

Southwest Regional Council of Carpenters

Office of the Contract Administrator

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February 2, 2021

Partners,

The Southwest Regional Council of Carpenters (“SWRCC”) understands the unprecedented strain that COVID-19 has brought to our communities, our members, and our signatory contractors. As such, we have continually shown our willingness to step up and help where we have seen need.

Recently, Cal/OSHA implemented regulations that will require contractors to pay COVID-19 exposed or positive employees, that are otherwise able and available to work, their full wages and benefits during any time that they are excluded from the workplace due to on-the-job exposure. This kind of protection has a benefit to our members, but we understand that our industry does not typically budget for sick leave of this nature, and that this could have a real impact on the success of construction projects. So, once again, we are willing to step up.

The SWRCC will be providing up to \$1 million in assistance to signatory contractors in order to help make these benefit payments for hours reportable for January and February of 2021. If you pay the Wage and Health and Welfare on a Union member that is on COVID-19 leave under current Cal/OSHA regulations, we will pay rest of the benefits on that employee subject to the following conditions (full terms and conditions will be included in the Program Agreement):

- All contractors receiving relief must be fully signatory to the SWRCC in good standing (no Single Project Agreements, Subscriber’s Agreements, or any other short-term agreements).
- All contractors receiving relief must have a current status with the Trust.
- The SWRCC will only provide assistance on benefits paid to members in good standing with the Union.
- The SWRCC will cover a maximum of 80 hours of benefits per employee.
- The SWRCC will cover leave on up to 5 Carpenter employees or up to 10% of a Contractor’s total monthly contribution hours, whichever provides a higher level of assistance.
- Employers will be required to report their hours to the Trust by the 15th of the month during which relief will be granted or assistance will be withdrawn.
- Employers will be required to pay all benefit hours not covered by the assistance on or before the 25th of the month during which relief will be granted or assistance will be withdrawn.
- The SWRCC will make payment in accordance with the assistance amount directly to the Trust on behalf of any employer that has complied with the Terms and Conditions of the program.
- In the event of fraud or labor abuse, of any type, the SWRCC reserves the right to seek reimbursement and retains all legal remedies.
- The SWRCC retains the right to extend or cancel the program at its sole discretion at any time.

We want to help you. Applications must be finalized and received by the 5th of the contribution reporting month. Applications for January hours will be due on February 5th. Please click [here](#) to begin the process of applying for assistance immediately.