

CENTRAL TEXAS COLLEGE EMPLOYEES' PENSION PLAN AND TRUST
SUMMARY PLAN DESCRIPTION

TABLE OF CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION TO YOUR PLAN

What kind of Plan is this?.....1
What information does this Summary Plan Description provide?.....1

**ARTICLE I
PARTICIPATION IN THE PLAN**

How do I participate in the Plan?.....1
How is my service determined for purposes of Plan eligibility?.....2
What service is counted for purposes of Plan eligibility?.....2
What happens if I'm a Participant, terminate employment and then I'm rehired?.....2

**ARTICLE II
EMPLOYEE CONTRIBUTIONS**

What are mandatory employee contributions?.....2
What are after-tax voluntary contributions?3

**ARTICLE III
EMPLOYER CONTRIBUTIONS**

What is the Employer pension contribution and how is it allocated?3
What are forfeitures and how are they allocated?.....3

**ARTICLE IV
COMPENSATION AND ACCOUNT BALANCE**

What compensation is used to determine my Plan benefits?3
Is there a limit on the amount of compensation which can be considered?4
Is there a limit on how much can be contributed to my account each year?.....4
How is the money in the Plan invested?.....4
What investments are permitted?4
Who is responsible for selecting the investments for my contributions under the Plan?4
How frequently can I change my investment elections?.....4
Will Plan expenses be deducted from my account balance?.....5

**ARTICLE V
VESTING**

What is my vested interest in my account?.....5
How is my service determined for vesting purposes?.....6
What service is counted for vesting purposes?.....6
What happens to my non-vested account balance if I'm rehired?.....6
What happens if the Plan becomes a "top-heavy plan"?.....6

**ARTICLE VI
DISTRIBUTIONS PRIOR TO TERMINATION**

Can I withdraw money from my account while working?.....7

ARTICLE VII

BENEFITS AND DISTRIBUTIONS UPON TERMINATION OF EMPLOYMENT

When can I get money out of the Plan? 7
What happens if I terminate employment before death or retirement? 7
What happens if I terminate employment at Normal Retirement Date? 8
What happens if I terminate employment due to disability? 8
How will my benefits be paid to me? 8
May I elect another form of benefit? 8

**ARTICLE VIII
BENEFITS AND DISTRIBUTIONS UPON DEATH**

What happens if I die while working for the Employer? 9
Who is the beneficiary of my death benefit? 9
How will the death benefit be paid to my beneficiary? 9
When must the last payment be made to my beneficiary? 10
What happens if I'm a Participant, terminate employment and die before receiving all my benefits? 10

**ARTICLE IX
TAX TREATMENT OF DISTRIBUTIONS**

What are my tax consequences when I receive a distribution from the Plan? 10
Can I elect a rollover to reduce or defer tax on my distribution? 10

**ARTICLE X
LOANS**

Is it possible to borrow money from the Plan? 11

**ARTICLE XI
PROTECTED BENEFITS AND CLAIMS PROCEDURES**

Are my benefits protected? 11
Are there any exceptions to the general rule? 11
Can the Plan be amended? 11
What happens if the Plan is discontinued or terminated? 11
How do I submit a claim for Plan benefits? 12
What if my benefits are denied? 12
What is the Claims Review Procedure? 13
What are my rights as a Plan Participant? 15
What can I do if I have questions or my rights are violated? 15

**ARTICLE XII
GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE PLAN**

Plan Name 16
Plan Number 16
Plan Effective Dates 16
Other Plan Information 16
Employer Information 16
Administrator Information 16
Plan Insurer Information and Plan Funding Medium 17

CENTRAL TEXAS COLLEGE EMPLOYEES' PENSION PLAN AND TRUST

SUMMARY PLAN DESCRIPTION

INTRODUCTION TO YOUR PLAN

What kind of Plan is this?

Central Texas College Employees' Pension Plan and Trust ("Plan") has been adopted to provide you with additional income for retirement. This Plan is a type of qualified retirement plan commonly referred to as a Money Purchase Plan. Generally you are not taxed on the amounts we contribute to the Plan on your behalf until you withdraw these amounts from the Plan.

What information does this Summary Plan Description provide?

This Summary Plan Description ("SPD") contains information regarding when you may become eligible to participate in the Plan, your Plan benefits, your distribution options, and many other features of the Plan. You should take the time to read this SPD to get a better understanding of your rights and obligations under the Plan.

In this SPD, your Employer has addressed the most common questions you may have regarding the Plan. If this SPD does not answer all of your questions, please contact the Administrator or other Plan representative. The Administrator is responsible for responding to questions and making determinations related to the administration, interpretation, and application of the Plan. The name and address of the Administrator can be found at the end of this SPD in the Article entitled "General Information About the Plan."

This SPD describes the Plan's benefits and obligations as contained in the legal Plan document, which governs the operation of the Plan. The Plan document is written in much more technical and precise language and is designed to comply with applicable legal requirements. If the non-technical language in this SPD and the technical, legal language of the Plan document conflict, the Plan document always governs. If you wish to receive a copy of the legal Plan document, please contact the Administrator.

All amounts in the Plan will be invested either in annuity contracts or in mutual funds held in a trust account. The agreements constituting or governing the annuity contracts (the "Individual Agreements") explain your rights under the contracts and the unique rules that apply to each Plan investment which may, in some cases, limit your options under the Plan. You should review the Individual Agreements along with this Summary to gain a full understanding of your rights and obligations under the Plan. Contact your Employer or the investment vendor to obtain copies of the Individual Agreements or to receive more information regarding the investment arrangements available under the Plan.

The Plan and your rights under the Plan are subject to federal laws, such as ERISA (the Employee Retirement Income Security Act), the Internal Revenue Code, as well as some state laws. The provisions of the Plan are subject to revision due to a change in laws or due to pronouncements by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) or Department of Labor. Your Employer may also amend or terminate this Plan. Your Employer will notify you if the provisions of the Plan that are described in this SPD change.

Types of contributions. The following types of contributions may be made under this Plan:

- Employer pension contributions
- Employee after-tax voluntary contributions
- Mandatory employee contributions

ARTICLE I PARTICIPATION IN THE PLAN

How do I participate in the Plan?

Provided you are not an Excluded Employee, you may become a "Participant" in the Plan once you have satisfied the eligibility requirements and reached your "Entry Date." The following describes the eligibility requirements and Entry Dates that apply. You should contact the Administrator if you have questions about the timing of your Plan participation.

Excluded Employees. If you are a member of a class of employees identified below, you are an Excluded Employee and you are not entitled to participate in the Plan. The Excluded Employees are:

- McNamara- O'Hara Service Contract Act of 1965 wage determination employees compensated under applicable Department of Labor wage Determination

Eligibility conditions. You will be eligible to participate in the Plan when you have satisfied the following eligibility condition(s). However, you will actually become a Participant in the Plan once you reach the Entry Date as described below.

- completion of one (1) Year of Service.

Entry Date. Your Entry Date will be the first day of the Plan Year or the first day of the seventh month of the Plan Year coinciding with or next following the date you satisfy the eligibility requirements.

How is my service determined for purposes of Plan eligibility?

Year of Service. You will be credited with a Year of Service at the end of the twelve month period beginning on your date of hire if you have been credited with at least 1,000 Hours of Service during such period. If you have not been credited with 1,000 Hours of Service by the end of such period, you will have completed a Year of Service at the end of any following Plan Year during which you were credited with 1,000 Hours of Service.

Hour of Service. You will be credited with your actual Hours of Service for:

- (a) each hour for which you are directly or indirectly compensated by the Employer for the performance of duties during the Plan Year;
- (b) each hour for which you are directly or indirectly compensated by the Employer for reasons other than the performance of duties (such as vacation, holidays, sickness, disability, lay-off, military duty, jury duty or leave of absence during the Plan Year); and
- (c) each hour for back pay awarded or agreed to by the Employer.

You will not be credited for the same Hours of Service both under (a) or (b), as the case may be, and under (c). For Employees for whom records of actual Hours of Service are not maintained or available (e.g., salaried Employees) the monthly equivalency method (190 hours per month) will be used.

What service is counted for purposes of Plan eligibility?

Service with the Employer. In determining whether you satisfy the minimum service requirements to participate under the Plan, all service you perform for the Employer will generally be counted.

Military service. If you are a veteran and are reemployed under the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act of 1994, your qualified military service may be considered service with the Employer. If you may be affected by this law, ask the Administrator for further details.

What happens if I'm a Participant, terminate employment and then I'm rehired?

If you are no longer a Participant because you terminated employment, and you are rehired, then you will be able to participate in the Plan on your date of rehire provided you are otherwise eligible to participate in the Plan.

ARTICLE II EMPLOYEE CONTRIBUTIONS

What are mandatory employee contributions?

Mandatory employee contributions. As a condition of employment, you must agree to contribute mandatory employee contributions. The mandatory employee contribution you make is contributed on a pre-tax basis. Your taxable income is reduced by the contribution so you pay less in federal income taxes (however, the amount you defer is still counted as compensation for purposes of Social Security taxes). Later, when the Plan distributes the deferrals and earnings, you will pay the taxes on those deferrals and the earnings. Therefore, federal income taxes on the deferral contributions and on the earnings are only postponed. Eventually, you will have to pay taxes on these amounts. When you retire or otherwise become eligible for Plan benefits, the value of your mandatory contribution account will be used to provide additional benefits for you or your beneficiaries.

You will always be 100% vested in your mandatory contributions (see the Article in this Summary entitled "Vesting"). This means that you will always be entitled to all of your mandatory contributions. Your mandatory contributions will, however, be affected by any investment gains or losses.

Amount of mandatory employee contributions. You must agree to contribute 6% of your compensation each Plan Year to the Plan.

Additional conditions. The following additional conditions apply to mandatory employee contributions: Amount of voluntary After-tax Employee Contributions that shall be permitted by the Plan: up to an additional 4% of Compensation (after Mandatory Employee Contribution of 6%), not to exceed 4% of Compensation.

What are after-tax voluntary contributions?

After-tax voluntary contributions. As a Participant under the Plan, you may make voluntary contributions to the Plan on an after-tax basis. After-tax contributions are subject to current taxation even though they are contributed to the Plan. However, any earnings you receive on your voluntary contributions made to the Plan will generally not be taxed until you withdraw those amounts from the Plan. When you retire or otherwise become eligible for Plan benefits, the value of your after-tax voluntary contribution account will be used to provide additional benefits for you or your beneficiaries.

You will always be 100% vested in your after-tax voluntary contributions (see the Article in this SPD entitled "Vesting"). This means that you will always be entitled to all of your voluntary contributions. Your voluntary contributions will, however, be affected by any investment gains or losses.

Limitations. There are certain limitations imposed by law on the amount of after-tax voluntary contributions you may contribute to the Plan. These limitations will change from year to year depending upon the level of voluntary contributions made by other Participants during the year. If your voluntary contributions exceed these limitations, the Administrator will return the excess contributions to you.

Withdrawal of after-tax voluntary contributions. You may withdraw amounts in your after-tax voluntary contribution account at any time. You will only be taxed on the portion of a distribution that consists of investment gains. If you wish to make a withdrawal from your after-tax voluntary contribution account, you (and your spouse, if you are married) must first waive the annuity form of payment. You should see the Article entitled "Benefits and Distributions Upon Termination of Employment" for an explanation of how benefits (including your after-tax voluntary contribution account) are paid from the Plan.

**ARTICLE III
EMPLOYER CONTRIBUTIONS**

This Article describes Employer contributions that will be made to the Plan and how your share of the contribution is determined.

What is the Employer pension contribution and how is it allocated?

Pension contribution. Each year, your Employer will make to the Plan a contribution equal to 7% of the compensation of all Participants eligible to share in allocations. Your share of the contribution is determined below.

Your share of the contribution. The pension contribution will be "allocated" or divided among Participants eligible to share in the contribution for the Plan Year.

Allocation conditions. You will always share in the pension contribution regardless of the amount of service you complete during the Plan Year.

What are forfeitures and how are they allocated?

Definition of forfeitures. In order to reward employees who remain employed with the Employer for a long period of time, the law permits a "vesting schedule" to be applied to certain contributions that your Employer makes to the Plan. This means that you will not be "vested" in (entitled to) all of the contributions until you have been employed with the Employer for a specified period of time (see the Article entitled "Vesting"). If a Participant terminates employment before being fully vested, then the non-vested portion of the Terminated Participant's account balance remains in the Plan and is called a forfeiture.

Allocation of forfeitures. The Employer may use forfeitures to pay Plan expenses. In some cases, remaining forfeitures will be used to reduce Employer contributions.

**ARTICLE IV
COMPENSATION AND ACCOUNT BALANCE**

What compensation is used to determine my Plan benefits?

Definition of compensation. For the purposes of the Plan, compensation has a special meaning. Compensation is generally defined as your total compensation that is subject to income tax and paid to you by your Employer during the Plan Year. In addition, salary reductions to any other plan or arrangement (such as a cafeteria plan) will be included in Compensation. If you are a self-employed individual, your compensation will be equal to your earned income. The following describes the adjustments to compensation that may apply under the Plan.

Adjustments to compensation. The following adjustments to compensation will be made:

- compensation paid while not a Participant in any component of the Plan for which compensation is being used will be excluded.
- Cost of living adjustments paid to employee due to work location, meals for all sites, health and welfare for all sites, waived insurance for all sites
- compensation paid after you terminate employment will be excluded.

Is there a limit on the amount of compensation which can be considered?

The Plan, by law, cannot recognize annual compensation in excess of a certain dollar limit. The limit for the Plan Year beginning in 2024 is \$345,000. After 2024, the dollar limit may increase for cost-of-living adjustments.

Is there a limit on how much can be contributed to my account each year?

Generally, the law imposes a maximum limit on the amount of contributions that may be made to your account and any other amounts allocated to any of your accounts during the Plan Year, excluding earnings. Beginning in 2024, this total cannot exceed the lesser of \$69,000 or 100% of your annual compensation. After 2024, the dollar limit may increase for cost-of-living adjustments.

How is the money in the Plan invested?

The fiduciary or other person or entity responsible for the investment of assets held by the Plan will make investment decisions in the best interests of you and other Plan Participants. If you have any questions, contact the Administrator (or other Plan representative).

The assets of the Plan are held in annuity contracts for the benefit of Plan Participants and their beneficiaries in accordance with the terms of this Plan. These contracts will be the funding medium used for the accumulation of assets from which Plan benefits will be distributed.

What investments are permitted?

Your Employer (or someone appointed by your Employer) will select the investment vendors and investment options that will be available under the Plan. The investment options will be limited to annuity contracts and/or mutual funds purchased through a trust account. The list of approved investment options and vendors may change from time to time as your Employer considers appropriate. Your Employer may restrict the list of vendors who may accept new contributions to the Plan and it may be different from the list of vendors and investment options available once the contributions have been made to the Plan through a contract exchange. You should carefully review the Individual Agreements governing the annuity contracts and trust account, the prospectus, or other available information before making investment decisions.

Who is responsible for selecting the investments for my contributions under the Plan?

You have the right to decide how your Plan balance will be invested. Your Employer will establish administrative procedures that you must follow to select your investments. Your Employer will designate a list of vendors and investment options that you may select for new contributions to the Plan. You will have the ability to transfer your Plan balance among these vendors and investment options to the extent permitted by the Individual Agreements. Contact your Employer if you are not certain whether a particular vendor or investment option is permitted under the Plan. If you do not select investments for your Plan account, the Employer will determine how your account will be invested.

How frequently can I change my investment elections?

You may change your initial investment selections as frequently as permitted under the Individual Agreements.

The Plan is intended to comply with Section 404(c) of ERISA (the Employee Retirement Income Security Act). If the Plan complies with Section 404(c), then the fiduciaries of the Plan, including your Employer and the Administrator, will be relieved of any legal liability for any losses which are the direct and necessary result of the investment directions that you give.

Earnings or losses. When you direct investments, your accounts are segregated for purposes of determining the earnings or losses on these investments. Your account does not share in the investment performance of other Participants who have directed their own investments. You should remember that the amount of your benefits under the Plan will depend in part upon your choice of investments. Gains as well as losses can occur and your Employer, the Administrator, and the Insurer will not provide investment advice or guarantee the performance of any investment you choose.

Periodically, you will receive a benefit statement that provides information on your account balance and your investment returns. It is your responsibility to notify the Administrator of any errors you see on any statements within 30 days after the statement is provided or made available to you.

Will Plan expenses be deducted from my account balance?

Expenses allocated to all accounts. The Plan permits the payment of Plan expenses to be made from the Plan's assets, to the extent permitted under the contracts in which the Plan assets are invested. If expenses are paid using the Plan's assets, then the expenses will generally be allocated among the accounts of all Participants in the Plan. These expenses will be allocated either proportionately based on the value of the account balances or as an equal dollar amount based on the number of Participants in the Plan. The method of allocating the expenses depends on the nature of the expense itself. For example, certain administrative (or recordkeeping) expenses would typically be allocated proportionately to each Participant. If the Plan pays \$1,000 in expenses and there are 100 Participants, your account balance would be charged \$10 (\$1,000/100) of the expense.

Terminated employee. After you terminate employment, your Employer reserves the right to charge your account for your pro rata share of the Plan's administration expenses, regardless of whether your Employer pays some of these expenses on behalf of current employees, to the extent permitted under the contracts in which the Plan assets are invested.

Expenses allocated to individual accounts. There are certain other expenses that may be paid just from your account, to the extent permitted under the contracts in which the Plan assets are invested. These are expenses that are specifically incurred by, or attributable to, you. For example, if you are married and get divorced, the Plan may incur additional expenses if a court mandates that a portion of your account be paid to your ex-spouse. These additional expenses may be paid directly from your account (and not the accounts of other Participants) because they are directly attributable to you under the Plan. The Administrator will inform you when there will be a charge (or charges) directly to your account.

Your Employer may, from time to time, change the manner in which expenses are allocated.

ARTICLE V VESTING

What is my vested interest in my account?

In order to reward employees who remain employed with the Employer for a long period of time, the law permits a "vesting schedule" to be applied to certain contributions that your Employer makes to the Plan. This means that you will not be entitled ("vested") in all of the contributions until you have been employed with the Employer for a specified period of time.

100% vested contributions. You are always 100% vested (which means that you are entitled to all of the amounts) in your accounts attributable to the following contributions:

- after-tax voluntary contributions
- mandatory employee contributions

Vesting schedules. Your "vested percentage" for certain Employer contributions is based on vesting Years of Service. This means at the time you stop working, your account balance attributable to contributions subject to a vesting schedule is multiplied by your vested percentage. The result, when added to the amounts that are always 100% vested as shown above, is your vested interest in the Plan, which is what you will actually receive from the Plan.

Employer Pension Contributions

Your "vested percentage" in your account attributable to pension contributions is determined under the following schedule. You will always, however, be 100% vested in your pension contributions if you are employed on or after your Normal Retirement Age or if you die or become disabled.

Years of Service	Vesting Schedule Pension Contributions Percentage
Less than 2	0%
2	20%
3	40%
4	60%
5	80%
6	100%

How is my service determined for vesting purposes?

Year of Service. To earn a Year of Service, you must be credited with at least 1,000 Hours of Service during a Plan Year. The Plan contains specific rules for crediting Hours of Service for vesting purposes. The Administrator will track your service and will credit you with a Year of Service for each Plan Year in which you are credited with the required Hours of Service, in accordance with the terms of the Plan. If you have any questions regarding your vesting service, you should contact the Administrator.

Hour of Service. You will be credited with your actual Hours of Service for:

- (a) each hour for which you are directly or indirectly compensated by the Employer for the performance of duties during the Plan Year;
- (b) each hour for which you are directly or indirectly compensated by the Employer for reasons other than the performance of duties (such as vacation, holidays, sickness, disability, lay-off, military duty, jury duty or leave of absence during the Plan Year); and
- (c) each hour for back pay awarded or agreed to by the Employer.

You will not be credited for the same Hours of Service both under (a) or (b), as the case may be, and under (c). For Employees for whom records of actual Hours of Service are not maintained or available (e.g., salaried Employees) the monthly equivalency method (190 hours per month) will be used.

What service is counted for vesting purposes?

Service with the Employer. In calculating your vested percentage, all service you perform for the Employer will generally be counted.

Military service. If you are a veteran and are reemployed under the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act of 1994, your qualified military service may be considered service with the Employer. If you may be affected by this law, ask the Administrator for further details.

What happens to my non-vested account balance if I'm rehired?

If you have no vested interest in the Plan when you leave, your account balance will be forfeited. However, if you are rehired before incurring five 1-Year Breaks in Service, your account balance as of your termination date will be restored, unadjusted for any gains or losses.

If you are partially vested in your account balance when you leave, the non-vested portion of your account balance will be forfeited on the earlier of the date:

- (a) of the distribution of your vested account balance, or
- (b) when you incur five consecutive 1-Year Breaks in Service.

If you received a distribution of your vested account balance and are rehired, you may have the right to repay this distribution. If you repay the entire amount of the distribution, your Employer will restore your account balance with your forfeited amount. You must repay this distribution within five years from your date of reemployment, or, if earlier, before you incur five 1-Year Breaks in Service. If you were 100% vested when you left, you do not have the opportunity to repay your distribution.

What happens if the Plan becomes a "top-heavy plan"?

Top-heavy plan. A retirement plan that primarily benefits "key employees" is called a "top-heavy plan." "Key employees" are certain owners or officers of your Employer. A plan is generally a "top-heavy plan" when more than 60% of the plan assets are attributable to "key employees." Each year, the Administrator is responsible for determining whether the Plan is a "top-heavy plan."

Top-heavy rules. If the Plan becomes top-heavy in any Plan Year, then non-key employees may be entitled to certain "top-heavy minimum benefits," and other special rules will apply. These top-heavy rules include the following:

- Your Employer may be required to make a contribution on your behalf in order to provide you with at least "top-heavy minimum benefits."
- If you are a Participant in more than one Plan, you may not be entitled to "top-heavy minimum benefits" under both Plans.

ARTICLE VI DISTRIBUTIONS PRIOR TO TERMINATION

Can I withdraw money from my account while working?

In-service distributions. You may be entitled to receive an in-service distribution. However, this distribution is not in addition to your other benefits and will therefore reduce the value of the benefits you will receive at retirement. This distribution is made at your election and will be made in accordance with the forms of distributions available under the Plan and under the contracts in which the Plan assets are invested.

Conditions and limitations. Generally you may receive a distribution from the Plan from certain accounts prior to your termination of employment provided you satisfy the condition described below:

- you have attained age 70.5

The law restricts any in-service distributions from certain accounts which are maintained for you under the Plan before you reach age 59 1/2. Ask the Administrator if you need more details.

Annuity waiver. If you wish to receive an in-service distribution from the Plan in a single payment from your account, you (and your spouse, if you are married) must first waive the annuity form of payment. (See the Article entitled "Benefits and Distributions Upon Termination of Employment" for a further explanation of how benefits are paid from the Plan.)

ARTICLE VII BENEFITS AND DISTRIBUTIONS UPON TERMINATION OF EMPLOYMENT

When can I get money out of the Plan?

You may receive a distribution of the vested portion of some or all of your accounts in the Plan for the following reasons, provided the distribution is also permitted under the term of the contracts in which the Plan assets are invested:

- termination of employment for reasons other than death or retirement
- normal retirement
- disability
- death

This Plan is designed to provide you with retirement benefits. However, distributions are permitted if you die or become disabled. In addition, certain payments are permitted when you terminate employment for any other reason. The rules under which you can receive a distribution are described in this Article. The rules regarding the payment of death benefits to your beneficiary are described in "Benefits and Distributions Upon Death."

You may also receive distributions while you are still employed with the Employer. (See the Article entitled "Distributions Prior to Termination" for a further explanation.)

Military service. If you are a veteran and are reemployed under the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act of 1994, your qualified military service may be considered service with the Employer. There may also be benefits for employees who die or become disabled while on active duty. Employees who receive wage continuation payments while in the military may benefit from various changes in the law. If you think you may be affected by these rules, ask the Administrator for further details.

What happens if I terminate employment before death or retirement?

If your employment terminates for reasons other than death or disability normal retirement, you will be entitled to receive only the "vested percentage" of your account balance.

You may elect to have your vested account balance distributed to you as soon as administratively feasible following your termination of employment. However, if the value of your vested account balance does not exceed \$1,000, then a distribution will be made to you regardless of whether you consent to receive it. (See the question entitled "How will my benefits be paid to me?" for additional information.)

Regardless of the preceding, the distribution provisions described above only apply if they are permitted by the contracts in which the Plan assets are invested.

What happens if I terminate employment at Normal Retirement Date?

Normal Retirement Date. You will attain your Normal Retirement Age when you reach age 65. Your Normal Retirement Date is the date on which you attain your Normal Retirement Age.

Payment of benefits. You will become 100% vested in all of your accounts under the Plan once you attain your Normal Retirement Age. However, the actual payment of benefits generally will not begin until you have terminated employment and reached your Normal Retirement Date. In such event, a distribution will be made, at your election, as soon as administratively feasible. If you remain employed past your Normal Retirement Date, you may generally defer the receipt of benefits until you actually terminate employment. In such event, benefit payments will begin as soon as feasible at your request, but generally not later than age 70 1/2 (if you were born before July 1, 1949) or age 72 (if you were born after June 30, 1949). (See the question entitled "How will my benefits be paid to me?" for an explanation of how these benefits will be paid.)

What happens if I terminate employment due to disability?

Definition of disability. Under the Plan, disability is defined as a physical or mental condition resulting from bodily injury, disease, or mental disorder which renders you incapable of continuing any gainful occupation and which has lasted or can be expected to last for a continuous period of at least twelve (12) months. Your disability must be determined by a licensed physician. However, if your condition constitutes total disability under the federal Social Security Act, then the Administrator may deem that you are disabled for purposes of the Plan.

Payment of benefits. If you become disabled while an employee, you will become 100% vested in all of your accounts under the Plan. Payment of your disability benefits will be made to you as if you had retired. However, if the value of your account balance does not exceed \$1,000, then a distribution of your account balance will be made to you, regardless of whether you consent to receive it. (See the question entitled "How will my benefits be paid to me?" for an explanation of how these benefits will be paid.)

How will my benefits be paid to me?

The following provisions apply to the extent permitted under the contracts in which the Plan assets are invested.

Annuity Distribution. If you are married on the date your benefits are to begin, you will automatically receive a joint and 50% survivor annuity, unless you elect an alternative form of payment. This means that you will receive payments for your life, and after your death, your surviving spouse will receive a monthly benefit for the remainder of his or her life equal to 50% of the benefit you were receiving at the time of your death. You may elect a joint and 75%, 66 2/3% or 100% survivor annuity instead of the standard joint and 50% survivor annuity. You should consult an advisor before making such election.

If you are not married on the date your benefits are to begin, you will automatically receive a life annuity, unless you elect an alternative form of payment. This means you will receive payments for as long as you live.

Consent requirements. If your vested account balance in the Plan exceeds \$1,000, you must consent to any distribution before it may be made. In addition, if your vested account balance exceeds \$5,000 and you want the distribution to be in a form other than an annuity, you (and your spouse, if you are married) must first waive the annuity form of payment.

May I elect another form of benefit?

Waiver of annuity. If your vested benefit in the Plan exceeds \$5,000, then when you are about to receive any distribution, the Administrator will explain the joint and survivor annuity or the life annuity to you in greater detail. You will be given the option of waiving the joint and survivor annuity or the life annuity form of payment during the 180-day period before the annuity is to begin. **IF YOU ARE MARRIED, YOUR SPOUSE MUST IRREVOCABLY CONSENT IN WRITING TO THE WAIVER IN THE PRESENCE OF A NOTARY OR A PLAN REPRESENTATIVE.** You may revoke any waiver. The Administrator will provide you with forms to make these elections. Since your spouse participates in these elections, you must immediately inform the Administrator of any change in your marital status.

Other form of distribution. If your vested account balance exceeds \$5,000 and you and your spouse elect not to take a joint and survivor annuity, or if you are not married when your benefits are scheduled to begin and have elected not to take a life annuity, you may elect to receive a distribution of your vested account balance in an alternative form of payment. This payment may be made in one of the following methods:

- a single lump-sum payment
- installments over a period of not more than your assumed life expectancy (or the assumed life expectancies of you and your beneficiary)
- partial withdrawals

- the purchase of a different form of annuity

Delaying distributions. You may delay the distribution of your vested account balance unless a distribution is required to be made, as explained earlier, because your vested account balance does not exceed \$1,000. However, if you elect to delay the distribution of your vested account balance, there are rules that require that certain minimum distributions be made from the Plan. If you are a 5% owner, distributions are required to begin not later than the April 1st following the end of the year in which you reach age 70 1/2 (if you were born before July 1, 1949) or age 72 (if you were born after June 30, 1949). If you are not a 5% owner, distributions are required to begin not later than the April 1st following the later of the end of the year in which you reach age 70 1/2 (if you were born before July 1, 1949) or age 72 (if you were born after June 30, 1949) or retire. You should contact the Administrator if you think you may be affected by these rules.

ARTICLE VIII BENEFITS AND DISTRIBUTIONS UPON DEATH

What happens if I die while working for the Employer?

If you die while still employed by the Employer, then your vested account balance will be used to provide your beneficiary with a death benefit.

Who is the beneficiary of my death benefit?

Married Participant. If you are married at the time of your death, your spouse will be the beneficiary of 50% of the death benefit unless an election is made to change the beneficiary. IF YOU WISH TO DESIGNATE A BENEFICIARY OTHER THAN YOUR SPOUSE, YOUR SPOUSE (IF YOU ARE MARRIED) MUST IRREVOCABLY CONSENT TO WAIVE ANY RIGHT TO THE PORTION OF THE DEATH BENEFIT PAYABLE TO YOUR SPOUSE. YOUR SPOUSE'S CONSENT MUST BE IN WRITING, BE WITNESSED BY A NOTARY OR A PLAN REPRESENTATIVE AND ACKNOWLEDGE THE SPECIFIC NONSPOUSE BENEFICIARY.

If you are married and you change your designation, then your spouse must again consent to the change. Also, since the death benefit payable to your spouse is not your entire vested account balance, you may, at any time, designate the beneficiary for amounts in excess of the portion of the death benefit payable to your spouse without your spouse's consent. In addition, you may elect a beneficiary other than your spouse without your spouse's consent if your spouse cannot be located.

Unmarried Participant. If you are not married, you may designate a beneficiary on a form to be supplied to you by the Administrator.

Divorce. If you have designated your spouse as your beneficiary for all or a part of your death benefit, then upon your divorce, the designation is no longer valid. This means that if you do not select a new beneficiary after your divorce, then you are treated as not having a beneficiary for that portion of the death benefit (unless you have remarried).

No beneficiary designation. At the time of your death, if you have not designated a beneficiary or your beneficiary is also not alive, the death benefit will be paid in the following order of priority to:

- (a) your surviving spouse
- (b) your children, including adopted children in equal shares (and if a child is not living, that child's share will be distributed to that child's heirs)
- (c) your surviving parents, in equal shares
- (d) your estate

How will the death benefit be paid to my beneficiary?

The following provisions apply to the extent permitted under the contracts in which the Plan assets are invested.

Annuity distribution. If the death benefit does not exceed \$5,000, then the benefit may only be paid as a lump-sum. If you are married at the time of your death and the death benefit exceeds \$5,000, the death benefit will be paid in the form of an annuity, that is, periodic payments over the life of your spouse. Your spouse may direct that payments begin within a reasonable period of time after your death. The size of the monthly payments will depend on the value of your vested account at the time of your death.

Waiver of annuity. You (and your spouse if you are married) may waive the annuity form of distribution. Generally, the period during which you and your spouse may waive the annuity begins as of the first day of the Plan Year in which you reach age 35 and ends when you die. The Administrator must provide you with a detailed explanation of the annuity. This explanation must generally be given to you during the period of time beginning on the first day of the Plan Year in which you will reach age 32 and ending on the first day of the Plan Year in which you reach age 35. It is important that you inform the Administrator when you reach age 32 so that you may receive this information.

Under a special rule, you and your spouse may waive the survivor annuity form of payment any time before you turn age 35. However, any waiver will become invalid at the beginning of the Plan Year in which you turn age 35, and you and your spouse will be required to make another waiver.

If you waive the annuity form of distribution, you are not married, or for amounts in excess of the minimum spouse's death benefit, then your beneficiary may elect an alternative form of payment. This payment may be made in:

- a single lump-sum payment
- installments over a period of not more than the assumed life expectancy of your beneficiary
- partial withdrawals
- the purchase of a different form of annuity

When must the last payment be made to my beneficiary?

The law generally restricts the ability of a retirement plan to be used as a method of retaining money for purposes of your death estate. Thus, there are rules that are designed to ensure that death benefits are distributable to beneficiaries within certain time periods.

Regardless of the method of distribution selected, if your designated beneficiary is a person (rather than your estate or some trusts) then minimum distributions of your death benefit will begin by the end of the year following the year of your death ("1-year rule") and must be paid over a period not extending beyond your beneficiary's life expectancy. If your spouse is the beneficiary, then under the "1-year rule," the start of payments will be delayed until the year in which you would have attained age 70 1/2 (if you were born before July 1, 1949) or age 72 (if you were born after June 30, 1949) unless your spouse elects to begin distributions over his or her life expectancy before then. However, instead of the "1-year rule" your beneficiary may elect to have the entire death benefit paid by the end of the fifth year following the year of your death (the "5-year rule"). Generally, if your beneficiary is not a person, your entire death benefit must be paid under the "5-year rule."

Required Minimum Distributions. Distributions must generally begin by April 1 of the calendar year following the year you turn age 70 1/2 (if you were born before July 1, 1949) or age 72 (if you were born after June 30, 1949) or, in some cases, when you retire, if later. For more information, see IRS Publication 590-B. The law requires that retirement plans distribute funds at least as rapidly as specified in the required minimum distribution (RMD) rules. The Plan has been amended to conform to recent changes in those rules. Effective after December 31, 2019, the law now requires complete distributions to some beneficiaries of deceased participants no later than December 31, 10 year(s) following the year of the participant's death. Generally, if your beneficiary is not a person, then your entire death benefit must be paid within five years after your death.

Since your spouse has certain rights to the death benefit, you should immediately report any change in your marital status to the Administrator.

What happens if I'm a Participant, terminate employment and die before receiving all my benefits?

If you terminate employment with the Employer and subsequently die, your beneficiary will be entitled to your remaining interest in the Plan at the time of your death. The provision in the Plan providing for full vesting of your benefit upon death does not apply if you die after terminating employment.

ARTICLE IX TAX TREATMENT OF DISTRIBUTIONS

What are my tax consequences when I receive a distribution from the Plan?

Generally, you must include any Plan distribution in your taxable income in the year in which you receive the distribution. The tax treatment may also depend on your age when you receive the distribution. Certain distributions made to you when you are under age 59 1/2 could be subject to an additional 10% tax. You will not be taxed on your after-tax voluntary contributions to the Plan when they are distributed from the Plan. You will, however, be taxed on income attributable to those contributions. You will not be taxed on your mandatory employee contributions to the Plan when they are distributed from the Plan. You will, however, be taxed on income attributable to those contributions.

Can I elect a rollover to reduce or defer tax on my distribution?

Rollover or direct transfer. You may reduce, or defer entirely, the tax due on your distribution through use of one of the following methods:

60-day rollover. The rollover of all or a portion of the distribution to an individual retirement account or annuity (IRA) or another employer retirement plan willing to accept the rollover. This will result in no tax being due until you begin withdrawing funds from

the IRA or other qualified employer plan. The rollover of the distribution, however, MUST be made within strict time frames (normally, within 60 days after you receive your distribution). Under certain circumstances, all or a portion of a distribution may not qualify for this rollover treatment. In addition, most distributions will be subject to mandatory federal income tax withholding at a rate of 20%. This will reduce the amount you actually receive. For this reason, if you wish to roll over all or a portion of your distribution amount, then the direct transfer option described below would be the better choice.

Direct rollover. For most distributions, you may request that a direct transfer (sometimes referred to as a "direct rollover") of all or a portion of a distribution be made to either an individual retirement account or annuity (IRA) or another employer retirement plan willing to accept the transfer. A direct transfer will result in no tax being due until you withdraw funds from the IRA or other employer plan. Like the rollover, under certain circumstances all or a portion of the amount to be distributed may not qualify for this direct transfer. If you elect to actually receive the distribution rather than request a direct transfer, then in most cases 20% of the distribution amount will be withheld for federal income tax purposes. If you decide to directly transfer all or a portion of a distribution, you (and your spouse, if you are married) must first waive the annuity form of payment. (See the question entitled "How will my benefits be paid to me?" for a further explanation of this waiver requirement.)

TAX NOTICE. WHENEVER YOU RECEIVE A DISTRIBUTION THAT IS AN ELIGIBLE ROLLOVER DISTRIBUTION, THE ADMINISTRATOR WILL DELIVER TO YOU A MORE DETAILED EXPLANATION OF THESE OPTIONS. HOWEVER, THE RULES WHICH DETERMINE WHETHER YOU QUALIFY FOR FAVORABLE TAX TREATMENT ARE VERY COMPLEX. YOU SHOULD CONSULT WITH QUALIFIED TAX COUNSEL BEFORE MAKING A CHOICE.

ARTICLE X LOANS

Is it possible to borrow money from the Plan?

No, it is not possible to borrow money from the Plan. Plan loans are not permitted.

ARTICLE XI PROTECTED BENEFITS AND CLAIMS PROCEDURES

Are my benefits protected?

As a general rule, your interest in your account, including your "vested interest," may not be alienated. This means that your interest may not be sold, used as collateral for a loan, given away or otherwise transferred. In addition, your creditors (other than the IRS) may not attach, garnish or otherwise interfere with your benefits under the Plan.

Are there any exceptions to the general rule?

There are three exceptions to this general rule. The Administrator must honor a "qualified domestic relations order." A "qualified domestic relations order" is defined as a decree or order issued by a court that obligates you to pay child support or alimony, or otherwise allocates a portion of your assets in the Plan to your spouse, former spouse, children or other dependents. If a "qualified domestic relations order" is received by the Administrator, all or a portion of your benefits may be used to satisfy that obligation. The Administrator will determine the validity of any domestic relations order received. You and your beneficiaries can obtain from the Administrator, without charge, a copy of the procedure used by the Administrator to determine whether a "qualified domestic relations order" is valid.

The second exception applies if you are involved with the Plan's operation. If you are found liable for any action that adversely affects the Plan, the Administrator can offset your benefits by the amount that you are ordered or required by a court to pay the Plan. All or a portion of your benefits may be used to satisfy any such obligation to the Plan.

The last exception applies to federal tax levies and judgments. The federal government is able to use your interest in the Plan to enforce a federal tax levy and to collect a judgment resulting from an unpaid tax assessment.

Can the Plan be amended?

Your Employer has the right to amend the Plan at any time. In no event, however, will any amendment authorize or permit any part of the Plan assets to be used for purposes other than the exclusive benefit of Participants or their beneficiaries. Additionally, no amendment will cause any reduction in the amount credited to your account.

What happens if the Plan is discontinued or terminated?

Although your Employer intends to maintain the Plan indefinitely, your Employer reserves the right to terminate the Plan at any time. Upon termination, no further contributions will be made to the Plan and all amounts credited to your accounts will become 100% vested. Your Employer will direct the distribution of your accounts in a manner permitted by the Plan as soon as practicable. (See the question entitled "How will my benefits be paid to me?" for a further explanation.) You will be notified if the Plan is terminated.

How do I submit a claim for Plan benefits?

You may file a claim for benefits by submitting a written request for benefits to the Administrator. You should contact the Administrator to see if there is an applicable distribution form that must be used. If no specific form is required or available, then your written request for a distribution will be considered a claim for benefits. In the case of a claim for disability benefits, if disability is determined by the Administrator (rather than by a third party such as the Social Security Administration), then you must also include with your claim sufficient evidence to enable the Administrator to make a determination on whether you are disabled.

Decisions on the claim will be made within a reasonable period of time appropriate to the circumstances. "Days" means calendar days. If the Administrator determines the claim is valid, then you will receive a statement describing the amount of benefit, the method or methods of payment, the timing of distributions and other information relevant to the payment of the benefit.

For purposes of the claims procedures described below, "you" refers to you, your authorized representative, or anyone else entitled to benefits under the Plan (such as a beneficiary). A document, record, or other information will be considered relevant to a claim if it:

- was relied upon in making the benefit determination;
- was submitted, considered, or generated in the course of making the benefit determination, without regard to whether it was relied upon in making the benefit determination;
- demonstrated compliance with the administrative processes and safeguards designed to ensure and to verify that benefit determinations are made in accordance with Plan documents and Plan provisions have been applied consistently with respect to all claimants; or
- constituted a statement of policy or guidance with respect to the Plan concerning the denied treatment option or benefit.

The Plan may offer additional voluntary appeal and/or mandatory arbitration procedures other than those described below. If applicable, the Plan will not assert that you failed to exhaust administrative remedies for failure to use the voluntary procedures, any statute of limitations or other defense based on timeliness is tolled during the time a voluntary appeal is pending; and the voluntary process is available only after exhaustion of the appeals process described in this section. If mandatory arbitration is offered by the Plan, the arbitration must be conducted instead of the appeal process described in this section, and you are not precluded from challenging the decision under ERISA §501(a) or other applicable law.

What if my benefits are denied?

Your request for Plan benefits will be considered a claim for Plan benefits, and it will be subject to a full and fair review. If your claim is wholly or partially denied, the Administrator will provide you with a written or electronic notification of the Plan's adverse determination. This written or electronic notification must be provided to you within a reasonable period of time, but not later than 90 days (except as provided below for disability claims) after the receipt of your claim by the Administrator, unless the Administrator determines that special circumstances require an extension of time for processing your claim. If the Administrator determines that an extension of time for processing is required, written notice of the extension will be furnished to you prior to the termination of the initial 90-day period. In no event will such extension exceed a period of 90 days from the end of such initial period. The extension notice will indicate the special circumstances requiring an extension of time and the date by which the Plan expects to render the benefit determination.

In the case of a claim for disability benefits, if disability is determined by the Administrator (rather than a third party such as the Social Security Administration), then instead of the above, the initial claim must be resolved within 45 days of receipt by the Plan. A Plan may, however, extend this decision-making period for an additional 30 days for reasons beyond the control of the Plan. The Plan will notify you of the extension prior to the end of the 45-day period. If, after extending the time period for a first period of 30 days, the Administrator determines that it will still be unable, for reasons beyond the control of the Plan, to make a decision within the extension period, the Plan may extend decision making for a second 30-day period. Appropriate notice will be provided to you before the end of the first 45 days and again before the end of each succeeding 30-day period. This notice will explain the circumstances requiring the extension and the date the Administrator expects to render a decision. It will explain the standards on which entitlement to the benefits is based, the unresolved issues that prevent a decision, the additional issues that prevent a decision, and the additional information needed to resolve the issues. You will have 45 days from the date of receipt of the Administrator's notice to provide the information required.

If the Administrator determines that all or part of the claim should be denied (an "adverse benefit determination"), it will provide a notice of its decision in written or electronic form explaining your appeal rights. An "adverse benefit determination" also includes a rescission, which is a retroactive cancellation or termination of entitlement to disability benefits. The notice will be provided in a culturally and linguistically appropriate manner and will state:

- (a) The specific reason or reasons for the adverse determination.
- (b) Reference to the specific Plan provisions on which the determination was based.

- (c) A description of any additional material or information necessary for you to perfect the claim and an explanation of why such material or information is necessary.
- (d) A description of the Plan's review procedures and the time limits applicable to such procedures. This will include a statement of your right to bring a civil action under section 502(a) of ERISA following an adverse benefit determination on review.
- (e) In the case of a claim for disability benefits if disability is determined by the Administrator (rather than a third party such as the Social Security Administration), then the following additional information will be provided:
- (i) A discussion of the decision, including an explanation of the basis for disagreeing with or not following:
 - The views you presented to the Plan of health care professionals treating the claimant and vocational professionals who evaluated you;
 - The views of medical or vocational experts whose advice was obtained on behalf of the Plan in connection with an adverse benefit determination, without regard to whether the advice was relied upon in making the benefit determination; or
 - A disability determination made by the Social Security Administration and presented by you to the Plan.
 - (ii) Either the internal rules, guidelines, protocols, or other similar criteria relied upon to make a determination, or a statement that such rules, guidelines, protocols, or other criteria do not exist.
 - (iii) If the adverse benefit determination is based on a medical necessity or experimental treatment and/or investigational treatment or similar exclusion or limit, an explanation of the scientific or clinical judgment for the determination, applying the terms of the Plan to your medical circumstances. If this is not practical, a statement will be included that such explanation will be provided to you free of charge, upon request.
 - (iv) A statement that you are entitled to receive, upon request and free of charge, reasonable access to, and copies of, all documents, records, and other information relevant to the claim.

If your claim has been denied, and you want to submit your claim for review, you must follow the Claims Review Procedure in the next question.

What is the Claims Review Procedure?

Upon the denial of your claim for benefits, you may file your claim for review, in writing, with the Administrator.

(a) YOU MUST FILE THE CLAIM FOR REVIEW NOT LATER THAN 60 DAYS (EXCEPT AS PROVIDED BELOW FOR DISABILITY CLAIMS) AFTER YOU HAVE RECEIVED WRITTEN NOTIFICATION OF THE DENIAL OF YOUR CLAIM FOR BENEFITS.

IF YOUR CLAIM IS FOR DISABILITY BENEFITS AND DISABILITY IS DETERMINED BY THE ADMINISTRATOR (RATHER THAN A THIRD PARTY SUCH AS THE SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION), THEN INSTEAD OF THE ABOVE, YOU MUST FILE THE CLAIM FOR REVIEW NOT LATER THAN 180 DAYS FOLLOWING RECEIPT OF NOTIFICATION OF AN ADVERSE BENEFIT DETERMINATION. IN THE CASE OF AN ADVERSE BENEFIT DETERMINATION REGARDING A RESCISSION OF COVERAGE, YOU MUST REQUEST A REVIEW WITHIN 90 DAYS OF THE NOTICE.

- (b) You may submit written comments, documents, records, and other information relating to your claim for benefits.
- (c) You will be provided, upon request and free of charge, reasonable access to, and copies of, all documents, records, and other information relevant to your claim for benefits.
- (d) Your claim for review must be given a full and fair review. This review will take into account all comments, documents, records, and other information submitted by you relating to your claim, without regard to whether such information was submitted or considered in the initial benefit determination.

In addition to the Claims Review Procedure above, if your claim is for disability benefits and disability is determined by the Administrator (rather than a third party such as the Social Security Administration), then:

- (a) Your claim will be reviewed without deference to the initial adverse benefit determination and the review will be conducted by an appropriate named fiduciary of the Plan who is neither the individual who made the adverse benefit determination that is the subject of the appeal, nor the subordinate of such individual.
- (b) If the initial adverse benefit determination was based on a medical judgment, including determinations with regard to whether a particular treatment, drug, or other item is experimental, investigational, or not medically necessary or appropriate, the fiduciary will consult with a health care professional who was neither involved in or subordinate to the person who made the original benefit determination. This health care professional will have appropriate training and experience in the field of medicine involved in the medical judgment. Additionally, medical or vocational experts whose advice was obtained on behalf of the Plan in connection with the initial determination will be identified.
- (c) Any medical or vocational experts whose advice was obtained on behalf of the Plan in connection with your adverse benefit determination will be identified, without regard to whether the advice was relied upon in making the benefit determination.
- (d) If the Plan considers, relies upon or creates any new or additional evidence during the review of the adverse benefit determination, the Plan will provide such new or additional evidence to you, free of charge, as soon as possible and sufficiently in advance of the time within which a determination on review is required to allow you time to respond.
- (e) Before the Plan issues an adverse benefit determination on review that is based on a new or additional rationale, the Administrator must provide you with a copy of the rationale at no cost to you. The rationale must be provided as soon as possible and sufficiently in advance of the time within which a final determination on appeal is required to allow you time to respond.

The Administrator will provide you with written or electronic notification of the Plan's benefit determination on review. The Administrator must provide you with notification of this denial within 60 days (45 days with respect to claims relating to the determination of disability benefits) after the Administrator's receipt of your written claim for review, unless the Administrator determines that special circumstances require an extension of time for processing your claim. In such a case, you will be notified, before the end of the initial review period, of the special circumstances requiring the extension and the date a decision is expected. If an extension is provided, the Administrator must notify you of the determination on review no later than 120 days (or 90 days with respect to claims relating to the determination of disability benefits).

The Administrator will provide written or electronic notification to you in a culturally and linguistically appropriate manner. If the initial adverse benefit determination is upheld on review, the notice will include:

- (a) The specific reason or reasons for the adverse determination.
- (b) Reference to the specific Plan provisions on which the benefit determination was based.
- (c) A statement that you are entitled to receive, upon request and free of charge, reasonable access to, and copies of, all documents, records, and other information relevant to your claim for benefits.
- (d) In the case of a claim for disability benefits, if disability is determined by the Administrator (rather than a third party such as the Social Security Administration):
 - (i) Either the specific internal rules, guidelines, protocols, or other similar criteria relied upon to make the determination, or a statement that such rules, guidelines, protocols, or criteria do not exist.
 - (ii) If the adverse benefit determination is based on a medical necessity or experimental treatment and/or investigational treatment or similar exclusion or limit, an explanation of the scientific or clinical judgment for the determination, applying the terms of the Plan to your medical circumstances. If this is not practical, a statement will be included that such explanation will be provided to you free of charge, upon request.
 - (iii) A statement of your right to bring a civil action under section 502(a) of ERISA and, if the Plan imposes a contractual limitations period that applies to your right to bring such an action, a statement to that effect which includes the calendar date on which such limitation expires on the claim.

If the Plan offers voluntary appeal procedures, a description of those procedures and your right to obtain sufficient information about those procedures upon request to enable you to make an informed decision about whether to submit to such voluntary appeal. These procedures will include a description of your right to representation, the process for selecting the decision maker and the circumstances, if any, that may affect the impartiality of the decision maker. No fees or costs will be imposed on you as part of the voluntary appeal. A decision whether to use the voluntary appeal process will have no effect on your rights to any other Plan benefits.

(iv) A discussion of the decision, including an explanation of the basis for disagreeing with or not following:

- the views presented by the claimant to the Plan of health care professionals treating you and vocational professionals who evaluated you;
- the views of medical or vocational experts whose advice was obtained on behalf of the Plan in connection with an adverse benefit determination, without regard to whether the advice was relied upon in making the benefit determination; or
- a disability determination made by the Social Security Administration and presented by you to the Plan.

If you have a claim for benefits which is denied, then you may file suit in a state or federal court. However, in order to do so, you must file the suit not later than 180 days after the Administrator makes a final determination to deny your claim.

What are my rights as a Plan Participant?

As a Participant in the Plan you are entitled to certain rights and protections under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA). ERISA provides that all Plan Participants are entitled to:

- (a) Examine, without charge, at the Administrator's office and at other specified locations, all documents governing the Plan, including annuity contracts, and a copy of the latest annual report (Form 5500 Series) filed by the Plan with the U.S. Department of Labor and available at the Public Disclosure Room of the Employee Benefits Security Administration.
- (b) Obtain, upon written request to the Administrator, copies of documents governing the operation of the Plan, including insurance contracts and collective bargaining agreements, and copies of the latest annual report (Form 5500 Series) and updated Summary Plan Description. The Administrator may make a reasonable charge for the copies.
- (c) Receive a summary of the Plan's annual financial report. The Administrator is required by law to furnish each Participant with a copy of this summary annual report.

In addition to creating rights for Plan Participants, ERISA imposes duties upon the people who are responsible for the operation of the Plan. The people who operate your Plan, called "fiduciaries" of the Plan, have a duty to do so prudently and in the interest of you and other Plan Participants and beneficiaries. No one, including your Employer or any other person, may fire you or otherwise discriminate against you in any way to prevent you from obtaining a pension benefit or exercising your rights under ERISA.

If your claim for a pension benefit is denied or ignored, in whole or in part, you have a right to know why this was done, to obtain copies of documents relating to the decision without charge, and to appeal any denial, all within certain time schedules.

Under ERISA, there are steps you can take to enforce the above rights. For instance, if you request a copy of Plan documents or the latest annual report from the Plan and do not receive them within 30 days, you may file suit in a federal court. In such a case, the court may require the Administrator to provide the materials and pay you up to \$110.00 a day until you receive the materials, unless the materials were not sent because of reasons beyond the control of the Administrator.

If you have a claim for benefits which is denied or ignored, in whole or in part, you may file suit in a state or federal court. In addition, if you disagree with the Plan's decision or lack thereof concerning the qualified status of a domestic relations order or a medical child support order, you may file suit in federal court. You and your beneficiaries can obtain, without charge, a copy of the "qualified domestic relations order" (QDRO) procedures from the Administrator.

If it should happen that the Plan's fiduciaries misuse the Plan's money, or if you are discriminated against for asserting your rights, you may seek assistance from the U.S. Department of Labor, or you may file suit in a federal court. The court will decide who should pay court costs and legal fees. If you are successful, the court may order the person you have sued to pay these costs and fees. The court may order you to pay these costs and fees if you lose or if, for example, it finds your claim is frivolous.

What can I do if I have questions or my rights are violated?

If you have any questions about the Plan, you should contact the Administrator. If you have any questions about this statement or about your rights under ERISA, or if you need assistance in obtaining documents from the Administrator, you should contact the nearest office of the Employee Benefits Security Administration, U.S. Department of Labor, listed in the telephone directory or the Division of Technical Assistance and Inquiries, Employee Benefits Security Administration, U.S. Department of Labor, 200 Constitution Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20210. You may also obtain certain publications about your rights and responsibilities under ERISA by calling the publications hotline of the Employee Benefits Security Administration.

**ARTICLE XII
GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE PLAN**

There is certain general information which you may need to know about the Plan. This information has been summarized for you in this Article.

Plan Name

The full name of the Plan is Central Texas College Employees' Pension Plan and Trust.

Plan Number

Your Employer has assigned Plan Number 001 to your Plan.

Plan Effective Dates

Effective Date. This Plan was originally effective on September 1, 1974. The amended and restated provisions of the Plan become effective on September 1, 2023. However, this restatement was made to conform the Plan to new tax laws and some provisions may be retroactively effective.

Other Plan Information

Valuation date. Valuations of the Plan assets are generally made every business day. Certain distributions are based on the Anniversary Date of the Plan. This date is the last day of the Plan Year.

Plan Year. The Plan's records are maintained on a twelve-month period of time. This is known as the Plan Year. The Plan Year ends on August 31st.

The Plan will be governed by the laws of Texas to the extent not governed by federal law.

Benefits provided by the Plan are NOT insured by the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation (PBGC) under Title IV of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 because the insurance provisions under ERISA are not applicable to this type of Plan.

Service of legal process may be made upon your Employer. Service of legal process may also be made upon the Administrator.

Employer Information

Your Employer's name, contact information and identification number are:

Central Texas College District
6200 W. Central Texas Expressway
Killeen, Texas 76549-4199
74-1539003
Telephone: 254-526-1416

Administrator Information

The Administrator is responsible for the day-to-day administration and operation of the Plan. For example, the Administrator maintains the Plan records, including your account information, provides you with the forms you need to complete for Plan participation, and directs the payment of your account at the appropriate time. The Administrator will also allow you to review the formal Plan document and certain other materials related to the Plan. If you have any questions about the Plan or your participation, you should contact the Administrator. The Administrator may designate other parties to perform some duties of the Administrator.

The Administrator has the complete power, in its sole discretion, to determine all questions arising in connection with the administration, interpretation, and application of the Plan (and any related documents and underlying policies). Any such determination by the Administrator is conclusive and binding upon all persons.

Your Administrator is the Committee appointed by your Employer. The Committee can be contacted at the following address:

6200 W. Central Texas Expressway
Killeen, Texas 76549-4199
Telephone: 254-526-1416

Plan Insurer Information and Plan Funding Medium

The assets of the Plan are held in annuity contracts for the benefit of Plan Participants and their beneficiaries in accordance with the terms of this Plan. These contracts will be the funding medium used for the accumulation of assets from which Plan benefits will be distributed.

The contact information for the Plan's Insurer is:

TIAA

8500 Andrew Carnegie Blvd
Charlotte, North Carolina 28262-8500
Telephone: 888-842-7782