

# AUTOMATIC SPRINKLER

## LOCAL 281, U.A.

# WELFARE FUND



#### TRUSTEES

THOMAS M. COLLINS  
NEAL MCLAUGHLIN  
FRED BARALL  
ALEX SIU

11900 S. LARAMIE AVENUE  
ALSIP, ILLINOIS 60803  
PHONE (708) 597-1832  
FAX (708) 371-7562

### IMPORTANT PARTICIPANT NOTICE

December 2021

### Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)

Dear Participant:

The Trustees of the Automatic Sprinkler Local 281, U.A. Welfare Fund write with an update regarding coverage for virtual visits with in-network providers. As the COVID-19 public health emergency continues to affect how Participants and their families conduct their daily activities, the Trustees recognize that virtual care visits represent an increasingly important mode of accessing health care. To this end, the Trustees will extend previously provided coverage for virtual care visits through December 31, 2022, as explained below.

In response to the COVID-19 public health emergency, the Trustees previously provided that, through December 31, 2021, the Fund would cover properly coded virtual care visits (i.e., telephone or video chat) with in-network providers at the same cost-sharing as if the services had been provided in person. This benefit applies to virtual visits with providers who regularly see patients in person. Because this benefit allows Participants to safely receive health care services while maintaining social distance, the Trustees will extend the benefit through December 31, 2022, subject to the Trustees' discretion. The Trustees will continue to monitor the effectiveness of this benefit throughout the upcoming year and will provide a Participant notice regarding any changes to this current determination.

The Trustees remain committed to maintaining a plan of benefits that meets the needs of Participants, especially in times of public health uncertainty. Accordingly, they will continue to closely monitor the COVID-19 pandemic and will act in response to unfolding matters. The Trustees encourage all Participants to take the precautionary measures recommended by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC). The Fund Office is available to answer any questions regarding this notice or the Fund generally.

Very truly yours,

*The Board of Trustees*

---

### ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Additional information may be found at the following websites:

- Centers for Disease Control (CDC)  
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>
- World Health Organization (WHO)  
<https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019>
- State Departments of Health  
<https://www.cdc.gov/publichealthgateway/healthdirectories/healthdepartments.html>