



SPRINKLER FITTERS AND APPRENTICES UNION

LOCAL NO. 281, AFL-CIO

of the UNITED ASSOCIATION OF JOURNEYMEN AND APPRENTICES OF THE PLUMBING AND PIPE FITTING INDUSTRY
OF THE UNITED STATES AND CANADA

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11900 SOUTH LARAMIE AVENUE
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December 6, 2022

To the Local 281 Members

Dear Brothers and Sisters:

I hope that everyone is safe and healthy.

The eligible members present at the December 1, 2022, Union Meeting voted to continue the funding for the Retiree Health Insurance Subsidy/COBRA Subsidy at the current rate of \$.40 per hour.

The Collective Bargaining Agreement signed July 1, 2020, calls for a \$1.40 per hour economic increase effective January 1, 2023. There is a mandatory \$.10 per hour increase to the NASI Pension Fund contribution rate effective January 1, 2023, that will be funded from the January 1, 2023, economic increase. **Motions were taken from the floor at the December 1, 2022, regular monthly meeting on the allocation of the remaining \$1.30 per hour economic increase. The eligible Members present voted to allocate the remaining \$1.30 per hour to the Wage Rate. Effective January 1, 2023, the Wage Rates will be:**

Journeyman Sprinkler Fitter	\$ 54.55 per hour
Sprinkler Fitter Foreman	\$ 57.30 per hour
General Foreman	\$ 57.55 per hour

The complete January 1, 2023, Wage and Fringe Benefit rates can be found on the Members Only Section of our website, www.sprinklerfitterchicago.org.

The Contractors have been notified of increases due January 1, 2023.

Christmas Day and New Year's Day both fall on Sundays this year. Under the terms of our Collective Bargaining Agreement, Monday shall be considered the holiday. Therefore, all work performed on Monday, December 26, 2022, and Monday, January 2, 2023, will be paid at the double time rate.

The Thomas M. Collins Scholarship will be awarded again this year. The Scholarship will be awarded to children or grandchildren of members of Sprinkler Fitters Union Local 281, U.A. that are attending

an accredited private high school. The Local 281 Member must be in good standing. The scholarships will be awarded at the Union Meeting to be held on Thursday, February 2, 2023. The Scholarships will be selected by a random drawing that will be held at that meeting. Applications can be obtained by calling the Union Office. The applications may be picked up at the office or may be mailed. We also have the information and the application forms available on our website. The website address is www.sprinklerfitterchicago.org. The deadline for Scholarship Applications is Tuesday, January 31, 2023, by 3:00 p.m. All applications must be received in the Union Office by 3:00 p.m. on that date in order to be eligible for the drawing.

The 2023 Union Plus Scholarship applications are available. This scholarship is available to current and retired members of unions participating in any Union Plus program, their spouses, and their dependent children (as defined by IRS regulations) are eligible. At least one year of continuous union membership by the applicant, applicant's spouse, or parent (if applicant is a dependent). The one-year membership minimum must be satisfied by May 31, 2023. Applications are available online at <https://1unionplusscholars.communityforce.com/login.aspx>. The application deadline is 12:00 Noon, (Eastern Standard Time), on Tuesday, January 31, 2023. This information is available on our website.

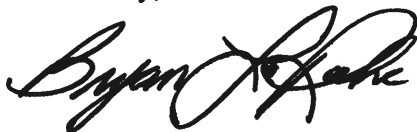
The 2023 CISCO Scholarship Applications are now available. This scholarship is available to children of members of trade unions affiliated with CISCO that are currently high school seniors. There is also a scholarship available to union members or contractor employees that wish to continue their education. Applications for this scholarship may be downloaded from the CISCO website at www.cisco.org. You may also contact CISCO at (630) 472-9411 to receive an application by mail. Completed applications must be postmarked by Friday, February 17, 2023. Again, the information is available on our website. I will let you know if any other scholarship opportunities become available.

The Union Office has outdated address and telephone contact information on many of our members. Please contact the Union Office as soon as possible to update your address and telephone numbers. Also, the mass emails sent out by the Union Office have been the quickest method to communicate with the membership on Union events and other important matters. If you would like to be added to the email list, please contact the Union Office.

It is also very important that the Local and the Pension Funds have updated beneficiary information on all members. Please contact the Union Office for beneficiary forms.

On behalf of the Officers, Office Staff of Sprinkler Fitters Local 281, U.A., and the Health and Welfare Fund Staff, I would like to wish a happy and healthy holiday season to you and your family.

Fraternally,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bryan LaRoche". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "B" and "L".

Bryan LaRoche
Business Manager/Financial Secretary

BL/emr