

Teacher's Pension Plan

New Member Pension Information

Welcome!

Welcome to the Nova Scotia Teachers' Pension Plan. Teachers who are employed in the public school system and/or community college system in Nova Scotia are required, as a condition of employment, to be members of the Teachers' Pension Plan and to make contributions. There is no need to fill out an application form, but you may want to check your first pay advice or confirm with your school board that your pension contributions are being made.

Administration of the Plan

The pension plan is administered by the Pensions Division of the Nova Scotia Pension Agency. We are located on the 4th Floor of Purdy's Landing, 1949 Upper Water Street, in Halifax, Nova Scotia. The Pensions Division is divided into five areas: Client Services, Financial Reporting & Actuarial Services, Employer Services, Agency Services and web administration and systems management. It is most likely you will be in contact with the Client Services section which deals with plan members and pensioners. You can reach a Client Services Consultant between the hours of 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. After hours you may leave a voicemail message or email us at PensionsInfo@gov.ns.ca.

Pension Plan Guide Booklets

The Pensions Division provides a comprehensive Plan Member Guide booklet. The booklet provides pension information on the various stages of your teaching career from early contributor to retirement eligibility. You may download it from our website by clicking on Publications and Member Guide Booklet, or you may contact our office for an electronic or hard copy.

Visit Our Website

This site has information on pension plan provisions, plan text, frequently asked questions as well as financial, investment, and annual reports of the pension plan. The address is: www.novascotiapension.ca.

Street address

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Halifax, NS B3J 3N3

Mail address

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PO Box 371, Halifax
NS B3J 2P8

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1-800-774-5070
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Fax

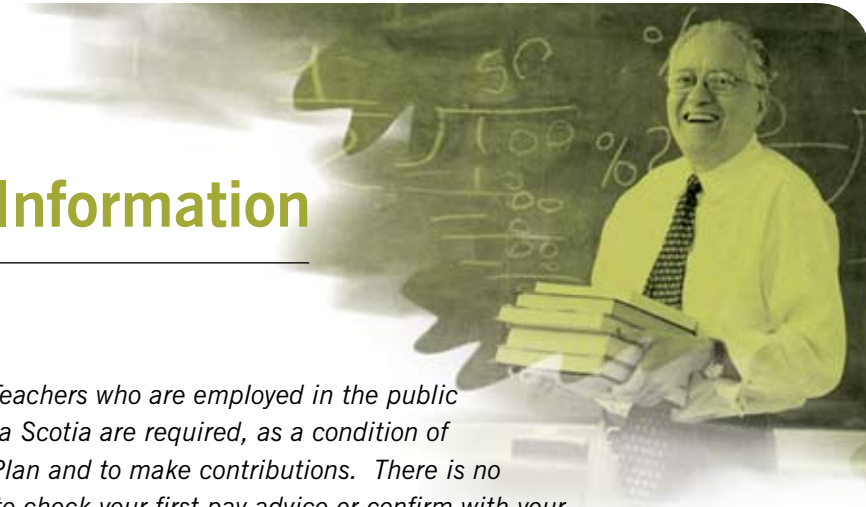
902-424-0662

Email

PensionsInfo@gov.ns.ca

Web site

www.novascotiapension.ca



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Your Contributions to the Plan

There are two rates of contribution: the lower rate, 8.3%, is payable on earnings up to and including the Year's Maximum Pensionable Earnings (YMPE), and the higher rate, 9.9%, is payable on earnings in excess of the YMPE.

The YMPE is a figure established by the Canada Pension Plan on January 1 of each year. Pension contributions cease to be deducted at the earlier of 35 years of pensionable service or age 71. The following is an example of the calculation.

Example # 1 (salary greater than YMPE):

The YMPE for 2010 is \$47,200. If you earn \$50,000 in 2010, your contributions to the Teachers' Pension Plan would be \$4,194.80 and calculated as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} 8.3\% \times \$47,200 &= && \$3,917.60 \\ 9.9\% \times (\$50,000 - \$47,200) &= && \underline{\$277.20} \\ &&& \$4,194.80 \end{aligned}$$

Example # 2 (salary less than YMPE):

If you earn \$35,000 in 2010, your salary would be less than the YMPE of \$47,200. Therefore, your contributions would be calculated as follows:

$$8.3\% \times \$35,000 = \$2,905.00$$

Pension Calculation Formula

The following is an example of how a pension is calculated and what happens at age 65. For this example, John is retiring at age 58 with 32 years of pensionable service. His highest average salary (HAS) is \$55,000. His highest average CPP Salary (YMPE) is \$40,000.

2.0%	X	Highest Average Salary (HAS)	X	Pensionable Service	=	John's annual pension at age 58:	
		\$55,000		32.000 years	=	\$35,200	1.3% Lifetime Benefit
							+ 0.7% Bridge Benefit
							= 2.0% Total Benefit

Bridge Benefit Removed, upon Pension Integration with Canada Pension Plan:

0.7%	X	Average Year's Maximum Pensionable Earnings (YMPE)	X	Pensionable Service	=	John's annual pension at age 65:	
		\$40,000		32.000 years	=	\$8,960	\$35,200 - \$8,960 = \$26,240

The information presented in this publication is premised on the rules and criteria which currently exist under the Teachers' Pension Plan and which are subject to amendment from time to time. This document explains in plain language the rules of the Nova Scotia Teachers' Pension Plan. Plan members, beneficiaries and others who wish to determine their legal rights and obligations under this plan should refer to the governing legislation, regulations or other legal documents as appropriate. In the event of a discrepancy between the information provided in this document and the legislation and/or legal documents, the latter takes precedence.

Canada Pension Plan Integration — Information you Must Have!

Depending upon whether you decide to draw your Canada Pension Plan (CPP) benefit at age 60 or 65, you may experience a decrease in the overall monthly income you receive. There are many details around this topic but the following is a brief summary of the two scenarios which can occur:

Scenario # 1

If you elect to start receiving CPP benefits prior to age 65, this is what you should receive each month:

- The lifetime portion of your teacher's pension
- Plus**
- The bridge benefit of your teacher's pension (until age 65)
- Plus**
- A reduced benefit from the Canada Pension Plan

Scenario # 2

If you elect to start receiving the CPP benefit at age 65, this is what you should receive each month upon reaching age 65:

- The lifetime portion of your teacher's pension
- Plus**
- The unreduced CPP benefit from the Canada Pension Plan

Again this is only a summary. If you would like more information on what will happen to your total overall income (teacher's pension plus CPP) at age 65, please contact us.