FLINT PLUMBING AND PIPEFITTING
FRINGE BENEFIT FUNDS

FLINT PLUMBING & PIPEFITTING INDUSTRY HEALTH CARE FUND
COMMONLY ASKED QUESTIONS

How are my benefits funded?

The primary source of financing for the benefits provided under the Health Care Fund and for the expenses of Fund operations is employer contributions.

What are the Fund’s eligibility requirements?

Initial eligibility requires $3,850 of contributions within twelve (12) months or less. There is a one (1) month bookkeeping period before you become eligible.

Continuing eligibility requires a minimum of $975 per month. All dollars in excess of $975 will be “banked” to the participant’s credit and may be used in the future when he has less than $975 per month. A participant can bank a maximum of $16,000 (18 months).

What do I do if my employer does not remit my fringes?

First, call your employer. There may be a very good reason that the fringes have not been remitted. If your employer cannot explain the reason to your satisfaction, you should contact your Local Union.

How can I add my dependents to the Plan?

Complete a “Membership and Record Change Form” and submit copies of marriage and birth certificates.

What do I do when I get divorced?

You must send a copy of your complete divorce decree otherwise coverage will be maintained for your ex-spouse. If the Fund pays for benefits that should not be paid because your spouse no longer meets the definition of a dependent, you will be held responsible.
When does coverage stop for my dependent children?

The Health Care and Education Affordability Reconciliation Act of 2010 requires the Fund to extend Adult child coverage up to age 26 effective June 1, 2011. Therefore, if you are eligible for benefits and you have a child that was previously covered in the Plan, and their coverage was terminated, you should complete a “Request for Extension of Dependent Coverage” and return it to the Fund Office. Coverage may continue until the last day of the month in which that adult child turns 26 years old or earlier if you do not maintain your eligibility under the Plan. This requires annual verification.

Can I continue coverage when I retire?

Yes, provided you meet the retiree requirements for maintaining coverage.

What do I do if I am injured and cannot work?

The Fund provides disability credit which may continue your coverage for health care benefits. You should complete a disability form.

What are the self-payment rates?

Active Participant and Family $ 975.00

What is COBRA?

COBRA is the Consolidate Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1986. COBRA requires that the Fund provide coverage for participants and their dependents that may not otherwise be offered. COBRA is available for dependents who no longer meet the definition of a dependent as defined by the Plan. The rates are:

Participant (1 person) $ 375.90
Participant & Spouse (2 persons) $ 902.15
Participant & Family $1,127.69

What is Coordination of Benefits?

Coordination of Benefits or COB coordinates benefits with other health benefits you may have such as coverage through your spouses’ employer.