

Alaska Plumbing and Pipefitting Industry Pension Fund

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Administered by
Labor Trust Services, Inc.

DATE: December 21, 2023

**TO: All Retirees
Alaska Plumbing and Pipefitting Industry Pension Plan**

**RE: Exception to Suspension of Benefit Rules for Hours Worked Between
November 1, 2023 and October 31, 2024**

The suspension of benefit rules have been temporarily modified to allow Participants who submitted a retirement application on or before October 1, 2023, to return to work with any contributing employer in the State of Alaska without these hours counting toward a suspension of monthly retirement benefits. The regular rules and exception to the suspension of benefit rules are further described below:

Regular Suspension Rules for Return to Work

Post-Retirement Service: Under the Plan's regular suspension rules, if you retire and later go back to work in "post-retirement service," your monthly retirement payments are suspended if you work more than the maximum hours allowed. For any benefits earned under the Alaska Plumbing and Pipefitting Industry Pension Plan ("Plan"), "post-retirement service" means all employment:

- (a) Within the geographic area covered by the Plan (all of the state of Alaska);
- (b) In a job classification similar to those set forth in the Collective Bargaining Agreement or a Special Agreement, whether or not such employment is under the terms of a Collective Bargaining Agreement, or in a supervisory capacity over such job classification; and
- (c) In the industry in which the Employers participate (any business activity of the type engaged in by the Employers maintaining the Plan).

General Plan Suspension Rules (see the Plan booklet for additional details): If a participant retires and subsequently performs 300 or more hours of post-retirement service in a calendar year, the retiree shall not be entitled to a retirement payment for any month during the remainder of that calendar year during which he performs 50 or more hours of post-retirement service.

Exception to Suspension of Benefit Rules—Effective November 1, 2023, Alaska Contributory Hours Do Not Count Toward Suspension of Monthly Benefits For Those Previously Retired

This change applies to ***Participants who submitted a retirement application on or before October 1, 2023.*** If you submitted a retirement application after October 1, 2023, this exception to the Trust's suspension rules does not apply to you.

Under the new rules, you can work **for any employer in the State of Alaska contributing to the Plan** between November 1, 2023 and October 31, 2024 without those hours counting toward the 300-hour limitation on post-retirement service. Any hours worked after October 31, 2024 will count toward the 300-hour limitation of post-retirement service.

Also, this exception does not affect any retirement benefits that were already suspended or subject to suspension for hours worked before November 1, 2023 under the regular suspension rules.

PLEASE NOTE: If you are age 61 or younger, any additional benefit accruals earned during “post-retirement service” performed within the State of Alaska will not be payable until you reach age 62. This only applies if you are performing work under the exception to the suspension of benefit rules described above.

IMPORTANT REMINDER: If you retire on a Disability Retirement and return to work, retirement payments are immediately terminated.

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