



## **SHEET METAL WORKERS' LOCAL UNION No. 22**

*Union, Morris, Somerset and Sussex Counties*

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March 16, 2020

### **SMART Local 22 Coronavirus (COVID-19) Strategy**

Dear Brothers and Sisters:

Due to the Coronavirus (COVID-19) and keeping your health and safety as Sheet Metal Workers Local 22 a top priority, the **Regular/Special Membership Meeting for April 8<sup>th</sup> 2020 has been cancelled**. We will notify the membership when the meetings will resume. Local 22 is taking the following steps to assist our members during this pandemic:

- **Unemployment Possibilities:**
  - Members who are laid off due to COVID-19 for jobsite shutdowns or shop shutdowns **must sign the Out of Work List** and file for State Unemployment. Sheet Metal Workers Unemployment Fund will waive the waiting period to start receiving benefits for any member affected by a COVID-19 layoff.
  - Local 22 offices will remain open at this time, but will be limited to office personnel only, with the exception of members who were laid off and need to sign the Out of Work List. If you have a need to come to the office for other business you must call beforehand.
  
- **Local 22 Health Care**
  - Local 22 Welfare Fund will cover all COVID-19 diagnostic testing, including the cost of a provider, urgent care center or emergency room visit in order to receive



testing. Coverage will be provided at no cost to the eligible members and their families covered under the Welfare Fund.

- Local 22 Welfare Fund will waive all office visit co-pays for COVID-19.
- **Lay-Off's Due to COVID-19 Shutdowns:**
  - The Trustees will review the impact of members that experience lost Welfare Fund hours regarding jobsite or shop shutdowns due to the COVID-19.
  - Employers who are forced to lay-off members due to the COVID-19 shutdowns will be assured of getting their workforce returned as conditions permit. **Employers must submit a document** to Local 22 from the GM, GC or the End User indicating the work stoppage is due to the COVID-19 and the approximate time the project will be delayed. This document will enable us to track Welfare Fund Hours lost for our members and for SMART Local 22 and SMART International Association to pursue possible assistance.

- **Local 22's Training Center Closure:**

Sheet Metal Workers Local 22 Training Center will suspend all classroom training beginning March 16, 2020 until as of now March 28, 2020 due to public health concerns related to the Coronavirus (COVID19). All missed classes will be rescheduled and added to the revised Training Center Calendar. This includes the following:

- Apprentice Classes
- Journeyman Classes

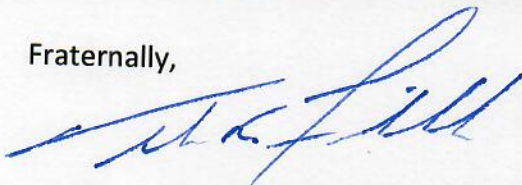
Employers and Instructors will also be notified.

I strongly suggest you visit the [cdc.gov](https://www.cdc.gov) website and take the recommended precautionary measures to ensure you and your family's health.

**All matters listed above are subject to change.**

If you have any questions regarding these benefits, please call the Funds Office at 908-276-2550 ext. 111 or the Local Union Office at 908-931-1798 ext. 112.

Fraternally,



Thomas R. Fischbach  
President/Business Manager