

## 2015 FORM 1095-B FAQ's

### **What is this form I'm receiving?**

A 1095-B form is a little bit like a W-2 form. The Local 103, IBEW Health Benefit Plan will send you a 1095-B form and send one copy to the Internal Revenue Service (IRS). A W-2 form reports your annual earnings. A 1095-B form reports your health care coverage throughout the year.

### **Why are you sending it to me?**

The 1095-B form will show that you and your dependents either did or did not have health coverage during each month of the past year. Because of the Affordable Care Act, every person must obtain health insurance or pay a penalty to the IRS.

### **What am I supposed to do with this form?**

Keep it for your tax records. You don't actually need this form in order to file your taxes, but when you do file, you'll have to tell the IRS whether or not you had health insurance for each month of 2015. The Form 1095-B shows that you had health insurance through the Local 103, IBEW Health Benefit Plan. Since you don't actually need this form to file your taxes, you don't have to wait to receive it if you already know what months you did or didn't have health insurance in 2015. When you do get the form, keep it with your other 2015 tax information in case you should need it in the future to help prove you had health insurance.

### **What information is on the 1095-B?**

Form 1095-B provides information about your health coverage. The form has four parts:

- Part I identifies the person who holds the coverage with the Local 103, IBEW Health Benefit Plan.
- Part II identifies the employer, which is blank on our form because this is a Multi-Employer Health Plan.
- Part III identifies who is providing the coverage, which is the Local 103, IBEW Health Benefit Plan
- Part IV lists the individuals who are covered by the Plan and for which months they were covered during 2015.
  - There is also a box that will be checked if a person was covered by the Plan for all 12 months of calendar year 2015.

For each covered person on the Plan, the 1095-B lists:

- Name
- Address
- Date of birth
- Social Security Number
- Months of coverage under the Plan

**What is the purpose of the form?**

Form 1095-B serves as proof that an individual had the type of coverage that is required by the Affordable Care Act.

The tax penalty for not having coverage -- which is referred to as the “individual shared responsible payment” -- is based in part on how long you or members of your household were uninsured. Gaps in coverage of three months or less are exempt from the penalty. If you were uninsured for part of the year, the check boxes in Part IV will help calculate the penalty that applies, if any.

**How do I know if I should get a 1095-B Form?**

If you or your dependents were covered by the Local 103, IBEW Health Plan at any time during the 2015 calendar year, you will receive a 1095-B Form.

**Do I have to prove that I had coverage?**

No. While there is a place on the tax form to indicate if you had coverage, you don't need to send proof, according to the IRS. (Even so, the agency recommends that people keep records of their coverage, including premiums they paid.)

And the IRS will be getting information on your coverage, just not from you. The Local 103, IBEW Health Benefit Plan is required to report information included on Form 1095-B regarding your coverage to the IRS.

**What if I did not have coverage for the full year?**

If you did not have coverage for the full year, you will need to refer to the IRS Form 1040 and Form 8965 for tax filing instructions. Consult a tax professional if you are unsure of how to proceed.

**When should I expect these forms?**

The Local 103, IBEW Health Benefit Plan mailed out Forms 1095-B on January 19, 2016. If you need another copy, please call the Trust Funds office at (617) 288-5999.