



# JUNE 2024 BENEFITS BULLETIN



The deadline to file welfare claims if you did not work 800 hours in the previous PMA payroll year **WAS** May 31<sup>st</sup> but we are continuing to assist members who forgot, procrastinated, or did not know about this important process. Please submit an email **requesting a welfare claim ASAP** to [Benefits@ilwu13.org](mailto:Benefits@ilwu13.org) with your full name and registration number in the subject line **if you did not work 800 hours between December 24, 2022 and December 22, 2023**. Be sure to include your phone number and brief, but specific details about your situation in the body of the email. Additional information about welfare and pension claims is included in this bulletin for your reference.

## **Welfare Claims**

- ✓ If you did not work 800 hours in the previous PMA payroll year, please submit an email to the \*BENEFITS OFFICE\* and \*REQUEST A WELFARE CLAIM\* to maintain medical, vision, dental, prescription, and other welfare benefits when the new contract year begins on July 1<sup>st</sup>.
- ✓ The benefits staff starts preparing welfare claims in **March** because we have to wait for PMA to certify payroll records (including vacation claims which are done by the Records Clerk).
- ✓ The deadline to submit valid medical notes is May 31<sup>st</sup> to avoid losing welfare eligibility. If you miss this deadline and if you lose eligibility for your welfare benefits, it can take 6-8 weeks to reinstate your welfare benefits.
- ✓ Right now, we are processing welfare claims for members who did not work 800 hours in 2023 or in years prior.
- ✓ We will start processing welfare claims for members who do not work 800 hours in 2024 in **March of 2025**. Please read those dates again.

## **Pension Claims**

- ✓ If you did not work 800/1,300 in a previous PMA payroll year, please submit an email to the \*BENEFITS OFFICE\* and \*REQUEST A PENSION CLAIM\* to ensure that you get credit for that pension year.
- ✓ We can also prepare pension claims for members who worked between 801-1,299 hours so they can receive partial, pro-rated credit toward their pension.
- ✓ There is no deadline for pension claims. We process them all year long.

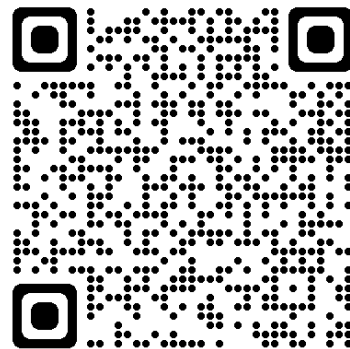
## **This is even more information about Welfare and Pension Claims:**

- ✓ Each year, we process an average of 3,000 welfare and pension claims.
- ✓ Each claim can take up to 6-8 weeks to complete.
- ✓ There are certain steps that must be followed, including:
  - Members **must request** a welfare and/or pension claim. The request is randomly assigned to a staff member, who then retrieves medical notes from the system and prepares the claim forms in the order each request is received.
  - The Benefits Officer reviews and provisionally approves each claim form and the supporting medical notes on behalf of the Union.
  - Staff then submits the claim forms and medical notes to PMA for their provisional approval. PMA usually takes 2-3 weeks to approve claims.
  - Once both the Union and PMA provisionally approve the form, staff then submits it to the Benefit Plans Office in San Francisco for final approval. This could take several more weeks.
  - Members are notified by mail by the Benefit Plans Office if their application is approved or denied. Local 13 is not notified.
- ✓ To check on the status of your welfare and/or pension claim, please contact the Benefit Plans Office (BPO) directly at (888) 372-4598 to check on the status – **but there will be no update until all three parties (ILWU, PMA, and the BPO) approve the claim.**
- ✓ Members are usually notified by mail in April if they need a welfare claim.
- ✓ Members are usually notified by mail in June if their welfare claim is approved.



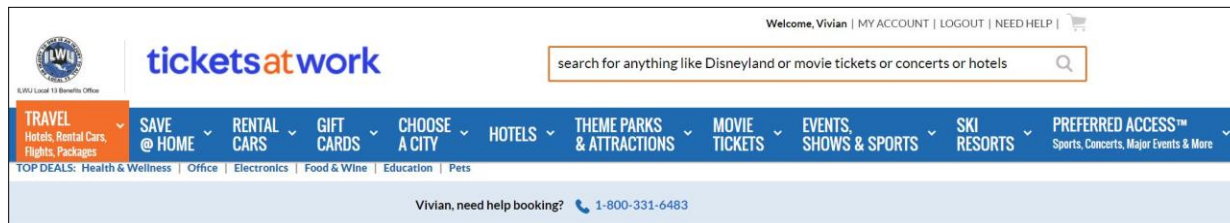
**Information about DISCOUNT TICKETS is on the next page!**

The Benefits Office of Local 13 is proud to continue providing opportunities for our ILWU families to save money doing fun things! Thanks to our partnership with **Tickets at Work**, hundreds of families have enjoyed discounts on amusement parks, movies, hotels, activities, events, rental cars and much more!

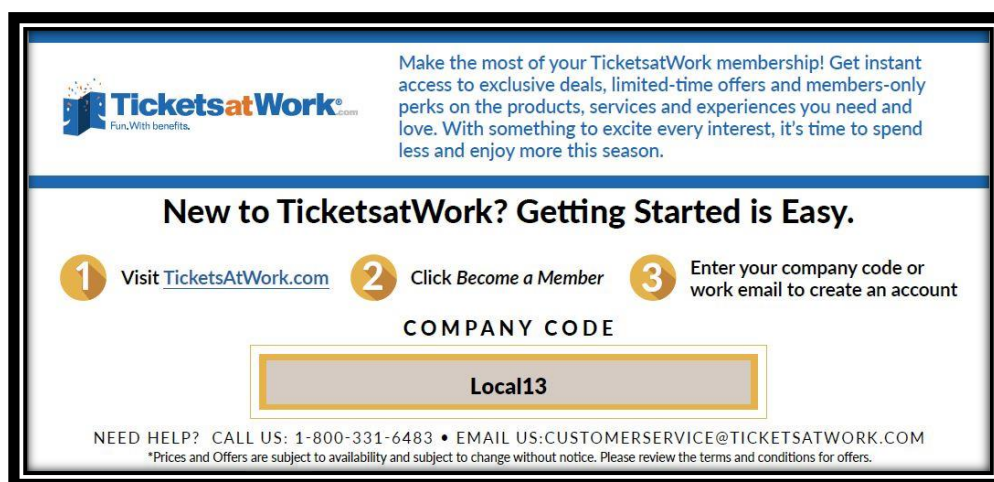


Just scan this QR code with your smart phone or device to get started →

Please email us if you would like this link <https://www.ticketsatwork.com/tickets/> emailed to you. Once you create an account, the opening screen looks like this ↓ and you can enter whatever you are looking for in the search bar.




Here's how you sign up:



## ADA Meeting ADA Labor Relations Committee (LRC)

- ✓ Tuesday, June 4, 2024
- ✓ Tuesday, June 18, 2024 **CANCELLED DUE TO THE CAUCUS**
- ✓ ILWU Local 13 in San Pedro at 9 AM sharp!
- ✓ Members are seen on a first come, first serve basis.



If you need assistance with anything related to your **WELFARE or PENSION** benefits that is **NOT URGENT**, please submit an email to [Benefits@ilwu13.org](mailto:Benefits@ilwu13.org) with your **full name** and **registration number** in the **subject line** of the email. Please include your **phone number** in the body of the email and be **brief but specific** with your inquiry/request.

In service to our local, our union, and our community.

*Vivian*

Vivian Malauulu, M.A. Ed. Admin.  
Benefits Officer

**Benefits Bulletin #6-2024**  
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