Pension Fund
of the Christian Church

Tax-Deferred Retirement Account

Making Your Retirement Dreams Possible.
Get to your dreams faster.

Life Dream #1
Learn to sail.
Pension Fund: A Name You Can Trust

Pension Fund serves its members as faithful financial stewards, true to Pension Fund’s mission values of security, trust and compassion. Rather than relying on funding from company profits or legislation, Pension Fund relies on a solid funding formula and a team of investment professionals who not only manage your money, but grow your assets. We measure our success by not only protecting, but adding value for your retirement.

Our history pre-dates Social Security: Since 1929, Pension Fund’s conservative plan design has weathered market downturns, and our pension plan still remains one of the highest-funded pension and retirement savings programs in existence.

Your money stays in your pockets, not ours: With Pension Fund, there are no hidden fees or charges to manage your assets. In fact, when reserves exist above what is required for current and future benefits (and for any potential market decline), Pension Fund’s Board of Directors may declare Good Experience Credits for all participants. These additional interest earnings mean more money for you in retirement.

We worry about investments so you don’t have to: Other retirement savings programs often force you to make an educated guess as to your investment pools. With Pension Fund, enrollment is the only requirement for you to benefit from our expertise and knowledge in managing your financial assets – simple and easy.
Why the Tax-Deferred Retirement Account (TDRA)

Since its beginnings more than 100 years ago, Pension Fund has supported others in their time of need.

As part of our mission, Pension Fund offers the Tax-Deferred Retirement Account (TDRA), a retirement savings option for individuals affiliated with the Stone-Campbell/Restoration Movement.

The TDRA is an employer-based retirement savings plan. Read on to learn more about how Pension Fund’s TDRA can work for you.

Key Benefits

- Employer may make contributions
- Contributions are normally made pre-tax (lowering your taxable salary)
- Competitive base return
- Increases with Good Experience Credits
- Earnings are tax-deferred
- Complements other retirement savings plans

Offers competitive base return

The TDRA is a Pension Fund retirement savings program that offers a base interest rate, reducing the downside risk for the participant. The TDRA offers a base interest rate that, by policy, cannot be lower than 3% or greater than 6%. Each account is credited with this base interest rate and a Good Experience Credit, if designated by the Pension Fund Board of Directors.

What are Good Experience Credits?

Good Experience Credits are additional interest earnings. Each year, the Pension Fund Board of Directors reviews reserves required for current and future benefits, as well as reserves needed for any potential market declines. When reserves exist above what is required, the Board of Directors may declare Good Experience Credits for all participants. Over time, these extra earnings can make a significant difference when saving for retirement.

Offers tax advantages

By contributing to a TDRA, you are able to lower your taxable income because contributions are pre-tax. Instead, contributions and interest are taxed upon withdrawal.

May be an estate planning tool

TDRA participants may choose any beneficiary or beneficiaries. In doing so, it is possible to save an inheritance for children or other heirs, above and beyond retirement needs, within IRS guidelines for maximum contributions. Each participant (or his or her heirs) will ultimately receive the balance in the account.
Base interest rates allow for consistent growth of your savings, particularly when combined with Good Experience Credits.
Limitation on Contributions

Internal Revenue Code rules limit the total amount of contributions that may be contributed to the TDRA on a participant’s behalf by the employer.

The limit on elective deferrals (what the participant chooses to contribute) is $18,000.* Additional elective contributions may be made when specific eligibility requirements are met under IRS guidelines for catch-up contributions and 15-year rule for years of service with the employer (see Catch-up Provision for TDRAs). A church employee may treat all years of service with churches or organizations related to Pension Fund as years of service with the same employer.

Vesting

Participants are generally 100% vested in their TDRA accounts. Some employers require a deferred vesting schedule for employer contributions. If a participant moves to another employer, he or she may choose to leave the TDRA with Pension Fund in which case the account continues to earn base interest rate plus any allocated Good Experience Credits.

Distributions

Before retirement

The participant may request a distribution from the account at any time if the participant:

✓ Separates from employment (rollover required)
✓ Attains age 59½
✓ Becomes disabled
✓ In the case of salary contribution agreement, encounters financial hardship that qualifies under the plan
✓ Has a qualified reservist distribution

Some employers require, by policy, a vesting schedule for employee contributions. As such, some distributions may be subject to early distribution penalty.

A participant may request a distribution from the employee contributions portion of the TDRA while still employed by the employer if a qualified financial hardship exists (see next column for examples) and no other financial resources are available. Hardship distributions are subject to income taxes and, if the participant is under age 59½, will be subject to an additional 10% excise tax.*

Reasons for distribution for financial hardship include:

✓ Medical expenses incurred by participant, spouse, beneficiary or dependents that would be deductible
✓ Purchase (excluding mortgage payments) of a principal/primary residence
✓ Payment of tuition, room and board, and related educational fees for up to the next 12 months of post-secondary education for the participant, spouse, beneficiary or dependents
✓ Payments to prevent the eviction from the participant’s principal/primary residence or foreclosure on the mortgage of that residence
✓ Payments for burial or funeral expenses for the participant’s deceased parent, spouse, beneficiary or dependent
✓ Expenses for the repair of damage to principal/primary residence that would qualify for the casualty deduction
✓ Such other financial circumstances as declared by the IRS to constitute financial hardship

Other requirements for a financial hardship distribution must be met and Pension Fund will determine whether a financial hardship exists. Please contact Pension Fund for more details.

Catch-up Provision for TDRAs

There are two instances in which you are allowed to contribute additional funds to your TDRA:

AGE 50+:

✓ If you are age 50 or more, you may contribute an additional $6,000 per year under the catch-up contributions.

15 YEAR RULE:

✓ If you have been employed by the church or another related organization for 15 years or more, your maximum contribution may be increased by $3,000 per year ($15,000 lifetime maximum).

For more information on catch-up provisions, call or email us with your questions.

* Tax year 2015, Internal Revenue Service
“When my husband and I started to earnestly save for retirement, we maxed out our allowable contributions. I have been very pleased with how my TDRA investments at the Pension Fund have been managed. Now retirement is not only possible, it is financially comfortable. We especially like the way the Good Experience Credits help the funds grow.”

Nancy Oliver, retiree

To learn more about the TDRA, call Pension Fund at 866.495.7322!
At retirement and beyond

Distribution of accounts must begin no later than April 1 of the calendar year following the calendar year in which the participant turns age 70½, unless he or she has not retired from qualified employment.

Participants may elect to receive distributions from accounts in any form of payment option offered by the TDRA. Payment options include lump sum, single life annuity, 50% joint and survivor annuity, 100% joint and survivor annuity, or single life annuity with 10 years certain and installments.

Curious to see how your funds could grow with a TDRA? View these different savings scenarios:

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<th>20 years</th>
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* This performance is an example, not a guarantee of TDRA performance. Calculation assumes a fixed annual interest rate of 4.5%.

Beneficiaries

One or more beneficiaries and contingent beneficiaries may be designated to receive any TDRA benefits payable upon your death. The beneficiary may be a person, institution, trustee, trust, tax-exempt charitable organization or estate. Visit www.irs.gov or your financial advisor for IRS rules and guidelines for taxation consequences for beneficiaries.

RETIREMENT: A Three-Legged Stool

The TDRA may be used as a supplement to an existing retirement plan – such as the Pension Plan – and to Social Security, or it can serve as a primary retirement savings tool. Those retiring with financial stability have used multiple retirement savings strategies, and a TDRA is just one of them. Financial planners often talk about a three-legged stool to explain that various streams of income in retirement are not only helpful, but necessary.
Life Dream #3
Grow a prize-winning garden.
Eligibility and Application

If you are employed by an organization affiliated with the Stone-Campbell/Restoration Movement, you are eligible to participate. These organizations include, but are not limited to, congregations, wider ministries, seminaries, and universities and colleges associated with the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), Christian Churches/Churches of Christ, or Churches of Christ in the United States.

Through a participation agreement with Pension Fund, each employer defines eligibility requirements for participation in the TDRA. Eligibility may begin at the time of employment; however, some employers require a minimum length of service and/or age and/or hours worked before an employee is eligible. A minister who is self-employed can also become a participant in the TDRA as long as ministry services are being performed for compensation.

To begin making pre-tax contributions to an account through salary reduction, the participant must complete and return a salary contribution agreement to the employer.

Rollovers

Pension Fund welcomes rollovers from eligible participants. Those eligible can request to make a rollover contribution to the TDRA in the form of a distribution from an eligible retirement plan, including:

- 401(a) or 402(a) qualified plan
- 403(b) plan
- 457(b) plan of a governmental entity
- Eligible individual retirement account (IRA) or annuity

Forms to complete a rollover can be found at www.pensionfund.org.
Life Dream #4
Help pay for my granddaughter’s college education.
About Pension Fund

Participation in Pension Fund programs provides peace of mind that you are investing in an organization with more than 115 years of experience in managing financial assets. Our track record and financial strength are testimony that Pension Fund is Strong. Smart. Secure.

strong.

It is our objective and practice to maintain excess reserves for all Pension Fund programs. Pension Fund is fully funded, which means we have more assets than benefit obligations and, from an actuarial standpoint, can pay all current and future retirement obligations. This strong reserve position allows us to weather market downturns, as well as provide financial underpinning to develop new programs to benefit our participants and participant organizations.

smart.

Pension Fund has prudently managed assets for more than 115 years and has responded to changing needs of our members. We continue to introduce programs to supplement members’ existing retirement and pension savings.

secure.

We measure our success by protecting and adding value for your retirement. In good times and bad, Pension Fund serves its members faithfully. In the history of Pension Fund, no participant has experienced a reduction in pension or pension credits, nor suffered any loss in value of his or her retirement account.

To learn more about Pension Fund’s full range of programs, visit www.pensionfund.org.

The material contained in this brochure is for informational purposes only and not to be construed as tax, financial, or legal advice. Before making decisions about financial matters, please consult your attorney, tax preparer or other financial advisor to find out how these programs will impact your individual situation. If any differences exist between this summary and the TDRA document, the TDRA document will control.

Past performance of the Pension Fund TDRA is not a guarantee of future returns.

www.facebook.com/pensionfundchristianchurch
Visit us on the web: www.pensionfund.org
Send us an email: pfcc1@pensionfund.org
P.O. Box 6251
Indianapolis, IN 46206-6251
866.495.7322