

Benefit available for Eligible and Qualified SASMI Members affected by the COVID-19 virus



SASMI will provide all eligible and qualified participants¹ unable to work during any part of the remaining 2020A Stabilization Period due to exposure to COVID-19², displaced from employment³ as a result of COVID-19, or who have voluntarily removed themselves from the workforce in response to COVID-19⁴ with a special emergency benefit. The details of the benefit and application forms can be found on our website at www.sasmi.org. Generally,

The benefit will be equal to one week of wages as defined in their CBA (usually forty (40) hours) of journeypersons pay, or derivative thereof, in any month (March, April, May and June) in which a member as a direct effect of COVID-19 is displaced, quarantined or voluntarily removed from the workforce and does not receive wages from their employer for at least one week.

This payment(s) will not affect your qualification or eligibility for unemployment or underemployment benefits to which you may be entitled to for the 2020 A-Period and will not be counted against those benefits. The benefit, however, will count as a benefit received in determining, in the future, whether you have met the 200% rule and in determining severance and retiree HCRA benefits.

Later this week members will be able to make application via our website (www.sasmi.org). Once there, use the link labeled "COVID-19". All questions must be answered in order to be considered for this benefit. Once submitted, SASMI will validate your qualifications for this benefit including, as appropriate, contacting your Local Union Representative or Employer.

Due to staffs limited office availability during this time and to expedite payment we will temporarily only be able to process ACH payments to a member's bank. Benefits that need to be paid by check may be delayed.

***The Trustees will determine if the benefit will be repeated in the 2020B Stabilization period based on the course of the pandemic and its impact on the industry.**

¹ The Employee is eligible for this benefit if they are eligible for benefits under Article II and have not lost eligibility under Article II and does not terminate participation nor lose qualification for Benefits under Article X at any time during such Stabilization Period or before receipt of payment. The 18-month rule and four (4) Stabilization Period Rules in Article II section 7 apply to this benefit.

² An Employee who (a) is experiencing possible symptoms of COVID-19, (b) was exposed to someone who is possibly infected with COVID-19, or (c) or resides with a family member who was exposed to someone who is possibly infected with COVID-19.

³ An Employee who is unable to work because their employer has told them not to report to work due to a COVID-19 related situation or who is prevented from going to work by governmental action, such as a Shelter at Home Order. Displacement does not mean persons who are currently seeking employment or receiving compensation from an employer through good will or formal governmental legislation.

⁴ An employee who has made the decision to temporarily remove themselves from the worksite due to concerns about COVID-19 or because of obligations related to the closing of schools and daycares. **Employees who have voluntarily removed themselves from the workforce the benefit will be paid if they have not received benefits above 100% of contributions.**

