

Carpenters Health and Security Plan of Western Washington

Dollar Bank Eligibility

Western and Central Washington Benefit Package

Background

The cost of providing medical, prescription, dental, and vision coverage for you and your family has generally increased over the years. The current (2019) cost of this benefit package is valued at \$1,249/month/family.

Monthly Dollar Bank Deduction

The current dollar bank deduction is \$900/month. The monthly deduction from your dollar bank account is made the month before the month of eligibility. For example, the deduction for January 1, 2020 eligibility is made no later than December 31, 2019.

Here's How Dollar Bank Eligibility Works

Each of you has a dollar bank account with the Carpenters Health and Security Plan. Employer contributions made on your behalf are added to your dollar bank account. Your current and future eligibility are calculated based on the balance of this account. The amount credited to your dollar bank account equals the hourly contribution received from employers less the hourly amount credited to the Retiree Health Plan Reserve Fund. For example, the June 1, 2020 Area Master Agreement in Western Washington calls for an employer contribution of \$8.51/hour to the plan. Currently, \$0.60/hour funds the Retiree Health Plan Reserve Fund leaving \$7.91/hour for your dollar bank account.

$$\$8.51/\text{hour} - \$0.60/\text{hour} = \$7.91/\text{hour}$$

If, for example, you work 160 hours in June for an employer who is signatory to the Western Washington Area Master Agreement, \$1,289.60 is submitted to the plan on your behalf. Of that amount, \$1,193.60 is contributed to your dollar bank account. Once you gain eligibility, you must have \$900.00 or more in your dollar bank account no later than the last day of the month to have eligibility in the following month.

$$160 \text{ hours} \times \$8.51 = \$1,361.60$$

$$160 \text{ hours} \times \$0.60 = \$96.00$$

$$\$1,289.60 - \$96.00 = \$1,265.60$$

Maximum Dollar Bank Amount

The maximum dollar amount you can have in your dollar bank account is \$7,200. This amount allows full-time carpenters to build and retain up to eight months of future eligibility at the \$900 dollar bank deduction rate.

Initial Eligibility

If you are new to the plan or you have not had coverage under the dollar bank system for 12 months or more, you earn initial eligibility as follows:

- You must have \$2,700 or more in your dollar bank account within a three-month period with at least \$1.00 of contributions earned in the first month of the three-month period.

- The fourth month is the “lag month.” This is the time required for your employer to send updated contribution records to the plan and the time required for the plan to process those records.
- You are then eligible for benefits beginning on the first day of the fifth month. The number of months of eligibility is based on the amount in your dollar bank and the current dollar bank deduction rate.

For example, if you work 160 hours/month in June, July and August and the contribution rate to your dollar bank is \$7.91/hour, your dollar bank will accumulate \$3,796.80. Because your dollar bank has at least \$2,700, you will be eligible beginning on October 1 for at least a three-month period (October, November, December). September is the lag month. You then must have \$900 in your dollar bank by December 31 to be eligible for a fourth month (January), and so on for future months.

When Eligibility Ends

Your eligibility ends on the first day of any month your dollar bank account is less than \$900. If you lose eligibility under the dollar bank system, you may still qualify for Self-Contribution Coverage or COBRA Coverage.

Questions

If you have any questions about the new dollar bank deduction amount or dollar bank eligibility in general, please contact Participant Services at Carpenters Trusts in Seattle:

(206) 441-6514 Seattle Area

(800) 552-0635 Nationwide

www.ctww.org