

WE BELONG TO THE INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION OF EMPLOYEE BENEFIT PLANS. DO WE REALLY NEED TO BELONG TO ANOTHER GROUP?

Absolutely—The International Foundation and the NCCMP each serve important, but quite different purposes, even though they both serve some of the same groups of plans. The International Foundation is an educational forum for all types of benefit plans (corporate, public and multiemployer), but it is prohibited by its own charter from advocating or promoting legislation or regulations on behalf any particular group or viewpoint. Conversely, the NCCMP is the only organization specifically created to act as an advocate on behalf of multiemployer plans as your “voice” with Congress and the regulatory agencies with jurisdiction over our plans, to influence, from your point of view, the laws and regulations that will govern multiemployer plans, before they become a reality. The NCCMP also provides education to members on matters of particular importance to plan fiduciaries, settlors, professional advisors and participants.

HOW DO I BECOME AN NCCMP MEMBER?

Membership in the NCCMP is limited to the sponsors of multiemployer benefit plans and their related funds. Plans and sponsors interested in membership should make their request in writing to the NCCMP at the address shown below.

WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF NCCMP MEMBERSHIP?

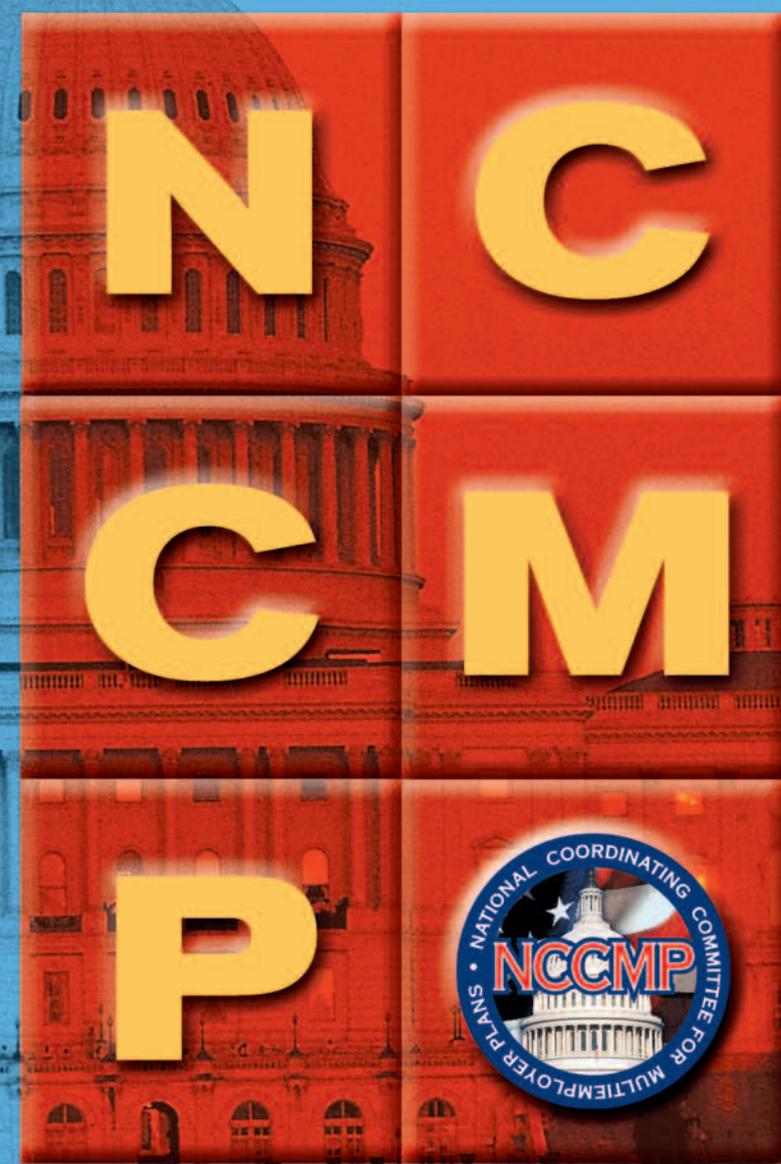
In addition to ensuring that your voice is heard, NCCMP Membership assures your plan trustees, administrators and professionals receive NCCMP publications, educational and advisory materials, discount registration fees for the annual NCCMP Conference, and provides an opportunity to participate in the NCCMP Lawyers and Administrators Advisory Committee.

IF WE HAVE OTHER QUESTIONS, WHOM DO WE CALL?

The NCCMP has offices located at 815 16th Street, N.W., Washington, DC. Questions can be directed to Executive Director Randy G. DeFrehn or Membership Services Coordinator Margaret M. Tobin in writing at that address, or by e-mail to nccmp@nccmp.org. You can also reach the NCCMP by telephone at (202) 737-5315, or by fax at (202) 737-1308.



Frequently Asked Questions About the



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT THE NCCMP...

WHAT IS THE NCCMP?

The National Coordinating Committee for Multiemployer Plans (NCCMP) is a non-profit membership organization founded in 1974 by a dedicated group of trade union leaders and multiemployer benefits plan professionals concerned about the lack of understanding of our plans by lawmakers that was demonstrated during the enactment of ERISA. It is dedicated exclusively to the advocacy and protection of multiemployer plans, their participants and their families. The NCCMP has achieved an unparalleled track record of results and is looked to as the voice of multiemployer plans.

WHAT IS THE NCCMP'S MISSION?

Since 1974, the NCCMP'S mission has remained constant; to assure an environment in which multiemployer plans can continue in their vital role in providing benefits to working Americans with a minimum of regulatory or other interference.

HOW DOES THE NCCMP CARRY OUT ITS MISSION?

The NCCMP monitors, on a non-partisan basis, legislative, regulatory and legal developments from conception to implementation to enforcement; effectively representing the interests of multiemployer plans and participants at every step of the way.

HOW DO THE NCCMP'S ACTIVITIES AFFECT MY PLAN?

By communicating with government officials, members of Congress and staff about the unique characteristics of multiemployer plans, the NCCMP has saved multiemployer plans hundreds of millions of dollars in regulatory and administrative costs. These savings enable your plan to remain financially secure and healthy, while providing enhanced benefits to plan participants.

WHAT IS THE NCCMP'S ROLE IN THE LEGISLATIVE PROCESS?

The NCCMP maintains a strong presence on Capitol Hill. Long-standing relationships have been developed with members of Congress and their staffs. The NCCMP regularly testifies at congressional hearings, prepares written comments on legislative proposals, advises committee staffers, supports positive legislation, and proposes or seeks change to legislation that could adversely affect our member plans. The NCCMP has also undertaken activities to have needed legislation passed when such actions were determined to be in the best interests of the plans, their participants and sponsoring organizations.

Virtually every piece of employee benefit legislation is influenced by the NCCMP for the benefit of multiemployer plans and their participants.

WHAT IS THE NCCMP'S ROLE IN THE REGULATORY PROCESS?

The NCCMP is involved with administrative agencies such as the Department of Labor, the Internal Revenue Service and the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation as they develop and implement regulations. Through meetings, testimony and written submissions, the NCCMP provides agency officials with your unique perspective. On request we have also provided training assistance to federal agencies to help them better understand the nature and operations of our plans.

WHAT IS THE NCCMP'S ROLE IN THE JUDICIAL PROCESS?

Some of the most important decisions involving multiemployer plans are made in the court system – and the NCCMP is there. The NCCMP participates as amicus curiae in virtually all Supreme Court cases affecting multiemployer plans and in many precedent-setting courts of appeals cases. When a decision is not favorable to our members, the NCCMP is prepared to seek a legislative remedy.

WHO ARE THE NCCMP'S LEADERSHIP?

The NCCMP has a voluntary board of directors, representing plans, unions and employers chosen and known for their involvement with and commitment to multiemployer plans. The NCCMP professional and consulting staff includes attor-

neys, actuaries, benefits experts and legislative representatives with vast multiemployer plan experience.

WHO ARE THE NCCMP'S MEMBERS?

The NCCMP has two membership classifications. In general, International Unions or their national benefit plans and Employer Associations may join as Affiliate Members, while local union, regional and District Council pension, health and welfare, training and apprenticeship and other benefit funds may join as Associate Affiliate Members.

NCCMP members represent national, regional and local benefit plans covering workers in the building and construction trades, bakery and confectionery, clothing, entertainment, food and commercial, health care, hotel, service, textile, transportation, mining, steel and maritime industries.

HOW ARE THE NCCMP'S ACTIVITIES FINANCED?

The NCCMP is wholly dependent on membership dues for its income. One annual dues payment covers all related plans with the same participants.

WHAT IS THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE NCCMP AND THE AFL-CIO CENTER FOR WORKING CAPITAL?

The NCCMP and AFL-CIO Center for Working Capital (CWC) work in partnership on many projects. Together with the George Meany Center for Labor Studies the initial curriculum for a certificate program in fiduciary responsibility for pension fund trustees was developed.

CAN NCCMP MEMBERSHIP DUES BE PAID OUT OF PLAN ASSETS?

Yes. Membership in the NCCMP is a legitimate expenditure for a tax-exempt employee benefit fund. Of course, each plan should check with its own professional advisors for a formal opinion regarding any matter requiring a legal interpretation.