

Benefit Trust Fund News

June, 2021

Myra Kalici, Office Administrator

Nick Karnavezos, Administrator

An important reminder.....

Requirements for Future Retirees to Qualify for Fund Benefits

At its October 2018 meeting, the Board of Trustees of the Benefit Trust Fund, in order to be fair to the members of the NTA, established a policy stating that, with the exception of individually contracted participants, BTF benefits will be available only to retirees who retire as members of their respective chapters of the NTA.

In addition, the Board of Trustees determined that affected employees, beginning with the 2018-2019 **school year**, **must be NTA members during the entirety of their years of active duty and must sign up** during the first two months of their full time employment in the Newburgh Enlarged City School district.

The District and Trust Fund Do Not Share Personal Data

*If you have changes in your address, name, school, marital status or dependent coverage or other personal information which you provide to the District for insurance or other purposes, please understand that the District and Trust Fund **DO NOT** exchange this information. You must provide us with this information separately. We are entirely independent entities. Once again, the District and the Trust Fund do not share information.*

Update Your Enrollment Forms for “Summer” Addresses

Members who relocate on a temporary basis for any part of the year must update their enrollment forms to reflect this new location. We will continue to send all correspondence and benefit checks to the current address on your enrollment form. We cannot accept telephone or written requests to send materials to a new location on a temporary basis. Members risk a significant delay in receiving benefit payments if an enrollment form is not current.

A Predetermination Will Tell You How Much You Will Get

Trust Fund dental benefits are based on a fee schedule. We do not pay benefits on a percentage basis. When in doubt about whether a procedure is covered or how much your benefit will be, ask your dentist for an estimate of costs. Send it to us, and we will send you a pre-determination of benefits. This way you will not be surprised at the amount of your benefit, or find out, too late, that the procedure was not covered. We do not charge for this service.

All Benefit Requests Require Trust Fund Member's Name

If the last name of a spouse or dependent is different from that of the member, it is essential that the member write his or her name on RX receipts when submitting them for the prescription co-pay benefit. If we do not know the name of the member, we cannot credit the prescription co-pay amounts. This, in turn, could delay payment of your prescription co-pay benefit. ***The same applies*** when visiting a vision participating provider. No vision authorization number will be issued if the provider doesn't know the member's name when they call for an authorization number. When a dependent goes to a vision provider, the dependent must tell the provider your (the member's) name.

The Trust Fund Pays the Most Money to the Most People

The Fund's guiding principal continues to be to provide the largest benefit for those dental procedures used by the most members. In others words, the most money to the largest number of members. If members follow rules for filing claims, benefit payments will be prompt. Many times we are able to process claims the day we receive them.

****Important Information****

- The two-year vision cycle began August 1, 2020. For vision services, call a participating provider and make an appointment.
- File your own dental claims. In order to protect our members' privacy, the NTABTF **does not** correspond with dentist offices.
- There is a \$25 fee for lost or re-issued checks. Please cash the check in a timely manner and be careful not to misplace it.
- It is very important to review coverage for dependents students. It is not the same as our Health Insurance.
- Know your Benefit Trust Fund rules. If you do not have the Benefit Trust Fund booklet, please contact The Fund at 562-7988.
- Address all correspondences, dental claims forms and prescription co-pay requests to the **"NTA Benefit Trust Fund"**.

A Message from the Chairperson of the NTA BTF, Stacy Moran

On behalf of the NTA Benefit Trust Fund Trustees, we would like to thank Russell Coughlin and Robin Eitel for their service to the NTA BTF, and for the many years they worked to ensure that our members received the benefits they deserve. We wish them a fun and fulfilling retirement!

We also would like to welcome Nickolas Karnavezos who is our new NTA BTF Administrator, and we would like to congratulate Myra Kalici on her new role as the NTA BTF Office Administrator. They are working to update the BTF systems and procedures, so that we can continue to provide excellent service to our members for many years to come.

-----Clip and Save-----

DiNapoli Opticians

410 Gidney Avenue
Newburgh, N.Y. 12550
(845) 561-2970

Samuel B. Schenker, O.D.

14 Western Avenue
Marlboro, N.Y. 12542
(845) 236-3341

#Village Opticianry

155 Main Street
Brewster, N.Y. 10510
(845) 279-2411

Vision City

Marshalls Plaza
1431 Route 300
Newburgh, N.Y. 12550
(845) 561-0305

Austin Ryan Optika

Tops Plaza
Main Street
New Paltz, N.Y. 12561
(845) 255-6780

Raymond Opticians

252 Hooker Avenue
Poughkeepsie, N.Y. 12603
(845) 471-3260
affiliated with Raymond Opticians