

Northwest Ironworkers Trust Funds

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Administered by
Welfare & Pension Administration Service, Inc.

December 9, 2009

**To: All Eligible Plan Participants
Northwest Ironworkers Health and Security Fund – Alaska Shop Ironworkers**

Subject: Important Information Regarding the Plan

This is a summary of material modification describing benefit changes adopted by the Board of Trustees. Please be sure that you and your family read it carefully and keep this document with your 2009 Summary Plan Description Booklet.

New Utilization Management Coordinator Effective January 1, 2010

Effective **January 1, 2010**, **Qualis Health** will assume responsibility for the Utilization Management Program. When your Physician recommends admission to the Hospital or if you receive treatment for chemical dependency, you, your Dependent, or your Physician must contact the Plan's Utilization Management (UM) Coordinator to request preauthorization. For all Hospital admissions, except for medical emergencies or for maternity care of 48 hours or less (96 hours in the case of a cesarean), you must obtain preauthorization from the UM Coordinator prior to admission. Emergency Hospital admissions must be preauthorized by the Plan's UM Coordinator within 48 hours of the time you are admitted to the Hospital. For preauthorization call **Qualis Health at (800) 783-8606**.

As a reminder, benefits are reduced by \$250 for any hospital confinement that is not approved by the UM Coordinator. In addition, services that are not Medically Necessary will not be covered by the Plan.

New identification (ID) cards reflecting this change will be mailed to all participants by the end of December 2009. Once you receive your new ID cards it is important that you show your providers the new card. You should destroy your old ID cards.

Additional Medical Benefit Enhancements Approved by the Board of Trustees

- **Gardasil:** A benefit has been added to cover the Gardasil vaccine series at 75% for Preferred Providers and 50% for non-Preferred Providers after deductible for use in young women ages 9 to 26 years.
- **Smoking Cessation Drugs:** The tobacco/smoking cessation benefit has been increased from \$150 to \$500 for prescription drugs to cover 50% of the cost, per person per lifetime. No benefit is provided for any product that is available *without* a prescription.
- **Immunizations for Dependent Children Past Age Two:** To allow preventive initial immunizations as required for a dependent to begin preschool and/or elementary school. This will also include the office visit expense associated with administering the immunization. **NOTE:** Only required immunizations will be covered. Benefits are subject to deductible and coinsurance (75% for Preferred Providers and 50% for non-Preferred Providers).

Sincerely,

**Board of Trustees
Northwest Ironworkers Health and Security Fund**