

# Spousal Coverage Program Verification Form

St. Louis – Kansas City Carpenters Regional Health Plan (Carpenters Plan)  
 1419 Hampton Avenue, St. Louis, MO 63139 | Phone: (314) 644-4802 | Fax: (314) 678-1110  
 Email: benefits@laborfunds.org



Participant Name (Last, First, Middle Initial)	Participant ID	Spouse Name
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Please fill out this form pertaining to the **Spouse** listed above.

**A. Statement of Other Health Coverage and Employment Status – Check ONE box and follow the bolded instructions**

- I do not have other health coverage and I am not employed. **Go to Section D, sign and return this form.**
- I do not have other health coverage and I am employed. **Go to Section C.**
- I have other health coverage and I am:  employed,  not employed (check one). **Go to Section B.**

**If you had other coverage that terminated in the last year, you must attach a Certificate of Creditable Coverage from that health plan.**

**B. Tell us about your Other Health Coverage – Must be completed by Spouse**

My other health coverage effective date: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

Please check all that apply to your other health coverage below:

<input type="checkbox"/> Medical & Prescription	<input type="checkbox"/> Individual <input type="checkbox"/> Family	Family Members Covered:
<input type="checkbox"/> Dental	<input type="checkbox"/> Individual <input type="checkbox"/> Family	Family Members Covered:

My other health coverage is through the following: (Check all that apply.)

- My current employer
- A retiree plan through previous employer
- The ACA Marketplace: www.HealthCare.gov
- Medicare
- Medicare - ESRD
- My parent or guardian

My individual deductible is \$0-\$1649  Yes, **go to Section D**  No, **complete next question**

My individual deductible is \$1650 or more  Yes, **go to Section C**

*\*If you are enrolled in both an HSA and Carpenters Plan you are at risk of losing the tax advantages of your HSA contributions.*

**C. Tell us about your Employment – Check ONE box and follow the bolded instructions**

- I am Self-Employed. **Go to Section D, sign and return this form. Attach a copy of your most recent Schedule C (1040 Form).**
- I am employed. The spouse’s employer **must** complete the **Employer Verification** section below. **Then, complete Section D and return this form.**

**Employer Verification - MUST be completed by Spouse’s Employer**

**If the employee does not have coverage, please check the appropriate box that best describes the employee’s situation:**

- Employee is “Part-Time” (Average of less than 30 hours per week)
- We do not offer employee coverage
- We do not offer a “Qualified Plan” (See Guidelines)
- We do not contribute to the cost of employee health coverage
- Employee is in a waiting period or waiting for open enrollment. Coverage will be effective on \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

The IRS defines a high deductible health plan (HDHP) as any plan with a deductible of at least \$1650 for an individual. **If the employee has coverage and the coverage is a HDHP, does the employee have a non-high deductible plan available?**  No  Yes

Employer Name	Employer Representative Signature	Date
Employer Representative Name (Please Print)	Employer Representative Title	Phone

**D. Signatures:** We hereby declare under penalty of perjury that we are legally married in accordance with the laws of the state in which we reside and the information on this form is correct and complete to the best of our knowledge. We authorize the Plan to verify spouse employment status as needed. If needed, we agree to furnish a copy of any marriage certificate, divorce decree or other relevant documents pertaining to common law marriage in the State of Kansas. If any incorrect or misleading information results in loss to the Plan, the Plan is entitled to recover the amount of the loss from us or withhold from our future benefits. Employed Spouse: I hereby authorize my employer or other entities to release information regarding my health coverage and my eligibility for coverage under that plan to the Carpenters’ Plan.

Participant Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Best Daytime Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse’s Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Best Daytime Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

## Guidelines for the Spousal Coverage Program

### St. Louis – Kansas City Carpenters Regional Health Plan (Carpenters Plan)

<b>Definitions:</b>	
<b>Self-Employed:</b>	An individual, doing business as a sole-proprietor or partner, who either has no employees or offers no health coverage to employees. <b>Attach a copy of your most recent Schedule C (1040 Form).</b>
<b>Part-Time Employee:</b>	Part-time is defined by the Carpenters Plan, for the Spousal Coverage Program, as working an average of less than 30 hours per week.
<b>Qualified Plan:</b>	For purposes of the Spousal Coverage Program, a “Qualified Plan” means an employer-sponsored health plan that (i) offers, at minimum, coverage for hospitalization, medically necessary surgery, medical outpatient and physician services; and (ii) is subject to state or federal regulations of the insurer of an insured plan or the employer of a self-insured plan.
<b>High Deductible Health Plan:</b>	The standard for what is considered a high deductible health plan, or “HDHP,” is set up annually by the IRS. In 2023, the minimum deductible to be considered a HDHP is \$1500. HDHP is given meaning under Section 223 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended by the Medicare Prescription Drug, Improvement and Modernization Act of 2003. For purposes of the Spousal Coverage Program, a HDHP can only be selected if there are no non-high deductible plan options available.
<b>Open Enrollment:</b>	The time or times during the year when an employee may normally enroll for coverage in an employer-sponsored health plan.
<b>Waiting Period:</b>	The period following initial employment that must elapse before an employee can commence coverage in an employer-sponsored health plan.
<b>Opt-Out:</b>	Voluntarily choosing to decline (or terminate) any spousal dependent coverage in the Carpenters Plan.
<b>Non-Compliant:</b>	(1) A participant’s spouse who is eligible for health plan coverage through their own employer and chooses not to enroll in their own employer’s plan; (2) a participant’s spouse who elects a High Deductible Health Care Plan when a low deductible plan is available; or (3) a participant’s spouse who does not properly complete the Spousal Coverage Program Verification Form.

#### Program Requirements:

The program requires a working spouse to enroll in their employer’s health coverage plan. The working spouse only needs to enroll in employee-only coverage. Basic medical and prescription drug coverage are required. Vision and dental coverage are not required. The working spouse must choose a non-high deductible health plan rather than a high deductible health plan (HDHP). If the only plan available is an HDHP, the working spouse should enroll in the HDHP. If the working spouse is enrolled in both an HDHP with a Health Savings Account (HSA) *and* the Carpenters Plan, the spouse is at risk of losing the tax advantages of the HSA. Depending upon circumstances, the spouse may want to opt out of either the HSA or Carpenters Plan.

Exceptions: A working spouse is not required to enroll in employer health coverage if (see definitions above):

- The spouse is Self-Employed.
- The spouse is a Part-Time Employee.
- The employer does not offer employee coverage.
- The employer does not offer a Qualified Plan.
- The employer does not contribute to the cost of employee health coverage.
- The spouse is in a Waiting Period.

#### Other Insurance:

The working spouse’s employer health plan will pay claims as primary, and the Carpenters Plan will pay as secondary. If a working spouse has a Health Reimbursement Account (HRA), all claims submitted to the HRA must be processed prior to submitting charges to the Carpenters Plan. The Carpenters Plan will pay as primary only if a working spouse has met an exception of the Program Requirements above.

#### Non-Compliance:

Carpenters Plan will terminate Non-Compliant spouses. After termination, one of the following may occur:

- Within 30 days of termination, the spouse qualifies for a special open enrollment period with the spouse’s employer health plan. Upon request, Carpenters Plan can provide a letter of coverage termination. Once the spouse has employer health plan coverage, Carpenters Plan will pay as secondary.
- When a verification form is returned late, coverage will be effective on the first day of the month in which the form is received. No additional retroactive coverage will be granted.

#### Opting Out:

Spouses who choose to opt out of coverage in the Carpenters Plan should contact the Benefit Office to request a Dependent Termination Request Form. A spouse who chooses to opt out of coverage is terminating their coverage in the Carpenters Plan.