

BRICKLAYERS PENSION TRUST FUND
METROPOLITAN AREA
P.O. BOX 4506
TROY, MI 48099-4506

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Important Fund Information

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Bricklayers Pension Trust Fund
Metropolitan Area

January 2024

BRICKLAYERS AND TROWEL TRADES INTERNATIONAL PENSION FUND
RULES ON EMPLOYMENT AFTER RETIREMENT

IMPORTANT NOTICE TO ALL RETIREES

RE: Return to Covered Work in 2024 -- Normal and Early Retirees

Dear Retiree:

In order to meet manpower needs, the Trustees of the Bricklayers Pension Trust Fund – Metropolitan Area have decided to **waive the Pension Plan's suspension of benefits rule for the period from January 1, 2024 through December 31, 2024, but only if you retired on or before October 1, 2023**. During this time period, there will be no limit on the number of hours that you, as a retiree, can be employed by a signatory union contractor that contributes to this Pension Fund. This means that if you want to go to work now for a union signatory contractor, you will continue to receive your monthly local pension benefits from this Pension Fund no matter how many hours you work between January 1, 2024 and December 31, 2024.

This waiver will be reevaluated at the end of the 12-month period and continued only if work conditions warrant it – it is not an automatic annual extension. Keep in mind that while your current pension benefit will **not** be affected if you chose to return to active work, as long as this option is available, any **new** pension credits that you earn while working after retirement will be subject to the Pension Fund's "offset rules" under applicable tax laws. These rules generally mean that your current retirement benefit will **not** increase (or decrease) as a result of any post-retirement employment. Reciprocal contributions will also be subject to those offset rules when contributions from out of jurisdiction are home-funded to the Pension Fund.

PLEASE be aware that this waiver does NOT apply to your Bricklayers and Trowel Trades International Pension Fund benefit. The International Pension Fund has its own and very specific suspension of benefits rules for retirees. See the reverse side of this page for the International Pension Fund's rules that were provided to us for your use. Please contact the International Pension Fund at 888-880-8222 to determine the effect that your returning to work may have on your International Pension benefits.

YOUR NOTIFICATION DUTY

Remember: You must immediately notify this Pension Fund's office if you return to work in any capacity, regardless of whether you return to work for a non-contributing employer (e.g., non-union), a contributing employer, or in a self-employed, supervisory, or managerial capacity.

If you have questions about this waiver and the suspension of benefits provision of the Detroit Area Bricklayers Local Pension Plan, call the Fund Office at 248-641-4954.

Sincerely,

Board of Trustees
Bricklayers Pension Trust Fund – Metropolitan Area

cc: BAC Local 2 / Mason Contractors Association

P.O. Box 4506, Troy, MI 48099-4506
Phone (248) 641-4954 Fax (248) 721-9678

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To be considered retired, a pensioner must separate from employment for the entire month their pension starts. After retirement, your pension may be suspended for any month you work in Disqualifying Employment depending upon your age and earnings. Disqualifying Employment is:

- (1) Work with a contributing employer or employer in the same or related business as a contributing employer.
- (2) Self-employment in the same or related business as a contributing employer.
- (3) Employment or self-employment in any business, which is under the jurisdiction of the Union.
- (4) Employment with any Union, Fund or Program to which the Union is a party by an agreement.

You are required to notify the Fund office in writing within 15 days about any such employment you undertake. If you do not, your pension may be canceled for an additional six months. Payments made when you were in Disqualifying Employment will be deducted from future benefits. Exactly what kind of work that will cause your benefit to be suspended depends upon your age and earnings.

Ages 55-61: Pensioners under age 62 will have their payments withheld for any month worked in Disqualifying Employment.

Ages 62-63: Pensioners ages 62 and 63 will have their monthly benefit payment suspended when their yearly earnings in covered employment exceed the Social Security Maximum (\$18,960.00 for 2021) for recipients under age 64.

Ages 64 and over: For pensioners over age 64 there are no earnings limits, effective April 1, 2000.

For each calendar quarter in which a pensioner under age 64 engages in Non-covered Employment or self-employment in the Masonry Industry, their benefit will be suspended for six months regardless of their earnings.

All pensioners must notify the Fund office when they return to covered employment. Pensioners ages 62-63 should notify the Fund office when their earnings exceed the Social Security Earnings maximum. If you are not sure if a type of employment is prohibited, you may request a ruling from the Board of Trustees.

Revised 01/01/2021