



Chicago Teachers' Pension Fund

203 North La Salle Street, suite 2600 | Chicago, Illinois 60601-1231

May 5, 2011

To: CTPF Members

From: Kevin B. Huber, executive director

RE: Benefits Available for Parties to a Civil Union

Effective June 1, 2011, all pension benefits previously made available to a married person and his or her spouse, are now benefits available to the parties to a civil union. Parties to a civil union may be same- or opposite-sex couples.

CTPF has offered health insurance to domestic partners and their dependents for many years, but the changes to Illinois law will entitle parties to a registered civil union to *all* the benefits of married couples. These benefits include surviving spouse pensions and the right to continue health insurance following the death of a qualified member.

Publications will be reprinted as needed, and this change will be included in CTPF publications and information printed after June 1, 2011.

A Note on Terminology

Effective June, 1, 2011, any CTPF publication or communication which includes the word spouse, survivor, family, immediate family, dependent, next of kin, or any word that denotes the spousal relationship, also means and includes parties to a civil union. The word marry means and includes the act of entering a civil union, and the word marriage means and includes a civil union. The terms marriage license or marriage certificate mean and include a civil union license and civil union certificate.

The complete text of the law can be found by clicking [here](#). If you have questions about benefits for parties to a civil union, please contact Member Services at 312.641.4464.

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