



SUMMER 2023

# MPI



## Participant Assistance Available

July 31, 2023

Dear Member:

The purpose of this email is to inform you of the steps MPI has taken to help Participants and dependents affected by the WGA and SAG-AFTRA strikes.

### **Individual Account Plan Hardship Withdrawal Will Be Available**

Beginning September 1, 2023, Participants who are vested in the Motion Picture Industry Individual Account ("IAP" or "Plan") as of the year ended December 2022 will be able to apply for a one-time special early withdrawal of an elected amount of need of up to 20% of their 2022 IAP account balance not to exceed a maximum dollar limit of \$20,000. This hardship withdrawal is available to Participants with a minimum account balance of \$1,000 through December 31, 2022.

This is a one-time hardship withdrawal provision. Participants who are requesting the maximum available amount of \$20,000 will be allowed to "gross up" their withdrawal to account for federal and state tax withholdings (i.e., Participants are able to withdraw up to \$20,000, excluding federal and state tax withholdings). The distribution paid under this benefit will be paid in a single lump sum and not as an annuity.

This distribution is subject to regular federal income tax and any state tax in your state of residence. However, any tax withholding is optional.

When filing tax returns, this distribution is subject to 10% federal early withdrawal penalty if the participant is under age 59 1/2 during the year of the distribution. This distribution is subject to an additional 2.5% penalty tax for California residents if the participant is under age 59 1/2 during the year of the distribution. Participants should consult with their tax advisors about their potential tax liability.

If a Participant's IAP account balance is \$5,000 or higher and the Participant is married, then spousal consent is required before a hardship withdrawal will be permitted. Spousal consent requires witness of a spouse's signature in the presence of a notary public or a Plan representative.

IAP hardship withdrawal applications will be reviewed by Plan staff and approved for processing within 30 days of receipt of the application and all supporting documentation.

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Participants must apply for this one-time special withdrawal by December 31, 2023. Applications are not available at this time, but will become available by September 1, 2023. More information about this program will become available in the coming weeks at [www.mpiphp.org](http://www.mpiphp.org).

## Hours Granted for Health Eligibility For Certain Participants

Certain Participants currently enrolled in the Active Health Plan will be credited/granted hours to continue eligibility in the Motion Picture Industry Health Plan (MPIHP) in accordance with the following criteria:

Qualifying Period	Benefit Period	Worked and Banked Hours at End of Qualifying Period	Credited Hours
11/20/2022 to 5/20/2023	8/1/2023 to 1/31/2024	333 - 399.9	Up to 67
12/25/2022 to 6/24/2023	9/1/2023 to 2/29/2024	266 - 399.9	Up to 134
1/22/2023 to 7/22/2023	10/1/2023 to 3/31/2024	199 - 399.9	Up to 201

Participants must have been enrolled immediately prior to the Benefit Period to be eligible for the credited/granted hours (e.g., enrolled as of July 31, 2023 to be eligible for the credited hours for the Benefit Period starting August 1, 2023) and pay health premiums per MPIHP rules to remain eligible during the Benefit Period.

In addition, the foregoing credited/granted hours will not apply to certain non-affiliate Participants.<sup>1</sup>

Lastly, MPIHP is in the process of identifying eligible Participants and implementing the credit/grant of hours. Participants who are eligible will receive a letter informing them of the hours that have been credited/granted. Participants can review their current eligibility and reported hours by logging in to [www.mpiphp.org](http://www.mpiphp.org) to determine if they are included.

Sincerely,

**David Asplund**  
Chief Executive Officer

<sup>1</sup>This benefit is not available to the following employees: a) Nonaffiliated employees who are not covered by a union collective bargaining agreement or another Nonaffiliated Designation Agreement and who are eligible under the respective Motion Picture Industry Health Plan, without exception, including executive, clerical, etc. employees; and b) Nonaffiliated employees of unions and named employers who are not covered by a collective bargaining agreement.