

Office and Professional Employees Locals 30 & 537 Health & Welfare and Retirement Trust Funds

Administered By: Benefit Programs Administration

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SUMMARY OF MATERIAL MODIFICATIONS

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Date: May 29, 2020

To: Participants in the OPEIU Locals 30 & 537 Retirement Plan

Re: Lump Sum Distribution of Small Benefits – and - Suspension of Deadlines During
Coronavirus Outbreak Period

I. Lump Sum Distribution of Small Benefits.

Effective for benefit commencement dates on or after June 1, 2020, Participants and Beneficiaries may voluntarily elect to receive their monthly benefits in the form of a single sum distribution if the actuarial present value of that benefit does not exceed \$5,000.00. This applies to pensions and death benefits payable to a Participant's surviving spouse or contingent annuitant. If a payee is eligible for this benefit option, the lump sum will be included among the available payment forms. The actuarial present value shall be calculated in accordance with Internal Revenue Code Section 417(e) as described in the Plan Document.

Also effective on and after June 1, 2020, any Participant or Beneficiary receiving a monthly benefit of \$20.00 or less may elect to receive a single sum distribution equal to the actuarial present value of the benefit. The provision mandating single sum distributions for benefits with an actuarial present value of \$1,000.00 or less has been repealed.

II. Suspension of Deadlines During Coronavirus Outbreak Period.

New emergency federal rules suspend the Retirement Plan's deadlines for plan participants, beneficiaries, and claimants to take certain actions.¹ The changes are temporary - they only apply retroactively from March 1 until sixty (60) days following the end of the "National Emergency" that was declared by President Trump on March 13, 2020.

The period from March 1, 2020 until sixty (60) days after the announced end of the National Emergency is referred to as the "Outbreak Period."

The following deadlines are suspended during the Outbreak Period and do not start to run again until after the Outbreak Period is over.

- The 60-day deadline to file an appeal (Article XV, Section 3(b)1.a.)

¹ This communication reflects our current understanding of the [joint IRS/DOL rule](#) published on May 4, 2020 in the Federal Register.

- The 45-day deadline to provide additional information to support a claim for disability benefits (Article XV, Section 3A(a))
- The 180-day deadline to file an appeal from a denial of disability pension benefits (Article XV, Section 3A(b)1.b.)
- The 60-day deadline to have Disability Pension benefits commence retroactive to the first day of the 7th month of disability as determined by the SSA. (Article VI, Section 4(c))
- The 180-day deadline to appeal a suspension of benefits. (Article VI, Section 5)

Example: If a notice of denial was received on March 1, 2020, the deadline to file an appeal is 60 days after the end of the Outbreak Period. If the Outbreak Period will end on July 31, 2020, the deadline to file an appeal will be September 29, 2020 (the 60th day after July 31, 2020).

If a notice of denial was received on February 1, 2020, then 29 days in February is subtracted from the 60-day timeframe to file an appeal. However, the Outbreak Period does not diminish the remaining 31 days to file an appeal. The remaining 31 days won't start to run until after July 31, 2020. Thus, the deadline to file an appeal will be August 31, 2020 (31 days after July 31, 2020).

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If you have any questions about this notice, you may contact the Administrative Office at: 800-386-4350.

Sincerely,

Board of Trustees