

on the
LEVEL

Chicago Regional Council of Carpenters Welfare and Pension Funds



RETIREE EDITION

Fall 2020



Check Out the Vision Center— Our Retirees Already Love It!

The Carpenters Center for Vision offers convenient, wellness-inspired vision care for you and your family. Make an appointment to access great benefits, like **FREE** WellVision Exams and retinal screenings, a wide selection of fashionable frames and safety glasses, and more!

Don't take our word for it. Here's what James Orth, a retired member of Local 1 had to say:

I had an appointment at the Vision Center for an eye exam and new glasses. I was very impressed. Everything was very sanitary and the staff was very professional. I definitely recommend the Carpenters Center for Vision to all my fellow carpenters.

- **The Carpenters Center for Vision does not accept cash!**
For copays or if you purchase an add-on such as a lens enhancement, you can pay with a debit or credit card.
- **You must be enrolled in Retiree vision benefits to use the Vision Center.**



The Vision Center is open by appointment **ONLY**.
Call **(630) 598-5120** to schedule.

Hours

Monday: 8:00 a.m.–7:00 p.m.

Tuesday–Thursday: 10:00 a.m.–7:00 p.m.

Friday: 8:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.

Location

4979 Indiana Avenue

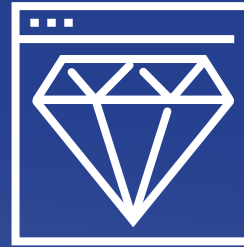
Suite 200

Lisle, IL 60532



Not Receiving Our Emails?

To update your email address, call the Fund Office at **(312) 787-9455**, menu option 4.



Our Website Is Getting a Refresh

Later this fall, we're launching a redesigned **crccbenefits.org**. The updated website will be easier to use and offer great features for our participants. **Stay tuned for more information in the coming weeks.**

Understanding Prescription Drug Costs

The Fund continues to pay more for prescription drugs each year. This cost increase is driven primarily by the rising cost of specialty medications. Specialty medications tend to be very expensive, because they require special handling during storage and distribution. Although our number of specialty medication prescriptions is low, their cost is significant!

The Fund tries to manage the cost of prescription drugs by participating in step therapy programs and requiring prior authorizations in some cases. Generic drugs have the lowest cost, which saves you and the Fund money. They are chemically identical to the brand-name version, so they are just as safe and effective. If your doctor prescribes a brand-name medication, ask if a generic is available. It will save you and the Fund money.

Take a look at the Fund's prescription drug spend in 2019.

2019



556,296
Total **number** of prescriptions

Fund's average cost per script

Member's average cost per script

		
Generic: 489,328	Generic: \$22.14	Generic: \$5.81
Brand: 58,805	Brand: \$543.07	Brand: \$84.90
Specialty: 8,163	Specialty: \$3,747.90	Specialty: \$52.47

Updates on the Carpenters Center for Health

The Health Center, in partnership with Premise Health, provides care for non-urgent and ongoing chronic medical conditions to those who are enrolled in Retiree Comprehensive Medical or Comprehensive Medicare Supplement coverage. It is staffed by the highest-quality providers who focus on comprehensive, personalized care—all at no cost to you!

Here's what Roman Zabicki, a retired member of Local 13, had to say:

The treatment I have received at the Carpenters Center for Health has been outstanding. Meredith Walter, the nurse practitioner, and Angeleen Engblom, the Wellness Coach, have given me great, thorough, and practical advice. They are passionate about helping people lead healthier lives, and we, their patients, are lucky to have them. You guys hit it out of the park with this service! Thank you, thank you, thank you!



Call a Registered Nurse

Nurse advice is just a phone call away, 24/7, every day of the year! Call (312) 260-1189 to reach the Carpenters Center for Health 24/7 Nurse Line.

Registered nurses can provide support for:

- Cold or flu symptoms
- Sinus and ear infections
- Possible pink eye and other eye irritations
- Fever and chills
- Rashes and hives
- Sore throat
- To help you decide if you need to see a doctor!



Flu Season Is Approaching

During the COVID-19 pandemic, it could be easy to forget about the flu season. Don't get caught off guard! The Carpenters Center for Health is a full-service doctor's office. That means you and your eligible family members who are enrolled in Retiree Comprehensive Medical or Comprehensive Medicare Supplement coverage can get FREE immunizations and flu shots.

Make sure you and your family are protected from the flu. Even if you had a flu shot last year, you will still need to get this year's vaccine, as active flu strains are different each year.

Mark your calendar for our annual flu shot clinic! Visit the Health Center on October 8 or 9 for a flu shot—no appointment necessary. When you arrive at the Lisle campus, follow the signage that will lead you **downstairs** to a check-in area. The flu shot clinic will be held during regular business hours. Masks and social distancing rules apply. Please remember to bring a photo ID and your BCBS ID card.

If the Health Center location is not convenient for you, retired, eligible members and dependents can get a flu shot at any location that accepts BCBSIL insurance. Coverage is still 100%.



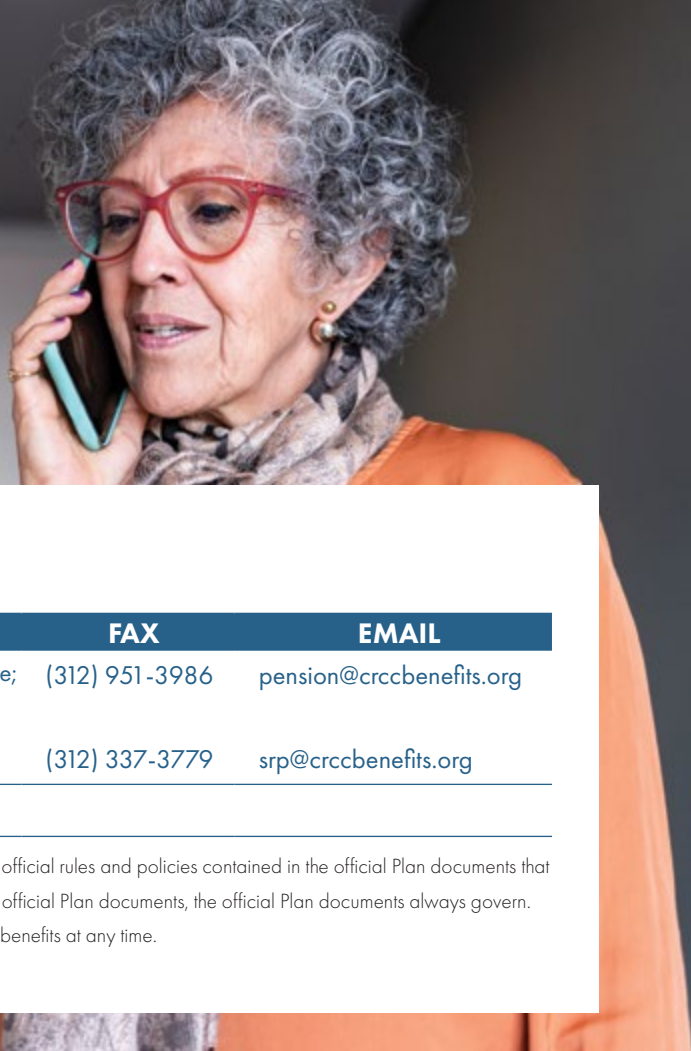
**Chicago Regional Council
of Carpenters Welfare Fund**
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Chicago, Illinois 60611-2796



**Follow us on social media
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Chicago Regional Council of Carpenters
Benefit Funds is on Facebook and
Instagram at [@crccbenefts](#).



Questions About Your Benefits?

Call the Fund Office at **(312) 787-9455**, phone option 4.

		FAX	EMAIL
Phone Option 4	Retirement Benefits Department: Retiree health coverage; applying for a pension or death benefits	(312) 951-3986	pension@crccbenefts.org
	Withdrawals from your Supplemental Retirement account	(312) 337-3779	srp@crccbenefts.org
Website	crccbenefts.org		

The information provided in **on the LEVEL** is of a general nature only and does not replace or alter the official rules and policies contained in the official Plan documents that legally govern the terms and operation of the Welfare Fund. If this newsletter differs in any way from the official Plan documents, the official Plan documents always govern. Receipt of this newsletter does not guarantee eligibility for benefits. The Trustees have the right to modify benefits at any time.