

# The Fund Office Report

## Important News About Your Employee Benefit Programs in the Metal Trades Branch of Steamfitters' Local 638

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Memorial Sloan Kettering  
Cancer Center

### MSK DIRECT Be Sun Smart!

Healthy skin starts by being sun smart to protect yourself and reduce sun exposure. Some of the essential steps you can take to keep your skin healthy are to keep an eye out for changing spots and moles during monthly self-exams and apply sunscreen daily. By increasing your skin IQ, you can take an active role in reducing your chance of developing various forms of skin cancer and detecting it early. Watch for more information about melanoma and the signs to look for when checking your skin: <https://www.mskcc.org/direct/dc37/be-sun-smart>

#### Take Action

Skin self-exams should be done every month using a mirror. Start at the top of your head or the bottom of your feet and go over your entire body, including your back and ears. The ABCDE method is a good guide to help you identify new or changing suspicious spots or moles.



**Asymmetry**  
One half doesn't match the other.



**Border**  
The edges are uneven and irregular.



**Color**  
The shade does not match that of your other moles.



**Diameter**  
The width is more than 6 millimeters.



**Evolution**  
There are changes in the size, shape, surface, or color.

If you are concerned about changes in your skin, contact your dermatologist. It may not be cancer, but your doctor will be able to provide individualized guidance.

Steamfitters Local 638 has a partnership with MSK Direct to provide employees, and their families dedicated access to exceptional cancer care, support, and expert resources from the world's leading cancer specialists at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center (MSK). If you or a family member are impacted by cancer and would like to discuss treatment options at MSK, call the dedicated MSK Direct phone line for Steamfitters' members at (833) 516-1116 or [mskcc.org/steamfitters638](http://mskcc.org/steamfitters638).

### Online Security Tips

The internet can be a dangerous place. Please use the following tips to help keep you and your private information safe.

- Monitor your online accounts
- Select strong passwords
- Use multi-factor authentication
- Keep information up to date
- Close unused accounts
- Avoid free Wi-Fi
- Beware of phishing attempts (*don't click on links or attachments in emails where you are unaware of the sender*)
- Use antivirus software and keep apps and software current
- Know how to report theft and security incidents.



## SWAC & TWIC

Effective **May 9, 2023**, the Service Fitters' Educational Fund will reimburse a Service Fitter for your Secure Worker Access Consortium (**SWAC**) or Transportation Worker Identification Credential (**TWIC**) application fees. These fees must be paid by you and not your employer in order to be eligible for reimbursement.

If you are eligible, you must complete the application and submit it along with your paid receipt. You can find the forms by following the link below and navigating to the Metal Trades "Forms" section on [www.steamfitters.com](http://www.steamfitters.com)

If you have any questions regarding this new benefit, please contact the Disbursements Department at 212-465-8888, option 8.



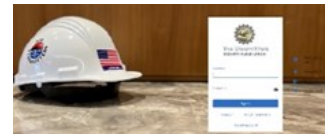
## QUICK TIP!

Do you need to change a beneficiary? Add a dependent? Make sure your employer paid your benefits? Check your eligibility for health coverage? Review statements and other documents?

Visit [www.steamfitters.com](http://www.steamfitters.com), and log into your Member Self-Service portal. Once logged in, you can do all of the things mentioned above. In addition, you can safely and securely do the following:

1. Upload documents [for example, marriage certificates, social security cards and birth certificates].
2. Correspond with us via Secure Message.

If you need assistance logging on, please do not hesitate to contact us at 212-465-8888, option 7.



## Disability Status Program

The Disability Status Program (DSP) allows you, as a participant, to maintain eligibility if you are unable to work due to a medical condition or injury. To apply for the DSP, you must be covered under the Welfare Fund at the time of your injury or illness. You must also have a minimum of 10 Years of Credited Service in the Pension Fund at the time of injury or illness, and be covered under the Welfare Fund for no less than 48 of the 60 months prior to the date of injury or illness.

Please note that as a rule of the Welfare Fund, you must report any injury on or off the job which will effect your ability to work to the Fund Office as soon as possible. Your completed DSP application **must be received within 30 days of the injury or illness** and must be accompanied by a letter from the attending physician detailing the injury or illness. Proof of your disability may include copies of Disability or Workers' Compensation payments and/or an Independent Medical Examination (IME) conducted by the Professional Evaluation Group (PEG).

Participation in the DSP cannot exceed 12 months and includes coverage for all dependents. Upon returning to work (or being deemed physically able to return to work), you would remain covered for two months under the DSP (when regular eligibility rules would normally reestablish welfare coverage). If you have any questions about the DSP please call the Welfare Department at (212) 465-8888, menu option 4.

## Steamfitting Industry Assistance Program (SIAP)

*We're Here To Help!*



We help members and their families dealing with alcoholism, drug abuse, misuse of prescription drugs and emotional problems. Contact our Director of SIAP, Roger Ross, at (212) 563-0342. Please be assured all calls are kept **STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL**.