

UNITED BROTHERHOOD OF CARPENTERS AND JOINERS OF AMERICA
NORTH ATLANTIC STATES REGIONAL COUNCIL OF CARPENTERS
LOCAL 276



Important Covid-19 Information Effective Wednesday March 18th

Attention Brothers and Sisters,

In response to the unprecedented Covid-19 outbreak the Council and Local have taken the following steps.

- **The Council and Local Offices will be closed for walk- up service.** Staff will be working remotely and available by phone, email, social media or other channels. Members are asked to pay dues by phone or by mail. To pay by phone please call 716-632-3080. Leave a message and a Staff member will return your call. To pay by mail please mail your payment to Carpenters Local 276: 21 Jet View Drive, Rochester NY 14624
- **The Funds Office will be closed for walk-up service.** Any questions or if you'd like to speak with a Funds Staff Member call 716-839-7132 or visit the Funds website at ncf.carpenters.fund. You can also mail your claims to Northeast Carpenters Fund: 1159 Maryvale Drive, Cheektowaga NY 14225 or email them to kpalmer@nrccf.org. Forms are available on the Local website www.carpenterslocalunion276.com
- **ALL Training and events at the training centers have been cancelled for at least the next 2 weeks**
- **ALL Monthly Union Meetings have been cancelled until further notice.** Please remember that things are changing rapidly and there is a lot of information being circulated on a number of topics right now. Be wary of rumors, honest mistakes or misinformation. Seek reliable and multiple sources to confirm what you are hearing. Understand that while we are able to share general information, your situation may include unique circumstances which change how something applies to you.

Health Concerns

- **We encourage all members to follow the CDC Guidelines for prevention which include:**
 - **Wash your hands regularly with soap and water for 20 seconds**
 - **Use hand sanitizer with 60% alcohol**
 - **Avoid rubbing your eyes, nose and mouth**
 - **Stay home if you are sick**
 - **Cover your mouth when you sneeze**
- **New York and the Federal Government have mandated that co-payments for COVID-19 testing and telehealth visits be waived**

- **Per the current guidance from the State: people who have questions about what to do regarding health concerns should contact their physician before going to the doctor's office or hospital to be tested or treated. They should call 9-1-1 if they have a life-threatening medical emergency**
- **New York State Department of Health has provided various information related to COVID-19, including how to protect yourself, cleaning/disinfection guidelines and other up-to-date press releases on various notices and orders from the Governor. <https://www.health.ny.gov/diseases/communicable/coronavirus/>**

Unemployment

- **New York State is waiving the 7-day waiting period for Unemployment Insurance benefits for people who are out of work due to COVID-19 closures or quarantines.**
- **If you believe you need to collect such benefits, see more information at <https://labor.ny.gov/unemploymentassistance.shtm>.** To address the increased demand, the department has changed how it accepts new applications. Claimants with last names starting with A through F should apply on Mondays, G-N on Tuesdays and O-Z on Wednesdays. Thursdays and Fridays are for people who missed their filing day. "Filing later in the week will not delay payments or affect the date of an individual's claim, since all claims are effective on the Monday of the week in which they are filed," the department said Tuesday March 17th.

State

- **New York legislature will be putting together a package that will apply to workers who are quarantined because of COVID-19 and/or need to stay home to care for a family member's COVID-19 quarantine. We do not have any details but believe this may provide benefits to our members. We will keep you posted as more information is available.**