

REACTA HOT TOPICS

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MEDICARE PREMIUM REIMBURSEMENT

As you know from previous communications, REACTA has expressed concerns to the Trustees of the CTA Health and Welfare Benefits Trust regarding the requirement to annually submit your Social Security Administration Benefits letter, to receive reimbursement of the Part B Standard Medicare Premium Rate. Your REACTA Executive Board continues to maintain that this yearly task is unnecessary, a waste of the Trust's resources, and difficult, if not impossible, for some of our members.

We believe we are making progress and that the Trustees have been receptive to our concerns and are reviewing ways to make the process easier. It is our hope that the policy to submit this information can be eliminated entirely, or at a minimum, retirees can make a one-time request to the William C. Earhart Company to authorize reimbursement for such time that they are receiving Medicare.

However, not everything happens in a timely fashion. It is looking less and less likely that we will have additional information prior to the April 1, 2023, timeline required by the Trust to submit your SSA Benefits letter to Earhart. Therefore, if you have not submitted this document to Earhart, REACTA recommends that you do so. It is our understanding that:

- If your SSA Benefits letter is received by Earhart prior to April 1, 2023, the practice has been that reimbursement will be at the new quarterly rate of \$494.70. It is rare when the Standard Medicare Premium rate decreases, but it did for 2023.
- If your SSA Benefits letter is received by Earhart after April 1, 2023, the practice has been that reimbursement is at the former quarterly rate.

Typically, if an SSA Benefits letter was not submitted, reimbursement has continued, however at the former quarterly rate. Retirees who are not current with submission of their SSA Benefits letter may be receiving an even lower reimbursement rate based on what information Earhart has on its books. If you fall into that category, please call Earhart at 877-396-2942.

Thank you for your patience as we work through this issue with the Trust. We will keep you apprised if we learn new information prior to the next Health and Welfare Benefits Trust meeting on April 5, 2023.

DELTA DENTAL

Delta Dental Representatives have been invited to meet with the Health and Welfare Trust Benefits Committee at its meeting on April 4, 2023. This is most likely due to so many recent complaints from both active employees and retirees. Written complaints received from REACTA members regarding issues with Delta Dental, including so many dentists dropping the insurance coverage, have been forwarded to the Trustees. Merri Furler, REACTA Vice-President and Health Benefits Trust liaison, attends Trust meetings and will be monitoring this issue as it unfolds.

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION DEADLINE IS APRIL 1, 2023

Applications postmarked after this date will not be considered. Copies of this application can be found on the REACTA website, www.REACTA.org. Completed applications should be mailed to Alice Clement, 604 Swarthmore Ave., Pacific Palisades, CA. 90272.

Questions about the application can be directed to Alice Clement at aliceclement@me.com or call (818) 516-1785.

SAVE THE DATE

The REACTA Annual Reunion and Business Meeting will be held on October 3,4 and 5 at the Oxford Suites in Paso Robles. Mark your calendars and stay tuned for more information. We hope to see you there!