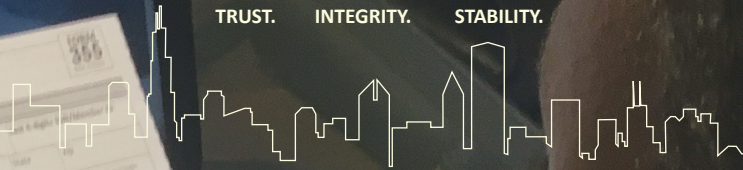


PENSION NEWS

TRUST. INTEGRITY. STABILITY.

Spring 2021 | Retired Members Edition



BLACKWELL NAMED INTERIM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

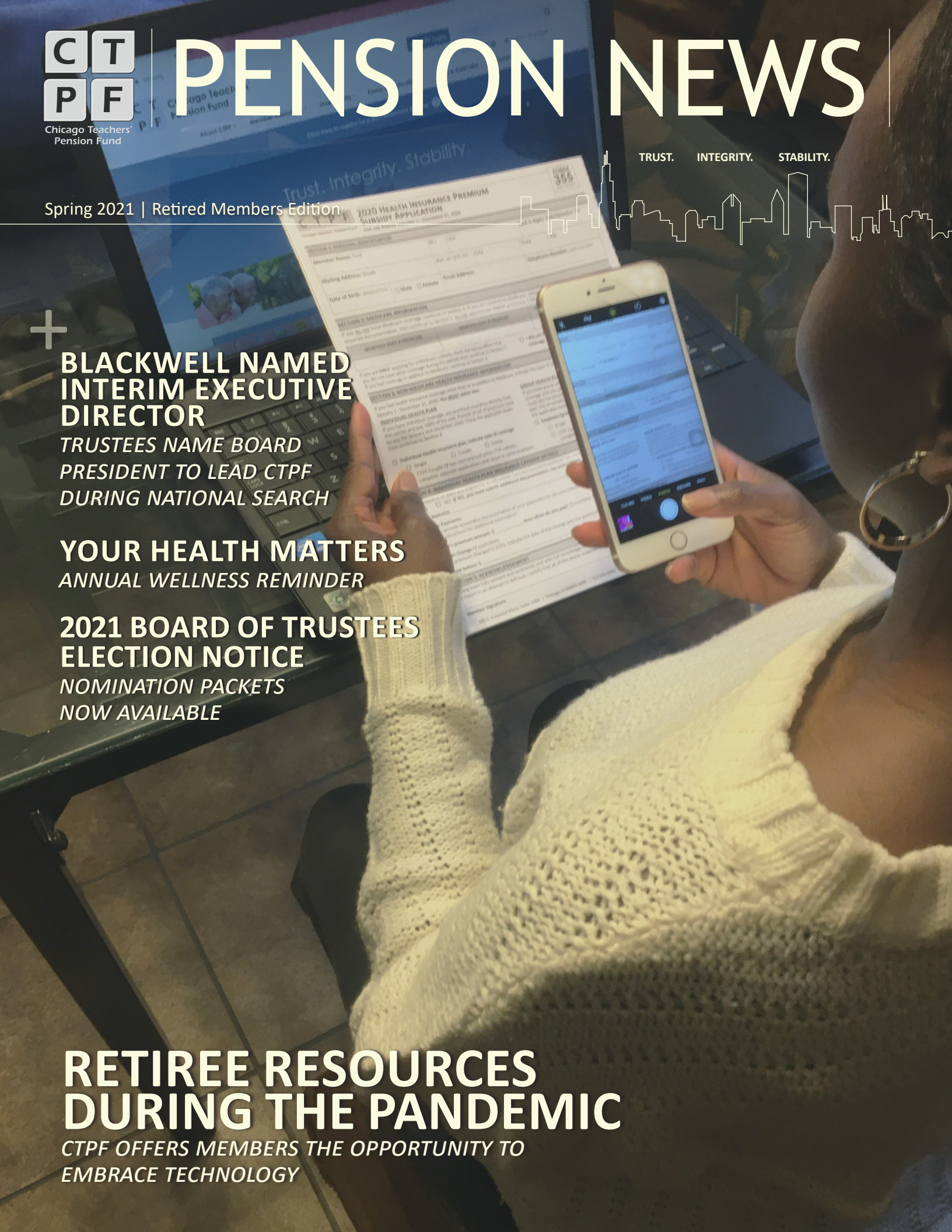
*TRUSTEES NAME BOARD
PRESIDENT TO LEAD CTPF
DURING NATIONAL SEARCH*

YOUR HEALTH MATTERS ANNUAL WELLNESS REMINDER

**2021 BOARD OF TRUSTEES
ELECTION NOTICE**
*NOMINATION PACKETS
NOW AVAILABLE*

RETIREE RESOURCES DURING THE PANDEMIC

*CTPF OFFERS MEMBERS THE OPPORTUNITY TO
EMBRACE TECHNOLOGY*



MISSION STATEMENT

To provide, protect, and enhance the present and future economic well being of members, pensioners and beneficiaries through efficient and effective management of benefit programs, investment practices, and customer service, and to commit to earning and keeping the respect and trust of the participants through quality service and by protecting retirement benefits, in compliance with applicable laws and standards.

Issue Highlights

Blackwell Named Interim Executive Director

Trustees name Board President Blackwell to lead CTPF during national search for Executive Director **3**

myCTPF a New Resource for Members

Sign up for our secure member self-service portal **3**

Retiree Resources During the Pandemic

CTPF offers members the opportunity to embrace technology **4**

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Did You Work Here?

Help us audit missing charter school records **7**

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INTERIM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

My new role is a short-term bridge to ENSURE CONTINUITY OF SERVICE to our VALUED MEMBERS

On February 10, 2021, The CTPF Board of Trustees voted to name me Interim Executive Director of the Chicago Teachers' Pension Fund (CTPF). I appreciate the trust of my colleagues and the opportunity to be appointed to this important position as we work together to ensure seamless operations during the search for a permanent executive director. The national search, being conducted by EFL Associates, is expected to take three to six months.

My new role is a short-term bridge to ensure continuity of service to our valued members as we continue the search for a permanent Executive Director. I cannot stress it enough; my priority has always been and will continue to be the stability and success of the Fund.

I am pleased to report that despite the volatility in the financial markets, the market value of the Fund climbed to \$12.1 billion as of December 31, 2020. We know that during these volatile times, members continue to be concerned about the security of their pension. CTPF pensions are secure. When members vest, they qualify for a lifetime pension, guaranteed by the Illinois Constitution.

Pensions are determined by a formula and do not change with market conditions. Our professional fund managers implement the Fund's investment policy, designed to obtain the highest expected return on investments with an acceptable level of risk. While market volatility may be unsettling, it's important to recognize that we invest prudently in a diversified portfolio designed to weather market volatility over the long term.

It seems cliché to say but it is a truth – we are experiencing turbulent times that have changed how we live, work, and interact. Our institutions and our world will look different when we emerge from the pandemic. What has and will be constant is our desire to be part of the solution. We are well positioned to succeed as we seek physical health, social equity and justice, and financial stability.

I am profoundly grateful and honored to lead the Fund and work on your behalf, and look forward to working with all of you.



Jeffrey Blackwell
Interim Executive Director and
President, Board of Trustees

A LOOK BACK: 2020 BY THE NUMBERS



59,784
member calls
received and answered



1,714
1:1 office/virtual consultations
with members



775
members served at
retirement seminars/
webinars



18,533
member email inquiries
answered

BLACKWELL NAMED CTPF INTERIM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The CTPF Board of Trustees voted to name Board of Trustees President Jeffery Blackwell Interim Executive Director of CTPF. Blackwell’s appointment ensures seamless operations during the search for a permanent executive director. The national search is underway and being conducted by EFL Associates. The appointment is necessitated by the retirement of Interim Executive Director Mary Cavallaro on January 20, 2021.



Jeffery Blackwell
Interim Executive Director and
President, Board of Trustees

Blackwell stated, “The Board of Trustees has developed a transition and recruitment strategy for Fund leadership. This new role is a short-term bridge to ensure continuity of service to our valued members as we continue the search for a permanent Executive Director. My priority has always been and will continue to be the stability and success of the Fund.”

Blackwell was elected to represent Teachers in 2010, and re-elected in 2013, 2016, and 2019. He has served as President of the CTPF Board of Trustees since 2018. A 22-year veteran of the Chicago Public Schools, he currently works with students with special needs and established a student mentoring program. An active member and delegate of the Chicago Teachers Union, he has served on the Executive Board and Pension Committee, and as a delegate to the American Federation of Labor and Illinois Federation of Labor Conventions. He earned a Bachelor of Science in Education, a Master of Science in Special Education, and a Master of Arts in General Administration from Chicago State University.

myCTPF A NEW RESOURCE FOR MEMBERS

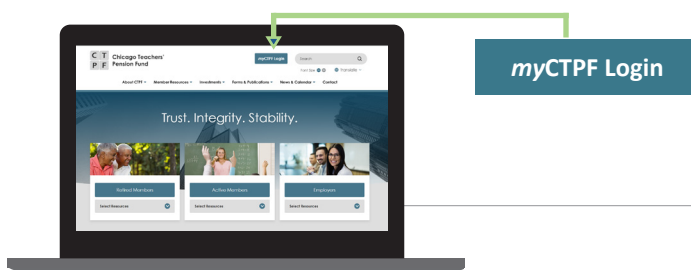
CTPF has launched its new Self-Service Portal, *myCTPF*. Members who register for *myCTPF* create a unique User ID and password. Once an account is created, members can use *myCTPF* to securely access CTPF documents and information.

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.

myCTPF 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. Retirees can find their Member ID on a pay advice from the Fund.



Register Today!
ctpf.org

CALENDAR

Due to the pandemic, Board of Trustees meetings are being held online by videoconference. Visit ctpf.org for access instructions.

APRIL

- 15 Board of Trustees Meeting | 9:30 a.m.
- 23 Medicare Birthday Party Webinar | 1:30 p.m.
(for members turning 65)
- 29 UnitedHealthcare® Webinar | 10:00 a.m.
(Group Medicare Advantage PPO Plan)
- 30 UnitedHealthcare® Webinar | 10:00 a.m.
(Group Medicare Advantage PPO Plan)

MAY

- 20 Board of Trustees Meeting | 9:30 a.m.
- 31 Memorial Day | Office Closed

JUNE

- 17 Board of Trustees Meeting | 9:30 a.m.
- 18 Juneteenth Observed | Office Closed

JULY

- 5 Independence Day Observed | Office Closed

This calendar includes CTPF Board of Trustees meetings. Find a full list of meetings, event registration, and confirm meeting times and dates at ctpf.org/calendar.

OFFICE/MAILING ADDRESS

Chicago Teachers’ Pension Fund
425 S. Financial Place | Suite 1400
Chicago, IL 60605-1000
312.641.4464 | fax: 312.641.7185
ctpf.org | memberservices@ctpf.org
Hours: 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. | M-F

RETIREE RESOURCES DURING THE PANDEMIC

There's no denying that the pandemic has changed how we work, live, and play. Over the past year we have experienced an inevitable surge in the use of digital technology as we practiced social distancing and stayed home more than ever before. Adapting to new technologies is not always easy but we are pleased to offer members the opportunity to embrace technology and keep in touch during this difficult period and beyond with new, improved, and easy to use resources.

CTPF's Member Services Counselors have been on the front line throughout the pandemic. They are available and ready to help members answer individual question about benefits or health insurance. Representatives look forward to talking with you or responding to your email inquiries during business hours, Monday-Friday at 312.641.4464 or at memberservices@ctpf.org.

The pandemic has caused the US Postal Service to slow down mail delivery and we adapted to this change. Direct deposit is the best way of ensuring you receive your monthly benefit, and you can sign up using CTPF Form 425. Forms and documents can be found online at ctpf.org/forms-publications.

If you have not done so already, now is a good time to create a *myCTPF* account. When you register for *myCTPF*, you create your own unique User ID and password. You can use *myCTPF* to access documents and information, and you can download your 2020 1099-R forms directly from this portal. *myCTPF* is available to all CTPF members and retirees who have completed the one-time registration process. Get started at ctpf.org. And when you've completed a form or need to send a document, be sure to return CTPF by fax or email to ensure timely processing. Always send originals as a backup by U.S. mail.



CTPF offers a remote notary service for members who need to notarize a CTPF document, just call Member Services and ask for an appointment. If you need help scanning documents, you can find instructions for scanning without a scanner at ctpf.org. While we continue to send the printed version of *Pension News* three times a year, CTPF has increased its communications to members, sending E-News twice a month. You can register for CTPF's email list at ctpf.org – to make sure you receive timely updates.

The website, ctpf.org has a wealth of information for members. Wondering about CTPF's pension payment schedule? This is easy to find at ctpf.org/pension-payments, and you can find our *Health Insurance Handbook*, *Popular Report*, and other information online as well.

While we continue to stay safe, it is of utmost important that we continue to make it easy for you to take care of your business with CTPF. While our office remains close to visitors, and staff continues to work remotely, we are here for you and encourage you to use all of the tools we have created to make things easier.

Something we missed? Let us know. While our dependence on technology is different than what we are used to, it is more important in the midst of all of this change that you know that CTPF is here working for you when you need us the most.

QUICK TIPS:

CTPF COVID-19 OPERATIONS



CALL CENTER ANSWERING CALLS IN REAL-TIME

CTPF is committed to doing our part to stop the spread of COVID-19. While CTPF's physical office remains closed for the health, safety, and wellbeing of all members, the Fund has continued to deliver all member services remotely. Member Services counselors are answering calls in "real time" and continue providing all call center functions. Calls are 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.



REMOTE NOTARY AVAILABLE

While CTPF accepts many documents via email or fax, the requirement for a notary to witness signatures remains in place for certain documents. CTPF now offers remote notarization for CTPF documents. Members who would like to use remote notary services should call or email Member Services at 312.641.4464 or memberservices@ctpf.org, and request a videoconference for notarization.



MAIL PROCESSING

During the pandemic, U.S. mail processing may be delayed. Send benefit applications, forms, and documents by fax 312.641.7185 or email an attachment (.JPG or .PDF format) to imaging@ctpf.org to ensure processing. Need help scanning without a scanner? Visit ctpf.org/covid-19 for instructions on how to use your phone as a scanner.

YOUR HEALTH MATTERS: ANNUAL WELLNESS REMINDER

All members who are enrolled in a CTPF Medicare health insurance plan qualify for an annual wellness visit once per calendar year covered at 100% of the Medicare-approved amount, when you see an in-network doctor. Members who participate in the Humana HMO must see their PCP to receive the visit at no charge.

An Annual Wellness Visit (AWV) is a yearly appointment with a healthcare provider (PCP) where you can create or update your personal health plan and to make sure you are taking all the steps necessary to preserve and maintain your good health.

During your annual wellness visit, your health care provider may check your blood pressure and height and weight (together your height and weight make up your body mass index, or BMI), and physical and emotional well-being. Your health care provider may also talk with you about any recommended tests or screenings, and answer questions or concerns you may have. It's also an opportunity to make sure you are up-to-date on recommended vaccines.

To help make the most of your annual wellness visit, bring:

- A list of any prescriptions or over-the-counter drugs, vitamins and supplements you currently take
- Notes about your medical history and your family health history
- A list of any questions or concerns you may have such as what types of physical activity are right for you, what can you do to help maintain or improve your health or what can you do to prevent falls and other accidents.



Keep in Mind:

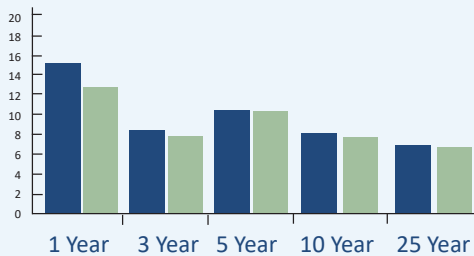
- 1 Timing is important and the visit cannot be within the same year as your "Welcome to Medicare Visit" and you have to have 12 months in between your last annual wellness visit.
During the AWV, your provider may discover and need to investigate or treat a new or existing problem. This additional care may be considered "diagnostic" and may not be covered by the wellness visit. Medicare may bill you for your portion of the payment for diagnostic care received during a preventive visit.
- 2 Contact your health provider/doctor today to schedule your annual wellness visit. Need help locating a Primary Care Provider? Check your health plan's website or call the number on the back of your health insurance card for assistance.
- 3

Financial Snapshot

RETURN ON INVESTMENTS

As of December 31, 2020

	NET RATE OF RETURN	TOTAL FUND BENCHMARKS
1 Year	15.43%	13.35%
3 Year	9.13%	8.86%
5 Year	10.20%	10.20%
10 Year	8.85%	8.53%
25 Year	7.83%	7.44%



RATE OF RETURN
 TOTAL FUND BENCHMARKS

As of December 31, 2020, the approximate current value of CTPF's investments was \$12.2 billion.



NOTICE OF ELECTION

PENSIONER TRUSTEE ELECTION*

CTPF will hold elections for Three Pensioner Trustees to serve two-year terms from November 2021 – 2023. A candidate for a Pensioner Trustee position must be a service, reciprocal, or disability pensioner receiving monthly payments from the Fund, and be nominated by a petition signed by not less than 100 pensioners as provided in 40 ILCS 5/17-139(2).

NOMINATION PACKETS AVAILABLE

Nomination packets are now available. Contact Election Coordinator Gail Davis: 312.604.1400, ext. 402, or email elections@ctpf.org to request a packet. Please note, the nominating petitions cannot be altered or changed in any way. Do not add photos or additional information to nominating petitions.

Submitting Completed Nomination Packets: A candidate's signed nomination petition(s) must be received by the Election Coordinator or his/her designee, on behalf of the Recording Secretary, by hand-delivery, U.S. Mail, email, or facsimile. The Fund reserves the right to request a candidate's original nomination petitions. Pensioners must return nominating petitions by October 1, 2021, at 5:00 p.m. (CT). Signatures may be collected with paper petitions, using the online digital collection system developed by the Election Agent, or a combination of both methods.

CANDIDATE RESUME AND PHOTO

A candidate resume and photo must be submitted to the Election Coordinator, on behalf of the Recording Secretary, via email at elections@ctpf.org, by October 1, 2021, at 5:00 p.m. (CT).

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FOR VOTERS

Pensioners receiving a service, reciprocal, or disability pension from CTPF as of October 1, 2021, are eligible to vote for Pensioner Trustee.

VOTING

Voting materials will be distributed by mail in October. Voting will open the day materials are mailed.

SCHEDULE OF ELECTION EVENTS

February 16, 2021	Nomination packets available.
September 15, 2021	5:00 p.m. (CT), last day to request nomination packets.
October 1, 2021	Last day for Pensioners to submit nomination packets. Completed nomination packets due to CTPF at 5:00 p.m. (CT).
Week of October 18	Election materials mailed and online voting available
November 5, 2021	Voting closes for all elections at 5:00 p.m. (CT). All mail-in ballots for the Pensioner Trustee election must be received by this date and time.
November 18, 2021	Trustees sworn in during CTPF Board of Trustees meeting.

*CTPF will also conduct an election for two Teacher Trustees who will serve three-year terms from November 2021-2024. CTPF's official Election Notice and Election Policy can be found on the Election Central page at ctpf.org.

PENSION PAYMENT SCHEDULE

The schedule for mailing checks/direct deposit pay advices and the date for posting direct deposits is listed below. View the full schedule at ctpf.org.

Deadline for Member Updates	Check Mailing Date	Direct Deposit Date
April 16, 2021	April 29, 2021	May 3, 2021
May 14, 2021	May 27, 2021	June 1, 2021
June 16, 2021	June 29, 2021	July 1, 2021
July 16, 2021	July 29, 2021	Aug 2, 2021
Aug 17, 2021	Aug 30, 2021	Sept 1, 2021
Sept 17, 2021	Sept 29, 2021	Oct 1, 2021
Oct 15, 2021	Oct 28, 2021	Nov 1, 2021
Nov 12, 2021	Nov 29, 2021	Dec 1, 2021

DID YOU WORK HERE?

CTPF has a policy to routinely audit charter schools to review employee records to ensure that the Fund receives all contributions due.



Some schools have closed which makes it difficult to audit records, and this can present issues when members who worked at these schools apply for retirement. CTPF is trying to locate individuals at the following now closed schools who may have had insight into the payroll process:

- Choir Academy Charter School
- Global Alliance Preparatory Charter School
- Lake View Academy Charter School
- Nuestra America Charter School
- Triumphant Charter School

If you worked at any of these schools and have current contact information for former school leaders or individuals who had access to payroll records and information, we'd like to hear from you. Please reach out to employeraudit@ctpf.org with any information.

STAFF UPDATES

ANDERSON PROMOTED TO DIRECTOR OF ENTERPRISE MANAGEMENT



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 an 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.

PENTANGELO PROMOTED TO DIRECTOR OF BENEFIT SERVICES



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.

SAMAYOA PROMOTED TO DIRECTOR OF DATA SERVICES

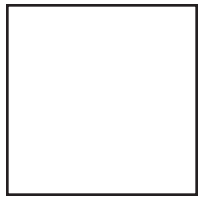


Edgar Samayoa has been promoted to Director of Data Services. The Data Services Department manages member records, compliance, and the employer audit function. Samayoa joined CTPF in 2000 as a payroll auditor, and has served in several, progressively responsible roles including Quality Control Specialist, Benefits Manager, and Manager, Process Improvement and Analysis. Samayoa holds a B.S. in Accounting from DeVry University, and an M.B.A. from the Keller Graduate School of Management.



Chicago Teachers' Pension Fund

425 S. Financial Place | Suite 1400
Chicago, Illinois 60605-1000



FOLLOW US! | SIGN UP!
 EMAIL UPDATES:
ctpf.org

ARE YOU REDEFINING RETIREMENT?

What are you doing to stay active, creative, engaged, and involved in your retirement?



Email your story about how your retirement is unique to socialmedia@ctpf.org and we may contact you for a redefining retirement feature.

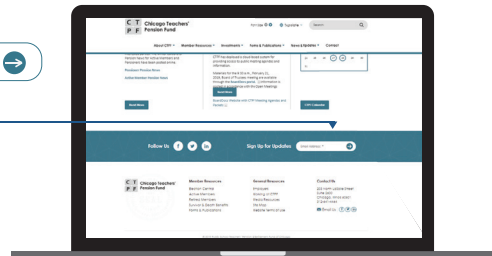
REGISTER YOUR EMAIL WITH CTPF

In addition to the printed *Pension News*, CTPF emails a monthly digital newsletter to all members, along with periodic time-sensitive announcements.

Please do not unsubscribe from CTPF emails. If you have unsubscribed and need to re-subscribe, please visit ctpf.org/post/sign-updates.

Email Address: *

CTPF Home Page



BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Jeffery Blackwell
President & Interim Executive Director

Mary Sharon Reilly
Vice President

Jacquelyn Price Ward
Financial Secretary

Lois Nelson
Recording Secretary

James Cavallero
Gervaise Clay

Miguel del Valle
Tina Padilla

Maria J. Rodriguez
Jerry Travlos

Dwayne Truss
Philip Weiss