



# Los Angeles Machinist Benefit Trust

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## **CORONAVIRUS-- COVID-19 -- IMPORTANT NOTICE**

DATE: March 16, 2020

TO: **ALL ACTIVE & RETIREE LAMBT PARTICIPANTS AND COVERED DEPENDENTS**

RE: **LOS ANGELES MACHINIST BENEFIT TRUST and COVID-19/"NOVEL CORONAVIRUS"**

The attached directive from the California Department of Insurance to insurance carriers in California applies to fully insured plans, Kaiser, and other HMOs including United HealthCare. The Los Angeles Machinist Benefit Trust ("LAMBT") is generally not subject to State law so this notice is intended to explain what LAMBT is doing in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The State has directed the insured plans and HMOs it regulates to immediately reduce cost-sharing to zero for all medically necessary screening and testing for coronavirus/COVID-19. This includes cost-sharing for emergency room, urgent care, or provider office visits when it is medically necessary to screen and test for COVID-19.

Although it is generally not subject to State insurance regulations, LAMBT has adopted a similar approach for COVID-19. Effective immediately for all LAMBT plans,

1. Out-of-pocket costs associated with testing for COVID-19 for both the PPO and non-PPO providers are waived. This would include the cost of the test as well as office visits or other provider charges related to the testing. Treatment of COVID-19 would still be subject to applicable cost sharing and PPO/non-PPO benefits depending on the provider.
2. Prior authorization requirements for treatment or testing of COVID-19 are, until further notice, waived.
3. Earlier than normal refills on maintenance prescription drugs filled at retail are permitted, until further notice.

Please contact the LAMBT Administration Office at (800) 499-8121 if you run into any difficulties while we are implementing these procedures. The Trust has every intention of making certain your needs created by this situation are met.

Aviso a los participantes que hablan español: Como ustedes saben, la Oficina Administrativa en la actualidad tiene varios representantes bilingües que pueden ayudarle. Sin embargo, la Oficina Administrativa también deberá proporcionar en español, a petición, algunas traducciones de documentos del Plan de Salud y las comunicaciones a los participantes.

Sincerely,

Board of Trustees