

Central Pennsylvania Teamsters Health and Welfare Fund

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Dear Participant and Dependents aged 13 and older:

At the most recent meeting, the Trustees of the Central Pennsylvania Teamsters Health & Welfare Fund adopted a revised policy regarding the release of a minor's health information to a parent. HIPAA's Privacy Rule, as explained in guidance from the Department of Health & Human Services, generally allows a parent to have access to the medical records about his or her minor child, subject to a number of conditions, when such access is not inconsistent with State or other law. The Privacy Rule also requires that any standard adopted by the Fund also reflect applicable state law, in this case, Pennsylvania's Minors' Consent Act, 35 P.S. §§ 10101 – 10105. The revised policy, set forth below, reflects both the federal and state criteria for the release of Dependents' protected health information:

Revised Policy for the Release of Dependent

Protected Health Information to Parents:

1. **Medical Information:** Protected Health Information ("PHI") regarding medical (including dental and vision) treatment for Dependents under the age 18, who have not graduated from high school, are unmarried and have not been pregnant will be provided to the Dependent's parent unless the Dependent has informed the Fund that he or she wishes to receive the information directly and has provided a reason consistent with the applicable state or federal law showing that the information should not be provided to the parent. Checks will remain payable to the parent unless there is information indicating that the Dependent paid the claim and so should be reimbursed directly.
2. **Mental Health Information:** PHI regarding mental health treatment (including substance use disorders) for individuals between the ages of 14 and 18 will be sent to the Dependent if the Fund learns, from the relevant records or from the individual Dependent, that the Dependent, and not the parent, consented to the treatment. If the Fund learns from records or from the individual that the parent consented to the treatment, the PHI will be sent to the parent.

This notice is being provided to all Participants and to Dependents over the age of 13. If any parent or Dependent has any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the Fund Office.

Very truly yours,

CENTRAL PENNSYLVANIA TEAMSTERS
HEALTH AND WELFARE FUND