

**U.A. UNION LOCAL NO. 290 PLUMBER, STEAMFITTER AND  
SHIPFITTER INDUSTRY EDUCATIONAL REIMBURSEMENT,  
SCHOLARSHIP AND VACATION TRUST**

**Requirements for Continuing Education Credit**

The U.A. Union Local No. 290 Plumber, Steamfitter and Shipfitter Industry Educational Reimbursement, Scholarship and Vacation Trust (Educational Reimbursement Trust) provides a benefit for journeymen education. The benefit is to encourage journeymen to continue to develop and refine their skills that will be of use in the plumbing and pipefitting industry. The Board of Trustees has adopted these criteria related to the educational reimbursement benefit to provide guidance and uniformity to the administration of this benefit.

The Board of Trustees of the Educational Reimbursement Trust has the final authority to determine whether particular courses and individuals are eligible for educational reimbursement credits.

**1. Eligibility**

The following individuals are eligible for this benefit:

- a. Active members of Local 290 who are not retired and who are not dispatched to an employer that does not contribute to the Educational Reimbursement Trust;
- b. Retired members of Local 290 in the year of retirement and retired individuals who have returned to work and reestablished eligibility for health and welfare benefits through the U.A. Union Local No. 290 Plumber, Steamfitter and Shipfitter Industry Health Trust.
- c. Other individuals dispatched from the U.A. Local 290 hiring hall and employed in U.A. Local 290's jurisdiction under a collective bargaining agreement requiring contributions to the Educational Reimbursement Trust for 500 hours or more during the calendar year in question.

Individuals in categories a, b and c are not eligible if they work for a U.A. Local 290 signatory employer which does not contribute to the Educational Reimbursement Trust. Such employers currently include Bonneville Power Administration; Cascade General; City of Portland; City of Vancouver; Port of Portland; Port of Vancouver; and Housing Forward/Housing Authority.

## **2. General Requirements**

- a. To qualify for a benefit, an individual must receive at least 24 hours of training during the calendar year. Of this 24 hours, a maximum of 16 hours credit may come from outside training, weld shop or active member wellness courses. Of this 16-hour sublimit, a maximum of 8 hours may be from active member wellness courses.
- b. No credit is available for courses for which an individual receives compensation for attending unless previously approved in advance by the Outside Training Committee.
- c. Courses not offered through the JATC must:
  - (1) Be approved by the Outside Training Committee prior to the training occurring;
  - (2) Training must be completed and submitted within 60 days of approval and written requests for credit must be submitted for training within 30 days of completion; and
  - (3) A post-class survey must be submitted to receive credit.

## **3. Provisions for Specific Training**

- a. Individuals whose eligibility is based on 1.c who are not currently employed in the U.A. Local 290 jurisdiction must pay any required fees to attend a class sponsored by the JATC or other entity. (This fee does not apply to use of the weld shop.)
- b. Individuals may not receive educational reimbursement credit for journeymen training and retiree wellness in the same year.
- c. Individuals may receive credit for online courses provided they are approved in advance by the Outside Training Committee and related to employment in the Plumbing and Pipefitting Industry.

## **4. Providing Credit**

- a. Credit for courses provided through the JATC will be tracked by the training center and wellness program coordinator.
- b. Request for credit for other courses that are eligible for reimbursement must be submitted within 30 days of completion and be accompanied by any required documentation.

- c. Requests for approval of credits for outside training must be submitted electronically to: **journeyman.training@290tech.edu**
  
- d. If credit for a course is denied, a participant may file an appeal. The appeal must be in writing and filed within 60 days of the denial. Any appeal must identify the course for which the credit is sought, provide information establishing that the time and procedural requirements for receiving a credit has been met and identify why credit should be granted. Requests must be submitted to:

Board of Trustees  
U.A. Union Local No. 290 Plumber, Steamfitter  
and Shipfitter Industry Educational Reimbursement,  
Scholarship and Vacation Trust  
c/o Zenith American  
12205 SW Tualatin Rd #200  
Tualatin OR 97062

#### **5. Outside Training Committee**

Courses not offered through the JATC must be approved in advance by the Outside Training Committee. The Outside Training Committee will consist of Trustees of the Educational Reimbursement Trust and the JATC who will confer with representatives from the JATC familiar with journeymen training in the plumbing and pipefitting industry.

#### **6. Board of Trustees' Authority**

The Board of Trustees reserves the discretion to interpret these requirements, modify them or address situations not covered by them.