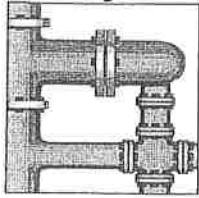


Annuity Fund



Connecticut Pipe Trades Local No. 777 Annuity Fund

1155 Silas Deane Hwy
Wethersfield, CT 06109-4318
(860)571-9191 Fax (860)571-9221
www.connecticutpipetrades.com

April 2020

IMPORTANT NOTICE CONNECTICUT PIPE TRADES LOCAL 777 ANNUITY PLAN EXPANDED DISTRIBUTION RULES TO INCLUDE COVID-19 DISTRIBUTIONS

Dear Participant:

In an effort to help relieve some of the difficulties related to COVID-19 and its widespread repercussions on the health and the financial well-being of our Plan Participants, the Trustees have voted to adopt a **temporary** distribution rule that can allow you to obtain monies from your Annuity Plan Account. As Trustees of the Annuity Plan, we want to be of help to you during this COVID-19 pandemic if you experience financial challenges.

You are eligible to elect a distribution from **April 1, 2020 until December 31, 2020** under the following circumstances:

1. If you have been out of work in the plumbing and pipefitting industry for less than three (3) months, you may elect a one-time distribution up to \$5,000 from your Participant Account Balance.
2. If you have not worked for a period of at least three (3) months (13 consecutive weeks) in the plumbing and pipefitting industry, you may apply for a distribution of up to 50% of your Participant Account balance.
3. If you have not worked for a period of at least six (6) months (26 consecutive weeks) in the plumbing and pipefitting industry, you may apply for a distribution of your entire Participant Account.

It's important to note that the Plan has daily valuations of Accounts, which is each business day on which the New York Stock Exchange is open, so the balance of your Account may be different when the election is processed than when you submit your elections.

The CARES Act has tax relief for some coronavirus-related distributions received from account-based retirement plans. Further guidance is needed to determine whether the distributions you elect during this time, based on the changes above, are eligible for the tax relief.

Generally, a *coronavirus-related distribution* is one made on or after January 1, 2020, and before December 31, 2020, to a participant:

1. who has tested positive for COVID-19,
2. whose spouse or beneficiary has tested positive for COVID-19,
3. who experiences one or more of a wide range of adverse financial consequences including:
 - being quarantined,

- Furloughed,
- laid-off,
- having work hours reduced, or
- being unable to work due to lack of child care as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Coronavirus-related distributions are eligible for the following tax relief if the total of all distributions during this time period are \$100,000 or less:

- the 10 percent early withdrawal penalty for distributions prior to age 59 1/2 otherwise applicable for such a distribution will be waived; and
- You will be allowed to spread the income tax due on this distribution over a three-year period, which includes the years 2020, 2021 and 2022.

If you elect a distribution, but you don't meet one of the criteria described above for a coronavirus related need, your distribution will be subject to the normal tax obligations, and you will be subject to the 10 percent tax penalty for early withdrawal if you are under age 59½.

To elect a distribution during the limited election period on or after April 1, 2020 and before December 31, 2020, you will need to do the following:

- Contact the Fund Office 1-800-848-2129, or visit www.connecticutpipetrades.com, for the required application for distribution.
- A completed application to be sent to:

CT Pipe Trades Benefit Funds Administration
1155 Silas Deane HWY
Wethersfield, CT 06109

While it is the Board's intent to provide some relief to our Participants in this challenging time, please keep in mind that your Account has experienced considerable fluctuation recently, perhaps significantly. You should carefully weigh all your options before making the decision to withdraw retirement funds from your Annuity Plan Account.

The Board is continuing to monitor the Plan, the legislation and guidance being issued by the federal government and additional changes may still be adopted in the coming weeks and months. The Board is considering allowing participants to repay a *coronavirus-related distribution* back to the Plan within a three-year period, so that you can take measures to preserve your Account for your retirement and you will be notified of this or any other change is adopted.

This notice constitutes a Summary of Material Modification (SMM) to the Annuity Plan. Please keep this with your Summary Plan Description.

If you have any questions regarding this change to the Plan, you can contact the Fund Office. If you have questions regarding your Annuity Plan Account, we encourage you to contact John Hancock Retirement Services by accessing information directly at their website www.mylife.jhrps.com or contact a customer service representative at 1-800-294-3575.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES