



**UNITED ASSOCIATION**  
of Journeymen and Apprentices of the  
Plumbing and Pipe Fitting Industry  
of the United States and Canada  
**LOCAL UNION No. 13**

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1850 MT. READ BLVD. • ROCHESTER, NEW YORK 14615 • TEL: (585) 338-2360  
FAX: (585) 544-0600  
EMAIL: office@ualocal13.org  
WEBSITE: www.ualocal13.org

**December 16, 2021.**

**Dear brothers and sisters,**

**Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to you and yours.**

**Friday December 24<sup>th</sup> and Friday December 31<sup>st</sup> are floating Holidays. If you work on any of those Fridays it is at T ½. If you work Saturday December 25<sup>th</sup> or Saturday January 1<sup>st</sup> that will be paid at double time.**

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**Union Meetings:**

- December Union meeting is cancelled.**
- Our next union meeting is scheduled for January 25, 2022, starting at 5pm.**

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**Out of work and traveling:**

- We have 28 JM that are willing to go back to work.**
- We have 16 members traveling.**

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**Hours worked:**

- October 1 – October 31, 2020, = 105,165.**
- October 1 – October 31, 2021, = 114,809.**
- January 1 – October 31, 2020, = 1,066,159**
- January 1 – October 31, 2021, = 1,014,234.**

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**Work outlook:**

**✚ Work will pick up after the New Year and I am hopeful we will be back to full or close to full employment by February 1...**

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### **Travel opportunities:**

**✚ There are plenty of travel opportunities. Please call Jim if interested.**

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### **Rochester Building Trades:**

**✚ In discussion regarding the Lithium Battery plant being built at Eastman Business Park... \$133 million.**

**✚ Gov. Hochul has signed the PLA for phase #3 & #4 for the Rochester City School Mod. Work to begin in 2022...**

**✚ Zoo and Frontier Field – working on a PLA...**

**✚ Ongoing meetings w/the Construction Rep. from Turner Construction and the Reps from the U of R regarding a PLA for the upcoming new construction and renovations at the U of R.**

**✚ Meetings at STAMP regarding a new Hydrogen Plug Power Plant. Possible PLA.**

**✚ New Mask Mandate.**

**✚ Covid-19 sick pay. It is up to the employee to apply and you will receive up to 5 days.**

**✚ Sick pay – If your contract was negotiated before September 30, 2020, you do not have to have sick pay in your contract until you negotiate a new contract. This may change before the end of our negotiated contract. I will keep everyone posted as I get more up dates from the Dept of Labor.**

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### **UA meetings/NYS Int. Rep. John Murphy:**

**✚ Work outlook throughout NYS looks outstanding...**

**✚ Unemployment #'s update from all the locals throughout NY and any deaths because of Covid-19.**

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**Politics:**

- Att. General Tricia James has dropped out of the race for NY State Gov.**
- We are in the process of endorsing Gov. K. Hochul.**
- Rochester's new Mayor Malik Evans will be sworn into office on January 1, 2022.**

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**Please review attached:**

- 1. Covid – 19 paid sick leave info.**
- 2. Rochester School Mod program funded...**
- 3. \$59.2 million student housing community planned near RIT...**

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**Save the dates:**

**Family Picnic at Seabreeze – June 25, 2022.**

**Clambake – September 10, 2022. The clambake will be held at Long Acre Farms in Macedon.**

**More details to come...**

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**Retirees:**

**My apology for having to have to cancel your Christmas party. We had an uptick of Covid-19 positive test results in the office, and I decided rather to be safe than sorry to cancel. We will take it one day at a time and hopefully we will be able to start the lunches up asap. I will be meeting w/Terry and Larry after the New Year and we will begin the process of remodeling the kitchen with lockable cabinets, garbage disposal, and a hot water system that works... Stay safe, healthy, and warm. Thank you for your understanding.**

**Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to you and yours.**

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**Quote for this week:**

**"The Holiday season is a perfect time to reflect on our blessings and seek out ways to make life better for those around us." -Anonymous**

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**Please call me if you have any questions and or concerns. Thank you...**

**Fraternally yours,**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "William Kurtz", written in a cursive style.

**William Kurtz**

**Business Manager**



# COVID-19 PAID SICK LEAVE



## EMPLOYEES

Under legislation signed by Governor Cuomo, New York workers are guaranteed job protection and financial compensation while they are on a **mandatory or precautionary quarantine order** due to COVID-19.

### YOU ARE ENTITLED TO THE FOLLOWING PROTECTIONS AND BENEFITS IF YOU ARE SUBJECT TO A MANDATORY OR PRECAUTIONARY QUARANTINE ORDER:

If you work for a business with **10 or fewer** employees and it had a **net income less than \$1 million** last year you are entitled to:

- Guaranteed job protection for the duration of the quarantine order.
- Paid Family Leave (PFL) and Disability Benefits (DB) through your employer's existing policy. You will receive your salary up to a maximum of \$2,884.62 per week for the duration of your mandatory or precautionary quarantine.

If you work for a business with **10 or fewer** employees and it had a **net income greater than \$1 million** last year you are entitled to:

- **At least 5 days of paid sick leave** and guaranteed job protection for the duration of the quarantine order.
- After these paid sick days, you are eligible for PFL and DB through your employer's existing policy. You will receive your salary up to a maximum of \$2,884.62 per week for the duration of your mandatory or precautionary quarantine.

If you work for a business with **11-99** employees you are entitled to:

- **At least 5 days of paid sick leave** and guaranteed job protection for the duration of the quarantine order.
- After these paid sick days, you are eligible for PFL and DB through your employer's existing policy. You will receive your salary up to a maximum of \$2,884.62 per week for the duration of your mandatory or precautionary quarantine.

If you work for a business with **100 or more** employees you are entitled to:

- Guaranteed job protection for the duration of the quarantine order.
- **At least 14 days of paid sick leave.**

If you work for a public employer (no matter the number employees) you are entitled to:

- **At least 14 days of paid sick leave.**

### IMPORTANT NOTES:

- **If you are quarantined but are able to work from home you do not qualify for these benefits.**
- If your business is closed due to COVID-19, your employees may immediately apply for Unemployment Insurance.
- You may be eligible for additional leave under PFL and DB. Please call the hotline for more information.

### QUESTIONS:

For more information go to [ny.gov/COVIDpaysickleave](https://ny.gov/COVIDpaysickleave)

Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) Paid Sick Leave Hotline: **844-337-6303**

# OBTAINING AN ORDER

## For Mandatory or Precautionary Quarantine Under Governor Cuomo's New COVID-19 Paid Sick Leave Law



The law provides guaranteed job protection and paid leave for New York employees who are unable to work while subject to a COVID-19 precautionary or mandatory order of quarantine.

### WHAT EMPLOYEES NEED TO DO

To get an order of precautionary or mandatory order of quarantine or isolation due to COVID-19, you should contact your Local Health Department (LHD). You can search for your LHD on the New York State Department of Health website at [health.ny.gov/contact/contact\\_information](https://health.ny.gov/contact/contact_information). LHDs should provide written orders in a timely manner.

If your LHD is unable to *immediately* provide you with an order:

1. Submit documentation from a licensed medical provider that has treated you, attesting (as described below under "DOCUMENTATION GUIDANCE") that you qualify for the order; AND
2. Follow up with your LHD to obtain the order and submit it to your insurance carrier as soon as it is available. LHDs must provide requested orders within 30 days.

### DOCUMENTATION GUIDANCE

The documentation from your licensed medical provider must include:

- If you are subject to Mandatory Isolation, an attestation that you meet one or more of the following criteria:
  1. You have tested positive for COVID-19; OR
  2. Testing is currently unavailable to you, but you are symptomatic and have had contact with a known COVID-19 case.
- If you are subject to Mandatory Quarantine, an attestation that you meet one or more of the following criteria:
  1. You have been in close contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 or is currently in mandatory isolation; OR
  2. You are symptomatic and have returned within the past 14 days from a country designated with a level 2, 3, or 4 advisory for COVID-19.
- If you are subject to a Precautionary Quarantine, an attestation that you meet one or more of the following criteria:
  1. You are asymptomatic and have returned within the past 14 days from a country designated with a level 2, 3 or 4 advisory for COVID-19; OR
  2. You have been determined to have had proximate exposure with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19.

### VERIFICATION

Your Paid Family Leave carrier may contact you to verify the information you provide as part of your claim.

### DENIALS OF CLAIMS

If you do not follow the steps described above, your carrier may deny your claim for Paid Family Leave. For more information on the new legislation, visit [ny.gov/COVIDpaysickleave](https://ny.gov/COVIDpaysickleave).

### WHAT EMPLOYERS NEED TO KNOW

If you send employees home on a precautionary quarantine, they are entitled to job protection, COVID-19 sick leave and/or paid benefits through your Paid Family Leave and disability benefits insurance provider for the duration of their quarantine, provided they follow the process noted above.

**For additional information about COVID-19, please visit the New York State Department of Health's coronavirus website at [coronavirus.health.ny.gov/home](https://coronavirus.health.ny.gov/home).**

# Final phase of Rochester School Modernization program funded

WXXI News | By [James Brown](#)

Published November 19, 2021 at 6:13 PM EST



James Brown/WXXI News /

WXXI AM News  
**Morning Edition**

Nine schools and two other buildings will be refurbished as part of the latest phase of the Rochester School Modernization Program. The bill allocating the funds was signed by Governor Kathy Hochul this week.

During her remarks at James Monroe High School Friday, Superintendent Lesli Myers-Small said the upgrades will be focused on adding career and technical education features, modernizing spaces, and improving access for students with disabilities and those who speak foreign languages.

“When you have spaces, that are engaging, that are new, that are modern, and exciting, that just amplifies the joy that our scholars and our families can experience,” said Myers-Small.

This is the third phase of the program which started in 2006. Heralded as one of the largest public work projects in Rochester’s history, [more than \\$700 million spent so far](#). This third phase adds \$475 million to the tally reaching the program’s stated \$1.2 Billion goal. During Friday’s news conference Assemblyman Harry Bronson said this will likely be the final piece of the program.

The 15-year-old program has [not been without controversy](#). Nine contractors involved in a previous phase of the project faced investigations from the FBI and the New York State Attorney General’s office [for lying about how diverse their organizations were](#) in order to get contracts. [They ultimately settled with the state for about a million dollars in damages](#).

To prevent more fraud, Bronson, a long-time backer of the modernization program, said guardrails include close monitoring of contracts by the state are built into this legislation.

“Recognizing that this is a lot of money, in phase three we put safety nets into the legislation to make sure that we stay within budget, to make sure that the local share is within the allotted percentage because if you don’t know, most of this is state dollars,” said Bronson.

According to a representative from Bronson’s office, the schools scheduled to refurbishing include Joseph C. Wilson High School, NE/NW, Douglas Campus, Dr.



Career & Tech HS, Franklin Educational Campus, James Monroe Campus and East Campus. Two swing spaces, where the district temporarily holds classes when buildings are unavailable will also be repaired.

State Senator Jeremy Cooney, a city school graduate, sponsored the bill in the State Senate. As city schools face declining enrollment, Cooney argued that the investing in school buildings will make the district more desirable for parents

“We want them to stay in the city, we want them to feel that we have their backs. So, we have to put our best foot forward by giving them the best type of facilities for their scholars to learn,” said Cooney.

The law requires the district to complete the upgrades within a decade but Myers-Small expects them to be complete within two or three years.

Local News



## James Brown

James Brown is a reporter with WXXI News. James previously spent a decade in marketing communications, while freelance writing for CITY Newspaper. While at CITY, his reporting focused primarily on arts and entertainment.

[See stories by James Brown](#)

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## \$59.2 million student housing community planned near RIT



By: Kevin Oklobzija November 18, 2021

Lukas Amalfi remembers college life well, including the off-campus living aspect. Along the way to earning a bachelor's degree in real estate development from the Martin J. Whitman School of Management at Syracuse University, he shared a house not far from campus with six other students.

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