

Pension E-News



January 29, 2021

CTPF is committed to doing our part to stop the spread of COVID-19. For the health, safety, and wellbeing of all CTPF Members, the Fund continues to deliver all member services remotely. Our Member Services counselors are taking calls in "real time" during normal business hours. The physical office remains closed to all but essential employees whose duties cannot be performed offsite. In-person services and counseling are suspended until it is safe to resume these operations.

Holiday Office Closings: The office will close for the President's Day Holiday on February 15, 2021, and reopens at 8:00 a.m. on Tuesday, February 16, 2021.



Staff Updates

Mary Cavallaro, Interim Executive Director, retired on January 20, 2021. Board of Trustees President Jeffery Blackwell said, "Mary was a respected leader who earned the trust of the Board of Trustees, members, partners, and staff. She joined the Fund in 2009, and has served in multiple roles at CTPF - and had a demonstrated track record of success in every role she has filled at the Fund. We appreciate her leadership skills, institutional knowledge, operational expertise, and collaborative style, that served the Fund so well for nearly 12 years. We want to thank Mary for her service and wish her the best of luck in her well-deserved retirement."

The search for a permanent leader for the organization is underway, and is expected to take several months. The Board of Trustees will discuss interim leadership for the organization at their next meeting. The search for the permanent Executive Director is being managed by EFL Associates.

Staff Promotions

Two staff members were recently promoted and will serve on the senior leadership team reporting to the Executive Director.

Jenn Pentangelo was named Director of Benefit Services. The Benefit Services Department is responsible for the day-to-day operations of all benefits administration to ensure member satisfaction, compliance with statutory law, and issuing benefit payments. Key



areas of responsibility include health insurance administration, Member Services, processing of pensions, disabilities, death benefits, and refunds. Pentangelo joined CTPF as Pension Benefits Manager in 2016. She has extensive career experience in the employee benefits industry, having worked in public and private industry, and previously taught math at Kenwood Academy in Chicago. Pentangelo holds a Bachelor of Science in Applied Mathematics from State University of New York, Oswego, and a Master's degree in Secondary Education from Mercy College.



Richard Anderson has been promoted to Director of the Enterprise Program Management Office (EPMO). The EPMO provides leadership across the organization, related to the methodology, process, and associated guidelines for the Fund's project portfolio. The EPMO works collaboratively to identify, facilitate, and manage projects within the organization that align with business objectives while minimizing risk, and helping the Fund prepare for the future. Anderson joined CTPF in 2020. His career experience has been focused on Project Management leadership with emphasis on IT program and project delivery and leadership of cross-function teams. He holds a bachelor's degree in General Studies/Psychology from Western Illinois University, and is a certified Scrum Master with several additional professional certifications.

Trustees Vote to Make Juneteenth a Paid Holiday

During their January 21, 2021, meeting, the CTPF Board of Trustees voted to make Juneteenth, the country's second independence day honoring one of the final acts of the emancipation of slaves in the United States, a regular paid holiday for CTPF staff. Though it has long been celebrated among the African American community, this history has been marginalized and still remains largely unknown to the wider public. Juneteenth is celebrated annually on June 19. The holiday was first celebrated by the Fund in 2020.

CTPF Board of Trustees President Jeffery Blackwell noted that, "we must vow to do better to address and dismantle racism and systemic inequality in all of our communities, our places of work, and in this world. This may be challenging and uncomfortable work but it is essential. We must collaborate, educate, create, and stand for a more equitable and just society. Celebrating Juneteenth is just one step forward, and I am proud to see our Trustees take this action."

Find a complete listing of holidays at ctpf.org/calendar.

2021 Retirement Webinars

If you're considering retirement in 2021, we invite you to join the Chicago Teachers' Pension Fund (CTPF) for a retirement webinar. These webinars provide retirement information, including a general overview of the CTPF and CPS retirement processes. Webinars will include time for Q&A to help answer your questions.



Monday, February 15, 2021

Webinar | 9:00 a.m. or 1:00 p.m.

Register by February 5th to receive a pension estimate in time for the webinar.

Tuesday, March 30, 2021

Webinar | 9:00 a.m. or 1:00 p.m.

Register by March 19th to receive a pension estimate in time for the webinar.

Registration for all webinars is available at ctpf.org/calendar.

Estimates

Members who register in advance (see deadlines above) will receive a pension estimate delivered electronically via secure email. Please make sure your email address is up-to-date by calling Member Services at 312.604.1400.

Submit Forms Electronically

During the pandemic, U.S. Mail processing is delayed. Send benefit applications, forms, and documents by fax 312.641.7185 or email an attachment (.pdf or .jpg format) to imaging@ctpf.org to ensure processing. After documents are sent via fax or e-mail please send the originals to CTPF.

Register for *my*CTPF

CTPF invites members to register for *my*CTPF the new Member Self Service Portal. Members who register for *my*CTPF create their own unique User ID and password. Once an account is created, members can use *my*CTPF to securely access CTPF documents and information. Registered members can:

- View address/contact information on file with CTPF.
- Retirees can view and download a 1099-R and pay advice(s).
- Active and inactive members can view and download their annual Member Statement.

*my*CTPF is available to all CTPF members who complete the one-time registration process.

Members can access the system from a "button" at ctpf.org, and must have their CTPF Member ID to register. Two-factor authentication ensures secure access. Active members can find their CTPF Member ID on the Member Statement. Retirees can find their Member ID on a pay advice from the Fund.



Snowbirds: File a Temporary Change of Address

Are you a CTPF retiree heading south for the winter? Make sure you file a temporary change of address form with CTPF. Address changes cannot be made over the phone. Retirees and Inactive Members will need to send a written and signed request to change their address, or complete a Change of Address form ([CTPF Form 107](#)) and return it to imaging@ctpf.org. All address changes for active CTPF members are reported through their employers' reporting system.

2021 Medicare Rates

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) have announced Medicare premium rates for 2021. Most members receive Part A at no charge. The chart illustrates the cost for members who must pay for Part A.

2021 Medicare Part B*

Almost everyone must pay for Medicare Part B. The standard premium for 2021 will be \$148.50 (which includes a \$3.00 service fee that CTPF does not subsidize). This is a \$3.90 increase from the 2020 amount. CTPF will provide a subsidy of \$87.30 per month for all qualified members. If you make Part B payments directly to Medicare, CTPF provides the subsidy by adding \$87.30 to your monthly pension benefit. Some members are subject to IRMAA fees CTPF does

MEDICARE PREMIUMS

Medicare	2021 Cost	CTPF Subsidy
Medicare A with 40 quarters	0	0
Medicare A with 30-39 quarters	\$259	\$155.40
Medicare A with Less than 30 quarters	\$471	\$282.60
Standard Medicare Part B	\$148.50*	\$87.30

not subsidize Part B fees, late enrollment penalties or Part BIRMAA amounts. All CTPF members receive the same Part B subsidy.

CTPF COVID-19 Information & Resources

CTPF has created our COVID-19 Response website ctpf.org/covid-19. This website link provides you with CTPF up-to-date information on the Fund's operations during the pandemic.

	<p>Call or Email Member Services</p> <p>While CTPF remains closed to all but essential employees, new software makes it possible for Member Services counselors to resume answering calls in "real time," and to provide all call center functions. Calls will be answered during normal business hours, 8:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. Members who need assistance should call 312.641.4464 or email memberservices@ctpf.org.</p>
	<p>Submit Documents Electronically</p> <p>During the pandemic, U.S. Mail processing may be delayed. The best way to send benefit applications and documents to CTPF is by fax 312.641.7185 or email an attachment (.pdf or .jpg) to imaging@ctpf.org.</p>
	<p>Help with Scanning</p> <p>Need to scan a document to email to CTPF but you don't have a scanner? A printer or smartphone scanning app or smartphone camera can help you get the job done. Click here for more information on scanning.</p>
	<p>Remote Notary Available</p> <p>CTPF now offers remote notarization for CTPF documents. Members who would like to use remote notary services should call 312.641.4464 or email Memberservices@ctpf.org, and request a video conference for notarization. Find more information here.</p>
	<p>CTPF Annuitant Health Plan Information</p> <p>CTPF annuitant health insurance plans offer coverage for COVID-19 diagnosis and treatment, and some have added additional telehealth and mental health benefits. Find more information here, call the number on the back of your health insurance card, or visit your carrier's website for specific benefit information.</p>

Pension Payment Schedule

Given the uncertainties with the COVID-19 outbreak, CTPF encourages all members to switch to direct deposit immediately. Download [CTPF Form 425](#) and submit your documentation electronically to ensure the timely delivery of your benefits. The schedule for mailing checks and direct deposit dates through May 2021 is listed below. [Click here](#) for the full schedule.

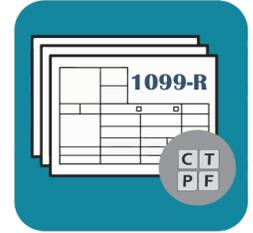


**FORM
425**

	Last Day to		
Month	Submit an Address or Tax Withholding Change	Check Mailing Date	Direct Deposit Date
February 2021	January 14, 2021	January 28, 2021	February 1, 2021
March 2021	February 11, 2021	February 25, 2021	March 1, 2021
April 2021	March 17, 2021	March 30, 2021	April 1, 2021
May 2021	April 16, 2021	April 29, 2021	May 3, 2021

1099-R Mailings

Form 1099-R reports the distribution of pension benefits. CTPF will mail Form 1099-R to all retired members by January 31, 2021. Pensioners who register for *myCTPF* can also download a copy of their 1099-R from the member self-service portal. Register at www.ctpf.org.



Security Enhancement for 1099-R Forms

As an added security measure, Social Security numbers on 1099-R forms will be truncated (***-**-1234). Replacing the first five numbers with asterisks protects member's personal identifying information in accordance with Internal Revenue Service protocols. The electronic Form 1099-R sent to the Internal Revenue Service will include the full nine-digit Social Security number for matching purposes.

Employer Contribution Reporting

Each pay period, Employers remit employee pension contributions to CTPF. Illinois law requires that these contributions be made within a certain time period. If the Employer does not send the funds within the required time, penalties may be assessed. Find the most recent list of delinquent employers [here](#).



Lost Payees

CTPF is trying to contact members who are over 70½, but who have not commenced benefits or taken a refund of their contributions. If you or someone you know is included on the [Lost Payees Listing](#), please contact Member Services, 312.641.4464 or email memberservices@ctpf.org.

Whistleblower Reporting Notice

The Chicago Teachers' Pension Fund (CTPF) has a whistleblower reporting hotline where complaints may be submitted through an interview, anonymously, or self-identified. The hotline is available for CTPF members, employees, and other parties who engage with CTPF. Complaints may also be submitted online, emailed, or faxed. Find more information at ctpf.org/whistleblower-reporting.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

All current meeting dates, office information, and upcoming event information can be found on the CTPF Calendar at ctpf.org/calendar.

STAY CONNECTED & SPREAD THE WORD

While we must be physically apart, we will continue to email regularly to keep you updated on the ever-evolving situation. CTPF will continue to share information at ctpf.org on social media, in E-Lerts, and in E-News. We also encourage you to connect with CTPF on social media; many of CTPF's more than 89,000 members are active on either Facebook, Twitter, and LinkedIn.

Please consider forwarding this email to a friend who may be a fellow member or pensioner. Register for email updates [here](#).



CTPF BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Jeffery Blackwell, *President*

Mary Sharon Reilly, *Vice President*

Jacquelyn Price Ward, *Financial Secretary*

Lois Nelson, *Recording Secretary*

James Cavallero

Maria J. Rodriguez

Gervaise Clay

Jerry Travlos

Miguel del Valle

Dwayne Truss

Tina Padilla

Philip Weiss