

Questions and Answers About the 2023 Medicare Part B Premium Reimbursement Benefit

What is the Medicare Part B Reimbursement Benefit?

Most older Americans who are eligible for Medicare have enrolled for Part B, the portion of Medicare that covers physician and medical services. Enrollment is voluntary, and the monthly premium is deducted from your Social Security check.

The Cleveland-Cliffs Steel LLC VEBA (formerly the ArcelorMittal VEBA) intends to reimburse eligible VEBA Beneficiaries and spouses for a portion of their Medicare Part B premiums paid during the 12 month period from July, 2022 through June, 2023.

Simply complete and sign the enclosed Benefit Application Form, and return it, using the enclosed envelope, to the VEBA Administration Office. **The envelope must be postmarked no later than Tuesday, September 5, 2023.**

Effective June 1, 2023, the VEBA will also accept applications online. Simply go to www.ccsllcveba.org . All online applications must be received **NO later than September 5, 2023.**

Do I need to send in a copy of my Medicare Health Identification Card?

In order to pay the benefit to you, the VEBA must have a copy of your Medicare Health Identification Card on file. You do not need to submit a copy of your card if we have it on file, **however, a Reimbursement application must be submitted to receive the benefit check.**

Your Medicare information is necessary solely to verify your eligibility for the Reimbursement Benefit. The information will not be used for any other purpose, nor will it be released to any other individual or organization.

When can I expect to receive notification regarding the 2023 Part B Reimbursement Check?

The VEBA expects to notify all eligible individuals by December 15, 2023. You must be a qualified VEBA member and must have submitted a 2023 Part B Benefit Application by the deadline to be eligible.

What happens if I, or my spouse, die prior to receipt of the benefit in December?

First, it is very important that the death of any eligible retiree or spouse be promptly reported to the VEBA Administration Office. It is essential that the VEBA have up-to-date records so that we can keep members informed about the operation of the VEBA and your entitlement to VEBA benefits.

The Plan rules require an eligible individual to (1) pay a Part B premium for one or more months during the twelve-month period beginning July 2022 through June 2023, and (2) **be living to sign and submit a completed Benefit Application by September 5, 2023.**

If these two conditions are satisfied, and the individual dies prior to December 1, 2023, the VEBA will pay any qualified benefit to the deceased individual's estate.

Is the benefit taxable?

Based on our understanding of current federal tax laws, the payment is not subject to federal income tax, since it is paid from an IRS-qualified benefit plan. You may need to consult with your tax advisor to determine if the benefit is subject to state or local taxes.

Will I receive this benefit each year?

At this time, we are committed to make payments to qualified Beneficiaries in 2023.

How can I obtain additional information regarding my eligibility for this benefit?

If you have any questions, you should call the VEBA Administration Office at the following toll-free number: **1 (877) 474-8322**

The VEBA has been providing benefits to USW Retirees for over 16 years!