021, Retiree Plan 3 will cover Medically Necessary bariatric (weight loss) surgery at an approved in-network Blue Distinction Center (also referred to as a Center for Excellence), if the Participant:

If you are considering this procedure, please contact the Fund Office to discuss coverage.

- (A) is diagnosed with "Morbidly Obesity"; and
- (B) is either: (1) an adult who is at least 18 years of age or has reached full expected bone growth; or (2) an adolescent who has satisfied Tanner 4 or 5 pubertal development or has a bone age of at least 13 years in girls, or at least 15 years in boys; and
- (C) Has participated in a Physician-supervised nutrition and exercise program (including dietician consultation, low calorie diet, increased physical activity, and behavioral modification) documented in the medical record; and
- (D) Has an evaluation completed by a state licensed behavioral healthcare provider, within the 12 months preceding the request for bariatric surgery; and
- (E) Utilizes a Center for Excellence for bariatric surgery.

"Morbid Obesity" means having a Body Mass Index (BMI) either: (1) equal to or greater than 40 kg/meter<sup>2</sup>; or (2) equal to or greater than 35 kg/meter<sup>2</sup> with at least one of the following clinically significant obesity-related diseases or complications that are not controlled by best practice medical management:

#### EMPLOYER PARTICIPANTS –

Builders' Association, Employing Plasterers' Association, Underground Contractors' Association, Mason Contractors' Association, Concrete Contractors' Association, Wrecking Contractors, Concrete Products Employers, Lake County Illinois Employers, Illinois Road Builders Association, Bridge and Highway Structural Builders; i.e. all those who employ Laborers Engaged in the Building and Construction Industry.

hypertension, dyslipidemia, diabetes mellitus, coronary heart disease, sleep apnea, or osteoarthritis in weight bearing joints.

Bariatric surgery means gastric stapling, gastroplasty, gastric banding, and any other Medically Necessary weight reduction or obesity-related surgery or procedure. The following treatment is also covered provided that it is related to a bariatric surgery that met the requirements of coverage under Retiree Plan 3: post-surgical counseling, follow-up surgery to correct a previous bariatric surgery and/or any complication due to bariatric surgery, and excess skin removal, but only if Medically Necessary. Keep in mind that, to be covered under Retiree Plan 3, bariatric surgery must meet requirements A-E set forth on the prior page.

To avoid surprises, we encourage Participants contemplating bariatric surgery to contact the Fund Office with a pre-service inquiry before receiving any bariatric surgery services.

### **Questions?**

If you have questions about your benefits, please contact the Fund Office at (708) 562-0200 or (866) 906-0200, from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm, Monday through Friday.

### **Final Note**

Please share this Notice with your family members who are eligible for coverage and keep it with your SPD and other benefits information for easy reference. Capitalized terms used but not defined in this Notice have the meaning as set forth in the SPD.

Sincerely,

*Board of Trustees*

The information contained in this Notice only highlights certain features of the Chicago & Vicinity Laborers' District Council Retiree Health & Welfare Plan and is intended to be a Summary of Material Modifications to the SPD. The Board of Trustees of the Retiree Plan ("Board of Trustees") reserves the right and has the authority to amend, modify, or eliminate benefits at any time, or terminate the Retiree Plan when financial conditions dictate. Receipt of this Notice does not confer or guarantee eligibility for benefits. In addition, the Board of Trustees, or such other persons as delegated by the Board of Trustees, has the discretion to interpret and construe the Retiree Plan's provisions, as set forth in the SPD.

SUMMARY OF MATERIAL MODIFICATIONS  
EIN: 46-5243652      Plan No.: 501  
February 2021