



# LOCAL 1010

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September 25, 2020

To Local 1010 Members:

Sisters and Brothers,

Governor Holcomb has lifted statewide capacity limits for restaurants and bars and crowd limits for social events beginning tomorrow because he believes Indiana has made progress in recent weeks in slowing the spread of COVID-19. However, the requirement to wear a mask is extended until Oct. 17. On the surface this sounds promising but the data still shows that this Coronavirus is still a major threat to our families' lives and health.

Many of us are somewhat disturbed by the restrictions rollback especially with Indiana having a 6.6% seven-day average rate of positive COVID-19 tests. That exceeds the national average of 5%, which is the rate that the World Health Organization recommends before easing restrictions could be considered. Indiana's seven-day daily average of new confirmed infections was 862 as of Tuesday, which was about 12% higher than it was two weeks earlier.

Indiana Health Officials on Wednesday added 10 more COVID-19 deaths to the state's toll. The newly recorded deaths raise the state's death toll during the pandemic to 3,530, including confirmed and presumed coronavirus cases, according to the Indiana State Department of Health. That is an increase of 58 deaths in the past week.

Indiana's new order will require bar and restaurant customers to remain seated and maintain distancing. While limits on crowd sizes for social gatherings and meetings will be removed, those who organize events with more than 500 people must submit a written safety plan to local health officials.

At our facilities, we still have in plant recommendations on social distancing, wearing of masks, and daily self-monitoring. We can only benefit from following these safe practices at home, in public and at work. We are all affected by the health and wellbeing of each other. Let's do our best to support each other and our families by adhering to CDC recommendations regarding the prevention of spreading COVID-19!

According to management, the operations will remain about the same as noted below:

- Our Riverdale Facility will continue production with operations at 4 crews. Riverdale will be down for a planned maintenance outage October 1<sup>st</sup> through the October 10<sup>th</sup>.
- At Indiana Harbor East (IHE), overall operations will be at the same production levels for the week of September 20th. According to IHE Management, #4 Steel Production, 80" Hot Strip Mill, #3 Cold Strip facilities including the 29 Temper Mill, #5 Pickle Line, and 80" Tandem will maintain operations. The #3 CAL Line will continue run on its rotation based on customer orders and substrate availability. The

80" Hot Strip Mill is operating with 4 crews. We will keep everyone in the loop if we have any more information regarding operational changes.

**MTM/MTE Ramsay On-line Testing** will be done through the month of September due to Covid-19 and social distancing. Call Amy at (219) 399-4760 to schedule your test. See attached link <http://usw1010.org/images/Ramsay%20Test%20September%202020.pdf> for details. Call Local 1010 Training Coordinator, Andres Maldonado at (219)742-3350 with any questions.

**Highmark is offering up to two reusable face masks to members to help slow the spread of the Coronavirus.** 1010 Members may request the masks through Highmark's website and the link for requesting masks is: <https://healthyliving.highmarkhealthplan.com/>

**Please note that our Health Awareness Initiative (HAI) benefit has been revised for 2020** due to the Covid-19 Pandemic. The new HAI form is posted on the USW Local 1010 Website at <http://usw1010.org/images/HAI2020R.pdf>. The 2020 HAI verification and letter detailing the 2020 deadline extensions and the 2021 deadline change were mailed out to all members. Also, **Open Enrollment Health Care Booklets** will be arriving soon to our homes. Please review these Health Care Booklets as they have important **HealthCare Benefits Information**. Any questions please call Local 1010 Benefits Representatives Ernie Barrientez, Terra Samuel, or Kevin Bracket at 219-937-7784 ext. 117 or ext. 112.

**Help JobLink be the best it can be.** How? Complete this short survey.

If you complete it and give us your payroll number, you will be entered into a raffle for a \$100 Visa gift card. We'll choose three lucky winners and you could be one!

Just click on this link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/BQWPYJT>

The survey will be open until 10/10. Only one entry per participant.

**JobLink** has live and online classes as well as some classes in person onsite.

See JobLink on Facebook here:

<https://www.facebook.com/BKJobLink/photos/a.415211498544234/3369275076471180/?type=3&theater>

See Fall 2020 Live Streamed Classes, Live and Online Classes here:

<http://usw1010.org/bulletins.html>

As we look out for each other, be safe at work and at home. Remember our members and families that are experiencing health issues, keep them in your thoughts and prayers.

**If you have any COVID related issues please contact your department Safety/Grievance representatives for resolution.** If those issues cannot be solved at the department level, please contact the Local 1010 Safety Committee. All contacts are at this link <http://usw1010.org/safetydirectory.html>.

In Solidarity, Steve