



SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA IBEW - NECA TRUST FUNDS

6023 Garfield Avenue, City of Commerce, CA 90040

Phone: (323) 221-5861 or (800) 824-6935

Fax: (323) 726-3520

Mailing Address:

P.O. Box 910918

Los Angeles, CA 90091



Website: [www.scibew-neca.org](http://www.scibew-neca.org)

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Date: July, 2008

To: Participants in the Southern California IBEW-NECA Active Health Plan

From: Southern California IBEW-NECA Trust Funds Administrative Office

Re: Recently Adopted Plan Amendment – Summary of Material Modification

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Below is the Summary of Material Modification of a recently adopted Amendment to the Southern California IBEW-NECA Active Health Plan. Please note this Amendment will be mailed at a later time.

If you have any questions, please contact the Membership Services Department at (323) 221-5861 or toll-free at (800) 824-6935, Monday through Friday between the hours of 9 a.m. and 5 p.m.

➤ **Amendment No. 34 -- Coverage of Bariatric (Weight Loss) Surgery and Adult Immunizations**

Effective July 1, 2008, the Self-Funded Indemnity Plan is amended to provide coverage for bariatric surgery (weight loss surgery). Coverage for bariatric surgery may be provided when a participant meets the criteria set forth in the amendment. Surgical procedures that may be appropriate for a participant who meets the criteria include the "lap band" procedure, as well as other procedures. The appropriate procedure will be determined by the participant in consultation with the attending physician/surgeon. As with any non-emergency hospitalization, Blue Cross must pre-certify any hospital admission for a Participant who wishes to undergo a bariatric surgical procedure. Failure to pre-certify any non-emergency hospitalization, including a hospitalization in connection with bariatric surgery, will result in a reduction in benefits. In addition hospital services must be medically necessary in order for the services to be covered under the Plan. Therefore, your physician or surgeon should contact Blue Cross in anticipation of any bariatric surgery in order for Blue Cross to pre-certify the hospitalization and to confirm that you meet the criteria for bariatric surgery specified in the Plan and that the proposed services are medically necessary.

Also effective July 1, 2008, the Self-Funded Indemnity Plan is amended to provide expanded coverage for adult immunizations, based upon current recommendations for adult immunizations established by the Centers for Disease Control. Examples of covered adult immunizations include vaccinations for influenza (flu), pneumonia, shingles and the HPV virus which may cause cervical cancer in females.