

# **SACRAMENTO AREA ELECTRICAL WORKERS TRUST FUNDS**

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## **SACRAMENTO AREA ELECTRICAL WORKERS HEALTH & WELFARE TRUST FUND**

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March 2021

**TO: PARTICIPANTS & DEPENDENTS**

**RE: SUMMARY OF MATERIAL MODIFICATIONS (“SMM”)**

**Below please find a summary of recent changes made to the Sacramento Area Electrical Workers Health and Welfare Plan (“Plan”) pursuant to federal mandate. For more information regarding COVID-19 vaccinations that may be available to you and your family, please contact member services for the Plan option (Kaiser, Aetna or WHA) you are enrolled in.**

**COVID-19 VACCINATION COVERAGE DURING COVID-19 PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY - Article X. Section H.1.B.**

### **COVID-19 Qualifying Preventive Service & Vaccination Coverage**

Effective the earlier of January 1, 2021 or 15 business days after the date on which the United States Preventive Services Task Force (“USPSTF”) or the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (“CDC”) makes an applicable recommendation relating to qualifying COVID-19 immunizations the Plan, will cover through its HMO coverage with Kaiser Permanente (“Kaiser”) and Western Health Advantage (“WHA”) and insured PPO coverage with Aetna, during the duration of the COVID-19 public health emergency period, approved COVID-19 vaccinations, including any qualifying coronavirus preventive service defined as an item, service or immunization that is intended to prevent or mitigate coronavirus disease 2019 that has received either an “A” or “B” in the recommendation of the USPSTF or the CDC.

**Currently, below are the approved and recommended COVID-19 vaccinations:**

- 1. Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine became effective Jan. 5, 2021;**
- 2. Moderna COVID-19 vaccine became effective Jan. 12, 2021; and**
- 3. Recently, the Johnson & Johnson vaccine was approved as well.**

Once it becomes available to the public and subject to future government guidance, **COVID-19 vaccinations is available to all eligible participants and dependents (through the Plan’s HMO and/or insured coverage with Kaiser, WHA and Aetna) at no cost (meaning no copayment, coinsurance or deductible) whether received in-network and out-of-network and without prior authorization** at a doctor’s office, medical facilities, including applicable participating pharmacies with Kaiser, WHA and Aetna.

Providers are prohibited from seeking reimbursement from participants and dependents for the vaccine itself including the vaccine administration costs whether as a cost-sharing or balance billing.

Furthermore, please note while certain individuals may be prioritized for early vaccination, the Plan and Insurers are prohibited from denying you and your eligible dependents coverage of the recommended COVID-19 vaccinations just because you are not in a category recommended for early vaccination.

**IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE EMPLOYEE RETIREMENT INCOME SECURITY ACT OF 1974, AS AMENDED (“ERISA”), THIS DOCUMENT SERVES AS A SUMMARY OF MATERIAL MODIFICATIONS (“SMM”) TO THE PLAN AND SUPPLEMENTS THE RESTATED SUMMARY PLAN DESCRIPTION/PLAN DOCUMENT THAT HAS BEEN SEPARATELY PROVIDED TO YOU. YOU SHOULD RETAIN THIS DOCUMENT WITH YOUR COPY OF THE RESTATED SUMMARY PLAN DESCRIPTION/PLAN DOCUMENT.**

**Please contact the Trust Fund Office, if you have any questions.**