



IBEW LOCAL 234 HEALTH AND WELFARE PLAN



January 2026

To: Retirees and Surviving Spouses of the IBEW Local 234 Health and Welfare Plan

From: Board of Trustees

Re: Retiree and Surviving Spouse Health Care Rates – Effective April 1, 2026

The IBEW Local 234 Health and Welfare Plan or “Plan” continues to experience deficit spending largely due to a significant increase in medical and prescription drug claims, much higher insurance premiums, and a decline in work hours. The result is a much higher cost per person for coverage, which will require increases in both hourly contributions and self-pay rates.

Given the current financial status of the Plan, the Board of Trustees finds it necessary to raise the retiree self-pay rates in an attempt to keep up with the ever-increasing cost of retiree medical coverage and to improve the health and longevity of the Plan. The Board of Trustees reviews these rates annually.

The retiree self-pay rates will be increasing effective with April 2026 coverage as outlined below. Payment for April coverage is due March 15th.

<u>Classification</u>	<u>Old Rate</u>	<u>New Rate</u>
Early Retiree Under Age 62, Non-Medicare	\$2,139	\$2,350
<u>Retiree Age 62-64, Non-Medicare</u>		
Retiree – Single	\$547	\$601
Retiree & Spouse – Spouse Medicare	\$730	\$802
Retiree & Spouse – Spouse Non-Medicare	\$1,094	\$1,202
Retiree & Spouse & Child(ren) – Spouse Non-Medicare	\$1,642	\$1,804
<u>Medicare Retirees</u>		
Retiree – Single	\$142	\$171
Retiree & Spouse – Spouse Medicare	\$284	\$343
Retiree & Spouse – Spouse Non-Medicare	\$568	\$686
Retiree & Spouse & Child(ren) – Spouse Non-Medicare	\$995	\$1,201
Surviving Spouse – Medicare	\$142	\$171
Surviving Spouse – Non-Medicare	\$947	\$1,143

Please note that even with the increased self-pay rates shown above, you are still receiving a significant discount on the actual cost of your coverage. As previously noted, the Trustees review these rates annually to ensure the retiree self-pay rates keep pace with the rising cost of retiree coverage while continuing to provide a significant subsidy from the Plan.

Please contact this office if you have any questions.



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Mail Order Pharmacy

As previously announced, mail order pharmacy is now being dispensed through CarelonRx. In order to continue to use the mail order pharmacy, you must obtain a new prescription from your physician. Please have your physician contact CarelonRx directly at **(833) 409-1228**. Alternatively, you can contact RetireeFirst at **(831) 263-4801 (TTY 711)** or toll free at **(855) 430-6322 (TTY 711)** for assistance in resetting your mail order prescription(s).

This document has been uploaded and is available on the participant website at www.ibew234benefits.org.