



Ohio Carpenters' Fringe Benefit Funds

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April 2024

To: All Participants of the Ohio Carpenters Health Plan

From: Board of Trustees of the Ohio Carpenters Health Plan

Please read this Notice carefully. It contains important information about changes to the Ohio Carpenters Health Plan (Plan). Please keep this notice with your Ohio Carpenters Health Fund Summary Plan Description (SPD).

PLAN CHANGES

1. INCREASE IN MONTHLY PREMIUM AND BANKING THRESHOLD EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2024

The following adjustments to the current rates for Participants will be effective July 1, 2024:

<u>MONTHLY RATES FOR ACTIVES AND RETIREES</u>	<u>CURRENT</u>	<u>NEW</u>
Active Bargained Premium* (Single or Family)	\$950	\$1,150
Active Bargained (Single or Family) Banking Threshold**	\$1,150	\$1,300
Shop Plan Premium (Single)	\$450	\$500
Shop Plan (Single) Banking Threshold	\$550	\$600
Shop Plan Premium (Family)	\$750	\$850
Shop Plan (Family) Banking Threshold	\$600	\$950
Active Non-Bargained Premium (Single or Family)	\$1,050	\$1,250
Non-Medicare Retiree (Single or Family)	\$950	\$1,150
One Medicare and at least one Non-Medicare (Family)	\$950	\$1,150
Medicare Supplement Only, No Rx (Single)	\$246	\$246
Medicare Supplement Only, No Rx (Family)	\$432	\$432
Medicare Advantage + EGWP (Single)	\$296	\$296
Medicare Advantage + EGWP (Family)	\$532	\$532

*Previously referred to as the monthly Cost of Coverage.

**Monthly contributions received above the Banking Threshold are credited to a Participant's Dollar Bank.

2. FUTURE INCREASES IN PREMIUM AND BANKING THRESHOLD FOR SHOP PLAN ONLY

The Premium and Banking Threshold for Shop Employees who elect the Full Plan are the same as the rates set forth for Active Bargained Employees set forth in Item 1, above. The following are increases in the Premiums and Thresholds for those who elect the Shop Plan are effective July 1, 2024, and July 1, 2025:

	<u>CURRENT</u>	<u>EFFECTIVE</u> <u>7/1/24</u>	<u>EFFECTIVE</u> <u>7/1/25</u>
Shop Plan Premium (Single)	\$450	\$500	\$550
Shop Plan (Single) Banking Threshold	\$550	\$600	\$650
Shop Plan Premium (Family)	\$750	\$850	\$900
Shop Plan (Family) Banking Threshold	\$850	\$950	\$1000

3. HEARING AID BENEFIT EFFECTIVE MAY 1, 2024

Currently, the Plan provides self-insured hearing aid benefits without any specific network as follows:

- (a) Audiometric Examinations, Hearing Aid Evaluation Tests, Hearing Aids, and Hearing Aid Conformity Evaluations, once every four years for each ear and not to exceed a total of \$3,000.00 every four years per Covered Person; and
- (b) up to \$250.00 annually to repair a Hearing Aid that is out of warranty.

Effective May 1, 2024, the Trustees are pleased to announce that above benefits will be provided through TruHearing, and that the \$3,000 benefit described above will be provided every three years, instead of four years.

A list of TruHearing Providers is available at www.truhearing.com. Coverage will only be provided through a TruHearing Provider. Hearing aids and services will not be covered if obtained from out-of-network providers. You are encouraged to use a TruHearing Provider to decrease your costs!

4. RETIREES RETURNING TO WORK

As a reminder, if a Retiree returns to work, he must notify the Fund Office. The Retiree will continue to make Retiree self-payments for coverage and Contributions received on behalf of a Retiree will be credited to his/her MRA, less the cost of the Differential (unless the Retiree returns to work in a shop, in which case effective 2/1/23 the Differential is not deducted). Notwithstanding, if a Retiree ceases drawing a pension benefit and informs the Fund Office that he/she desires to re-establish eligibility as an Active Employee, such Contributions will be credited per Section 2.1 of the Plan.

5. ADMINISTRATIVE FEE - INITIAL ELIGIBILITY

As a reminder, prior to establishing initial eligibility under the provisions of the Plan, an administration fee of \$25.00 will be deducted from Contributions received and the balance of the Contributions will be credited to the Employee's Dollar Bank for each month the Participant remains ineligible.

6. USE OF BANK FOR MEDICAL REIMBURSEMENT ACCOUNT (MRA)

As a reminder, when the balance in Active Participant's Bank exceeds three times the Premium, such excess may be used for unreimbursed medical expenses.

**IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, PLEASE CONTACT THE FUND OFFICE AT
(855) 837-3528**



Dear member,

At Ohio Carpenters' Health Plan, we're always looking to help improve your health and well-being. That's why we're pleased to let you know about TruHearing®, our new exclusive vendor and a leading provider of hearing health benefits that will allow you to purchase hearing aids at little to no out-of-pocket cost to you.

Effective May 1, 2024, you'll have access to hearing health services including a comprehensive hearing exam (\$0 copay), plus the latest hearing aid models, styles, and technologies through TruHearing. Your benefit allowance provides \$3,000 total every 3 years.

In addition to high-quality hearing aids featuring top-of-the-line technology from the six leading manufacturers, this program also includes the following:

- 60-day, risk-free trial
- 1 year of follow-up visits
- 80 free batteries per non-rechargeable hearing aid
- 3-year manufacturer warranty

Here's how to get started if you're interested in learning more or scheduling an appointment.

1. Call TruHearing at **1-877-653-8876**
2. A Hearing Consultant will answer your questions and schedule an appointment with a TruHearing provider near you
3. TruHearing will ensure you're taken care of at every step of the way

Because this is a special, exclusive offer for Ohio Carpenters' Health Plan Fund members, all appointments must be made through TruHearing. Please see the enclosed flyer for more details.

We hope you will be able to take advantage of this additional benefit to improve your hearing and overall health.

Sincerely,

Ohio Carpenters' Health Plan
Board of Trustees

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TruHearing®

1-877-653-8876 | TTY: 711

Address your hearing loss for less.

Thanks to Ohio Carpenters' Health Plan you have access to tremendous savings through TruHearing®. This includes a hearing exam (\$0 copay¹) and a hearing aid allowance up to \$3,000 total every 3 years.

Rob is wearing a Signia® Active Pro hearing aid.

Hearing aid tier	Average retail price/aid	TruHearing price	Member cost (1 aid)	Member cost (2 aids)
Premium	\$3,330	\$1,799	\$0	\$598
Advanced	\$2,750	\$1,399	\$0	\$0
Standard	\$2,150	\$999	\$0	\$0
Basic	\$2,000	\$699	\$0	\$0
Value	\$1,900	\$499	\$0	\$0
TruHearing Premium	\$3,250	\$1,449	\$0	\$0
TruHearing Advanced	\$2,720	\$1,149	\$0	\$0

Your hearing aid purchase includes



Risk-free **60-day** trial period



1 year of follow-up visits



80 free batteries per non-rechargeable hearing aid



Full **3-year manufacturer** warranty



Call TruHearing to get started.

1-877-653-8876 | TTY: 711

Hours: 8am–8pm, Monday–Friday



The right hearing aids can change your life.

Research shows that addressing hearing loss can impact your overall health and well-being, including improvements in²



Mental and emotional health



Relationship with spouse or partner



Work performance



Sarah is wearing TruHearing Advanced RIC hearing aids.

The best tech for less.

Enhanced speech clarity

to understand voices above background noise

Bluetooth® streaming

from your phone for convenient calls, music, movies, and more

Potential tinnitus relief

since treating your hearing loss may be an effective tinnitus treatment



Give us a call.

Your dedicated Hearing Consultant will answer any questions you might have, check your coverage with the fund, and schedule an appointment with a TruHearing provider near you. (Teleaudiology options may also be available.)



Go to your appointment.

Your local hearing health provider will perform a hearing exam and, if needed, recommend hearing aids that best fit your hearing loss, budget, and lifestyle.



Get the support you need.

Follow-up care from your provider ensures your hearing aids feel right and perform properly, and ongoing support from TruHearing will help you get comfortable with your new hearing aids.



Schedule an appointment

1-877-653-8876 | TTY: 711

Hours: 8am–8pm, Monday–Friday



Learn more

TruHearing.com/OhioCarpenters

These hearing benefits are subject to change at the fund's discretion.

¹ Must be performed by a TruHearing provider.

² MarkeTrak 2022.

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