



July 26, 2022

NEW TRAVEL EXPENSE REIMBURSEMENT BENEFIT

The Board of Trustees of the IATSE National Health & Welfare Fund is pleased to announce a new travel expense reimbursement benefit for covered participants (and their enrolled dependents) in Health Plans A and C. The benefit is available to enrolled participants and dependents who must travel out of state to obtain an abortion or mental/behavioral health or substance abuse treatment because that care is not lawful:

- in the state where that individual resides or
- the state where that individual is temporarily located

The travel must be for a procedure/treatment that is covered by the Plan while you are enrolled and from a provider covered by the individual's Plan option (including an out-of-network provider if the option in which the individual is enrolled covers out-of-network care – i.e., Plans A, C-1 and C-2). The travel expenses (incurred on or after July 1, 2022) that are covered are listed below.

Please check your mailbox and the Fund's website for more information regarding this new benefit from Empire BlueCross BlueShield (the Fund's claims administrator), including information about the claims submission process

What is covered:

Transportation: The Fund will reimburse the following transportation expenses incurred by the participant or dependent plus one medically appropriate support companion:

- 100% of the actual cost for round trip airfare (by "coach" class travel only);
- 100% of the actual cost for travel via trains, subways, buses, taxis, ride shares, or other public transportation (at coach/economy class where applicable); and
- Mileage for use of a personal vehicle at the applicable rate set forth by the Internal Revenue Service and updated from time to time (*e.g.*, 62.5 cents/mile in 2022)* as well as applicable parking fees and/or tolls.
- Reasonable rental car costs (budget or economy class only)

Lodging: The Fund will reimburse lodging expenses incurred by the participant or dependent, up to \$300 per night for up to two nights. *

Meals: The Fund will reimburse meal expenses incurred by the participant or dependent up to a maximum of \$100 per day (including meals for any companion) for up to three days.*

***Please note that certain reimbursements, as described above, are taxable to you, specifically:**

- Mileage above the medical transportation rate, currently 22 cents/mile, you will be taxed for the additional 40.5 cents per mile,
- Lodging above \$50 per night for an individual (and above \$100 per night if accompanied by a companion), and
- All meal reimbursements.

Annual Limit:

\$5,000 per year per covered individual

What is not covered:

- Anything other than the transportation, lodging and meal expenses listed above, such as personal care items, and car maintenance.
- Travel due to Plan network inadequacy
- Travel outside the U.S.
- Travel to obtain a procedure from a provider that is not covered under your Plan option.

The Travel Benefit is not subject to Plan deductibles or coinsurance.