

**HEALTHCARE PROXIES, HIPAA AUTHORIZATIONS AND POWERS
OF ATTORNEY FOR ADULT CHILDREN**

If you have a child who is eighteen years of age or older you can now have a healthcare proxy, HIPAA authorization and power of attorney prepared for them under the comprehensive legal services program of the United College Employees of Fashion Institute of Technology Welfare Trust Fund.

Children who are eighteen years of age or older are legally adults under the Federal Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act ("HIPAA"), and therefore, medical officials at college health centers and other facilities may not speak with the child's parents about his/her medical condition.

This can be addressed by the adult child executing a healthcare proxy designating the parent/member as an agent or proxy entitled to receive information about the child's medical condition and discuss treatment options and a supplemental HIPAA authorization. The parent/member can also gain access to the child's medical records, and most importantly, make treatment decisions on behalf of the adult child.

If the adult child is a college student, copies of these documents should be provided to the college health center to keep on file.

In addition, if your adult child becomes incapacitated due to a catastrophic event, you will not be able to conduct their legal and financial affairs. This can be addressed by the adult child executing a durable general power of attorney form designating the parent/member his/her "attorney-in-fact".

If you wish to have a healthcare proxy, HIPAA authorization and power of attorney prepared for your adult child designating you, the member, his/her proxy and/or attorney in fact, please contact the Fund to make an appointment with an attorney from the law firm of Mirkin & Gordon, P.C.