



## CEMENT MASONS AND PLASTERERS LOCAL 797 BENEFIT FUNDS

---

8311 W. Sunset Road, Suite 250 • Las Vegas, NV 89113  
P.O. Box 400008 • Las Vegas, NV 89140  
Phone (702) 415-2190 • Fax (702) 257-5361

### **Important Notice from the Board of Trustees of Cement Masons and Plasterers Health and Welfare Trust about Your Prescription Drug Coverage and Medicare ("Notice")**

**Please read this Notice carefully and keep it where you can find it. This Notice has information about your current prescription drug coverage with the Cement Masons and Plasterers Health and Welfare Trust ("Welfare Trust") and about your options under Medicare's prescription drug coverage. This information can help you decide whether or not you want to join a Medicare prescription drug plan. If you are considering joining, you should compare your current coverage, including which drugs are covered at what cost, with the coverage and costs of the plans offering Medicare prescription drug coverage in your area. Information about where you can get help to make decisions about your prescription drug coverage is found at the end of this Notice.**

There are two important things you need to know about your current coverage and Medicare's prescription drug coverage:

1. Medicare prescription drug coverage became available in 2006 to everyone with Medicare. You can get this coverage if you join a Medicare prescription drug plan or join a Medicare Advantage Plan (like an HMO or PPO) that offers prescription drug coverage. All Medicare prescription drug plans provide at least a standard level of coverage set by Medicare. Some plans may also offer more coverage for a higher monthly premium.
2. The Board of Trustees of the Welfare Trust (the "Plan") has determined that the prescription drug coverage offered by the Plan is, on average for all Plan Participants, expected to pay out as much as the standard Medicare prescription drug coverage will pay and is considered "Creditable Coverage". Because your existing Plan coverage is Creditable Coverage, you can keep this coverage and you will not pay a higher premium (a penalty) if you later decide to join a Medicare prescription drug plan.

---

#### **When Can You Join a Medicare Prescription Drug Plan?**

You can join a Medicare prescription drug plan when you first become eligible for Medicare and each year from October 15th through December 7th.

However, if you lose your current Creditable Coverage for prescription drugs under the Welfare Trust Plan, through no fault of your own, you will be eligible for a two (2) month Special Enrollment Period (SEP) to join a Medicare prescription drug plan.

#### **What Happens to Your Current Creditable Coverage if You Decide to Join a Medicare Prescription Drug Plan?**

If you decide to join a Medicare prescription drug plan, your current Welfare Trust Plan Creditable Coverage will be affected. Your current Plan covers other health expenses, in addition to prescription drugs. If you enroll in a Medicare prescription drug plan, coverage under the Welfare Trust Plan will end for you and your eligible Dependents.

**If you decide to join a Medicare prescription drug plan and drop your Welfare Trust Plan coverage, be aware that you and your Dependents will not be able to get this Welfare Trust Plan coverage back.**

**Please contact us for more information about what happens to your coverage, if you enroll in a Medicare prescription drug plan.**

If you wish to keep your current Welfare Trust Plan prescription drug coverage, you do not need to do anything.

**When Will You Pay a Higher Premium (Penalty) to Join a Medicare Prescription Drug Plan?**

You should also know that if you drop or lose your Welfare Trust Plan coverage and you don't join a Medicare prescription drug plan within 63 continuous days after your current Plan coverage ends, you may pay a higher premium (a penalty) to join a Medicare prescription drug plan later.

If you go 63 continuous days or longer without prescription drug coverage that is at least as good as Medicare's prescription drug coverage, your monthly premium will go up at least one percent (1%) of the Medicare base beneficiary premium per month for every month that you did not have that coverage. For example, if you go nineteen (19) months without Creditable Coverage, your premium may consistently be at least nineteen percent (19%) higher than the Medicare base beneficiary premium. You may have to pay this higher premium (a penalty), as long as you have Medicare prescription drug coverage. In addition, you may have to wait until the following October to enroll.

**For more information about this Notice or your current prescription drug coverage...**

Contact our office for further information at (702) 415-2190. NOTE: You'll get this Notice each year. You will also get the Notice before the next period you can join a Medicare prescription drug plan, and if the Welfare Trust Plan coverage changes. You also may request a copy of this Notice at any time.

**For more information about your options under Medicare prescription drug coverage...**

More detailed information about Medicare plans that offer prescription drug coverage is found in the "Medicare & You" Handbook. You'll get a copy of the Handbook in the mail every year from Medicare. You may also be contacted directly by Medicare prescription drug plans. For more information about Medicare prescription drug plans:

- Visit [www.medicare.gov](http://www.medicare.gov)
- Call your State Health Insurance Assistance Program (see your copy of the "Medicare & You" Handbook for its telephone number) for personalized help,
- Call 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227). TTY users should call 1-877-486-2048.

For people with limited income and resources, extra help paying for Medicare prescription drug coverage is available. For information about this extra help, visit Social Security on the web at [www.socialsecurity.gov](http://www.socialsecurity.gov), or call them at 1-800-772-1213 (TTY 1-800-325-0778).

**Remember: Keep this Creditable Coverage Notice. If you decide to join one of the Medicare prescription drug plans, you may be required to provide a copy of this Notice when you join to show whether or not you have maintained Creditable Coverage and whether or not you are required to pay a higher premium (a penalty).**

Date:	October 2021
Name of Entity/Sender:	Cement Masons and Plasterers Health & Welfare Trust Office
Contact--Position/Office:	Eligibility Department
Address:	8311 W. Sunset Rd, Suite 250, Las Vegas, NV 89113
Phone Number:	(702) 415-2190

*This document has been uploaded and is available on the participant website at [www.opcmia797benefits.org](http://www.opcmia797benefits.org)*