



PLUMBERS & STEAMFITTERS LOCAL 166 BENEFIT FUNDS

P.O. BOX 99485
TROY, MICHIGAN 48099-9485
(248) 641-4966 or Toll Free (855) 641-4966

To: Contributing Employers Plumbers and Steamfitters Local 166 Fringe Benefit Funds
From: Board of Trustees Plumbers and Steamfitters Local 166 Fringe Benefit Funds
Re: United States Postal Service (USPS) Changes to Postmark Date System
Date: January 2026

Effective December 25, 2025, the U.S. Postal Service (USPS) announced that a USPS postmark does not necessarily reflect the date the Postal Service first takes possession of mailed items. In many cases, the postmark reflects the date the item reaches the first USPS processing facility, which may occur after the date the mail is physically tendered. See 90 Fed. Reg. 52883 (Nov. 24, 2025). **In other words, a postmark can no longer be relied upon as proof of the date an item was first placed in the mail.**

Under the current Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA), Contributing Employers must remit all fringe benefit contributions on or before the 15th of each month (or the next business day if the 15th is not a business day). Payment is considered timely, regardless of actual receipt, if the USPS cancellation stamp is dated on or before the applicable deadline. See CBA § 15.4. Employers are responsible for ensuring timely payment to avoid late penalties.

The terms of the CBA are not changing, so in light of the USPS announcement, it is important for all Employers to keep the following in mind:

1. To avoid issues with timely remittance and subsequent penalties, all Employers are strongly encouraged to submit contributions electronically through the Funds' secure portal:

Portal access: www.Ua166employers.org

A step-by-step user guide is available on the website under "Employer Information."

2. If an Employer is forwarding contributions via US post, they are strongly encouraged to either: (a) place their checks in the mail earlier than the 15th (which still does not guarantee a postmark by the 15th), or (b) on the date of mailing, whether on the 15th or earlier, physically go to a U.S. post office to obtain a certificate of mailing, and keep this certificate as proof of mailing because the USPS does not.
3. USPS, like other providers, does not provide overnight delivery to the Funds' lockbox because it is a P.O. Box.
4. No matter what method is used, Employers remain responsible for ensuring timely payment.

If you have any questions, including help with paying contributions through the Funds' portal, please contact the Fund Office.

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TROY, MI 48099-9485



Important Plan Information

<<NAME>>
<<LINE 1>>
<<LINE 2>>
<<CITY>>, <<ST>> <<ZIP>>