



JULY 2024 BENEFITS BULLETIN

Last month, I had the privilege of representing the membership of Local 13 at the **39th ILWU Convention** and the subsequent **ILWU Longshore Caucus**. I spent several days advocating for members in various meetings where our welfare and pension benefits were discussed. Many of the issues and questions that our members have were raised to the general body of this Union and all your concerns were addressed. I also met with the Area Welfare Directors and Alcohol, Drug, Recovery Program representatives to brainstorm how we can all serve you better. It was a productive meeting of the minds that reenergized my commitment to continue serving you with everything I have. I am grateful for the trust you have in me to serve in this important position, and I am thankful to the current leadership of our Local and the International for recognizing the importance of having your elected Health Benefits Representative there to speak on your behalf and share your experiences.



URGENT

This matter requires
**IMMEDIATE
ATTENTION**

The Benefits Office of Local 13 completed our annual processing of welfare claims and now we are waiting on PMA to do what they have to do. There have been significant delays with them processing many welfare claims. If you experience ANY issues using your medical/dental/vision/prescription benefits, please submit an email to Benefits@ilwu13.org with your full name and registration number in the subject line. Be sure to include your phone number and brief, but specific details about your situation in the body of the email.

If you did not work 800 hours between December 24, 2022 and December 22, 2023 please call the **ILWU-PMA Benefit Plans Office** at **(888) 372-4598** to check on the status of your welfare or pension eligibility effective July 1, 2023.



ADA Labor Relations Committee (LRC) meetings:

- ✓ Tuesday, July 2, 2024
- ✓ Tuesday, July 16, 2024
- ✓ ILWU Local 13 in San Pedro at 9 AM sharp!
- ✓ Members are seen on a first come, first serve basis.

Many of the chiropractic claims that were under review and originally denied are starting to get paid. But there are still more claims that need to be appealed through a **Full and Fair Review Request (FFRR)**.

A FFRR is a long and tedious process that requires a lot of reading and writing, but it is the contractually established procedure that we must follow. For the past several months I have been meeting with dozens of members to assist them with FFRRs.

Please submit an email to Benefits@ilwu13.org with your full name and registration number in the subject line if you would like to schedule an appointment for me to assist you with your FFRR. Be sure to include your phone number and brief, but specific details about your situation in the body of the email.



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 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.

Even though most inquiries are addressed within hours, if not minutes, **we do ask for your patience** for us to respond because **it can take up to two business days if we are very busy.**

Email is **NOT** suitable for emergencies! Please call (310) 830-1130 if you are in a hurry and cannot wait for an email response. The Benefits Office is open during normal business hours which are **Monday through Friday from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm.** Peak hours are between 11 am to 1 pm so wait times might be longer.

Thank you for understanding. We look forward to assisting you!

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

Vivian

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

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