

NATIONAL RAILWAY LABOR CONFERENCE

EMPLOYEE BENEFITS DEPARTMENT

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December 8, 2017

CONTINUED PARTICIPATION IN
THE RAILROAD EMPLOYEES NATIONAL HEALTH AND WELFARE PLAN (“NH&W”)
NATIONAL RAILWAY CARRIERS and UNITED TRANSPORTATION UNION
HEALTH & WELFARE PLAN (“NRC/UTU”)
EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2018 REVISED

CIRCULAR NO. 504-41-58
CIRCULAR NO. 843-1-28

TO: MEMBER ROADS AND OTHER PARTICIPATING RAILROADS

This Circular serves to revise rates that were just sent out with dual numbered Circular 504-41-57/843-1-27, dated November 17, 2017. Our Circulars of the 504-41 and 843-1 series provide information about the continuation of The Railroad Employees National Health and Welfare Plan (“NH&W”) and the National Railway Carriers and United Transportation Union (“NRC/UTU”) Health and Welfare Plan and the applicable contract/premium/ payment rates. The rates are the same for both Plans.

The Payment Rates reflected in this Circular are effective January 1, 2018 and are intended to be in effect the full 2018 calendar year. We will notify you by follow-up Circular if the Payment Rates change prior to January 1, 2019 in connection with collective bargaining changes, claims experience, or other circumstances.

Attached are Exhibits providing details for rates effective January 1, 2018 based on December 2017 compensated service. Since employees who opt out of coverage must still be provided with life and AD&D insurance and on-duty injury coverage, Exhibit 1 on page 3 provides the rates to be applied to Qualifying Employees who elect medical coverage and Exhibit 2 on page 4 provides rates for those who opt out.

The 2018 monthly inflow factor has remained the same at \$6.96 per Qualifying Employee per month.

The cost to administer the health benefit continuation as required by COBRA is also included in the rates. UnitedHealthcare will send revised monthly report forms reflecting the new payment rates as described above.

The payment dates for the year 2018 are:

<u>Payment Month</u>	<u>Due Date</u>	<u>Payment Month</u>	<u>Due Date</u>
January	01/16/18	July	07/16/18
February	02/15/18	August	08/15/18
March	03/15/18	September	09/13/18
April	04/16/18	October	10/15/18
May	05/15/18	November	11/15/18
June	06/14/18	December	12/13/18

Late payment charges will accrue with respect to payments received after the payment dates listed above. When sending an EFT, your Monthly Payment Report form should be faxed to 860-702-5336, Attn: Sue Skidgel or emailed to susan_skidgel@uhc.com. **Please note, any EFT received without a signed Monthly Payment Report form, or any Monthly Payment Report form received without payment, will not be processed. Wires must be received at JP Morgan Chase Bank no later than 3:00 pm eastern time on or before the Due Date or a late charge will apply.**

Most railroads make a single, aggregate, monthly payment that our collection agent (UnitedHealthcare) divides into contributions to the National Health and Welfare Plan, the NRC/UTU Plan, the Railroad Employees National Early Retirement Major Benefit Plan ("ERMA") and the Railroad Employees National Vision Plan. Note that the monthly payment dates for ERMA are the same as the due dates noted above for the health and welfare plans. The National Vision Plan Payment Due Date remains the last day of each month. Thus, a railroad making one aggregate monthly payment in connection with all four plans could choose instead to make two monthly payments: one in connection with the Health and Welfare Plan, ERMA and the NRC/UTU Plan by the payment dates specified above, and one for the Vision Plan by the last day of each month. Alternatively, the road could choose to continue to make a single aggregate monthly payment, but it would have to be made on or before the payment due date shown above for that month.

David B. Marcus

DBM/sep
Attachments

**National Health and Welfare & NRC/UTU Plans
2018 Contract Rates and Payment Rates**

Rates to be Applied to QEs Electing Medical Coverage (i.e., excluding opt outs)

All Rates Shown Are Monthly Rates per QE

National Health & Welfare & NRC/UTU Plans			
	2017 CY	2018 CY	% Change
<i>Non-Hospital Association Railroad Employees</i>			
<u>Other Than On-Duty Injury Coverage (FO)</u>			
Medical Contract Rate	\$1,658.12	\$1,671.04	0.8%
Amount Available From Trust	<u>(0.70)</u>	<u>(120.83)</u>	
Medical Payment Rate	\$1,657.42	\$1,550.21	-6.5%
Life/AD&D Rate	\$12.30	\$12.30	0.0%
Total FO Payment Rate	\$1,669.72	\$1,562.51	-6.4%
<u>Employee On-Duty Injury Coverage (AO)</u>			
Contract Rate	\$14.77	\$14.53	-1.6%
Amount Available From Trust	<u>0.77</u>	<u>(0.79)</u>	
Total AO Payment Rate	\$15.54	\$13.74	-11.6%
<u>Total NHR Payment Rate</u>			
Payment Rate (FO and AO benefits)	\$1,685.26	\$1,576.25	-6.5%
Monthly Inflow Factor	\$6.96	\$6.96	0.0%
NRLC Administrative Fee	\$1.50	\$1.50	0.0%
Total NHR Payment Rate	\$1,693.72	\$1,584.71	-6.4%
<i>Hospital Association Railroad Employees</i>			
Medical Contract Rate	\$1,164.77	\$1,177.69	1.1%
Amount Available From Trust	<u>(\$0.70)</u>	<u>(\$120.83)</u>	
Medical Payment Rate	\$1,164.07	\$1,056.86	-9.2%
Life/AD&D Rate	\$12.30	\$12.30	0.0%
<u>Total HR Payment Rate</u>			
Payment Rate (benefits)	\$1,176.37	\$1,069.16	-9.1%
Monthly Inflow Factor	\$6.96	\$6.96	0.0%
NRLC Administrative Fee	\$1.50	\$1.50	0.0%
Total HR Payment Rate	\$1,184.83	\$1,077.62	-9.0%
HR Rate Differential	\$493.35	\$493.35	0.0%
HR Dues Offset	\$493.18	\$493.18	0.0%

**National Health and Welfare & NRC/UTU Plans
2018 Contract Rates and Payment Rates**

Rates to be Applied to QEs Opting Out of Medical Coverage

All Rates Shown Are Monthly Rates per QE

National Health & Welfare & NRC/UTU Plans			
	2017 CY	2018 CY	% Change
<i>Non-Hospital Association Railroad Employees</i>			
<u>Life/AD&D Rate</u>			
Life/AD&D Rate	\$12.30	\$12.30	0.0%
<u>Employee On-Duty Injury Coverage</u>			
Contract Rate	\$14.77	\$14.53	-1.6%
Amount Available From Trust	\$0.77	(\$0.79)	
Total AO Payment Rate	\$15.54	\$13.74	-11.6%
<u>Total NHR Payment Rate</u>			
Life/AD&D and AO Payment Rate	\$27.84	\$26.04	-6.5%
NRLC Administrative Fee	\$1.50	\$1.50	0.0%
Total NHR Payment Rate	\$29.34	\$27.54	-6.1%
<i>Hospital Association Railroad Employees</i>			
<u>Life/AD&D Rate</u>			
Life/AD&D Rate	\$12.30	\$12.30	0.0%
<u>Total HR Payment Rate</u>			
Life/AD&D Payment Rate	\$12.30	\$12.30	0.0%
NRLC Administrative Fee	\$1.50	\$1.50	0.0%
Total HR Payment Rate	\$13.80	\$13.80	0.0%

2018 Entry Fee¹		
Item	Non-Hospital Association Railroad Per Q.E.	Hospital Association Railroad * Per Q.E.
<u>NEWLY COVERED GROUPS²:</u>		
For on-duty injuries	\$ 20.79	*
For other benefits	<u>\$683.43</u>	<u>\$463.24</u>
TOTAL	\$704.22	\$463.24
<u>ON TRANSFER FROM HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION TO NON-HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION BASIS OF COVERAGE:</u>		
<u>Employees at work³:</u>		
For on-duty injury	\$ 29.48	
For other benefits	<u>\$388.36</u>	
Total	\$417.84	
<u>Furloughed employees:</u>		
Single Payment ⁴	\$405.63	
Monthly Payment ⁵	\$503.73	

* These railroads provide treatment for on-duty injuries at their own expense. Their on-duty injuries cost is not reflected in the figures in this table.

1. References to the fee have been updated to reflect the fact that for many years it hasn't served to "pick up" Plan coverage of pre-existing conditions, coverage the Plan provides for all covered members whether or not the fee is paid.
2. Payable in relation to each employee in the group involved who in the aggregate rendered the requisite amount of compensated service or received the requisite amount of vacation pay in the month preceding the effective date of coverage.
3. Payable in relation to each employee in the group involved who in the aggregate rendered the requisite amount of compensated service or received the requisite amount of vacation pay in the month preceding the effective date.
4. Payable in relation to each furloughed employee who rendered compensated service in the fourth, third or second month preceding date of transfer, but not in the month of transfer.
5. Payable in relation to each furloughed employee who did not render compensated service in the month preceding date of transfer, for each month, commencing with the month in which the transfer takes place, through the fourth month following the last month prior to the transfer in which he worked.

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December 8, 2017

CONTINUED PARTICIPATION IN THE RAILROAD EMPLOYEES NATIONAL EARLY RETIREMENT MAJOR MEDICAL BENEFIT PLAN ("ERMA") EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2018 REVISED

CIRCULAR NO. 679-2-54

TO: MEMBER ROADS AND OTHER PARTICIPATING RAILROADS

This Circular serves to revise rates that were just sent out with Circular 679-2-53, dated November 17, 2017. Our Circulars of the 679-2 series provide information about the continuation of The Railroad Employees National Early Retirement Major Medical Benefit Plan ("ERMA"), and the applicable Payment Rates.

The Payment Rates reflected in this Circular are effective January 1, 2018 and are intended to be in effect the full 2018 calendar year. We will notify you by follow-up Circular if the Payment Rates change prior to January 1, 2019 in connection with collective bargaining changes, claims experience, or other circumstances.

The Early Retirement Major Medical Benefit Plan is separate and distinct from The Railroad Employees National Health and Welfare Plan and the National Railway Carriers and United Transportation Union Health & Welfare Plan and the remittances to UnitedHealthcare with respect to the plans are identified separately. However, remittances under ERMA are calculated on exactly the same per employee per month basis as under the combined health and welfare plans which include those Qualifying Employees who have opted out. (Note that railroads reporting Canadian employees will receive separate notice of applicable rates.)

For 2018, the Payment Rates for ERMA reflect an **18.5%** decrease when compared to 2017. The new *Employer Payment Rate* per qualifying employee per month for Non-Hospital Roads is **\$135.96**, and for Hospital Roads **\$71.77**. The Hospital Association dues offset will be **\$64.19** per employee per month.

The ERMA payment will be due the same date as the health and welfare plan payments.

The payment dates for the year 2018 are:

<u>Payment Month</u>	<u>Due Date</u>	<u>Payment Month</u>	<u>Due Date</u>
January	01/16/18	July	07/16/18
February	02/15/18	August	08/15/18
March	03/15/18	September	09/13/18
April	04/16/18	October	10/15/18
May	05/15/18	November	11/15/18
June	06/14/18	December	12/13/18

The 2018 Entry Fee for groups transferring from Hospital Association to Non-Hospital Association coverage is **\$192.57** per active employee. Note that references to the fee have been updated to reflect the fact that for many years it hasn't served to "pick up" Plan coverage of pre-existing conditions, coverage the Plan provides for all covered members whether or not the fee is paid.

UnitedHealthcare will send revised monthly report forms reflecting the new payment schedule. Attached is a table providing details.

David B. Marcus

**National Early Retirement Major Medical Benefit Plan (ERMA)
 2018 Payment Rates**

Rates to be applied to Total QEs (including opt outs)			
All Rates Shown Are Monthly Rates per Qualified Employee (QE)			
	2017 CY	2018 CY	% Change
<i>Non-Hospital Association Railroad Employees</i>			
Payment Rate	\$166.75	\$135.96	-18.5%
<i>Hospital Association Railroad Employees</i>			
Payment Rate	\$88.02	\$71.77	-18.5%
HR Dues Offset	\$78.73	\$64.19	-18.5%