

Building Your Tomorrow

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A Publication of the Trustees of the Building Trades United Pension Trust Fund

Planning to Retire?



If you would like to receive your first benefit payment on:	You must receive a Benefit Illustration Sheet from the Pension Fund Office between the previous:	And return your completed Application for Benefits and all necessary supporting documents no later than the previous:
January 1	October 1 through November 30	November 30
February 1	November 1 through December 31	December 31
March 1	December 1 through January 31	January 31
April 1	January 1 through February 28	February 28
May 1	February 1 through March 31	March 31
June 1	March 1 through April 30	April 30
July 1	April 1 through May 31	May 31
August 1	May 1 through June 30	June 30
September 1	June 1 through July 31	July 31
October 1	July 1 through August 31	August 31
November 1	August 1 through September 30	September 30
December 1	September 1 through October 31	October 31



Working Out of the Area – What it Means for Your Pension Benefits

It is not uncommon for members to work in jurisdictions outside of their home local's geographic area. Whether you are taking a maintenance call in Sheboygan or working a month-long stint in Dubuque, Iowa, where you work may affect the pension fund to which your employer should be contributing.

Before accepting any assignment for out-of-jurisdiction work, you should first check with your local union to see whether there are any contribution obligations referenced within the relevant collective bargaining agreement (CBA) for out-of-jurisdiction work. In some instances, you may not need to do anything, and your benefits will remain with the BTUPTF. In other instances, you may need to fill out retention or transfer authorization paperwork to ensure your benefits remain with the BTUPTF.

In most instances, pension contribution obligations are tied to the land where the work is performed, meaning geographic location will determine which fund your pension contributions are sent, not the jurisdiction of your home local. If you are working outside of the geographic jurisdiction of the BTUPTF, it may be required that your pension contributions be paid to the designated pension fund for the area you are working.

Largely, it is the obligation of your employer to follow their CBA and contribute to the appropriate funds, but members should always be conscious of where their contributions are going. If a member works outside the BTUPTF's jurisdiction and wishes for their benefits to remain with the BTUPTF, they must contact the Fund Office to complete a Pension Transfer Request Form prior to beginning work outside of the jurisdiction.

Likewise, if a member from out of the jurisdiction is working within the BTUPTF's area but wishes to have their pension benefits stay with their home fund, the member should contact their home pension fund to complete the necessary paperwork to have their benefits transferred appropriately. Do not wait to complete this process!

We recommend you contact the Fund Office for your home jurisdiction prior to working out of area to make sure proper procedures are followed and member benefits end up where intended. Members should discuss this with their employer to make sure they are paying benefits to the appropriate funds. Employers should also check the language of their CBA and discuss questions with their Union partners to ensure benefits are paid to the proper funds and at the proper rates.

Contribution obligations vary from contract to contract. Before working out of jurisdiction, contact your local business representative to see if any of these procedures apply to you. ■

Do you have questions about your pension benefit?

When you have pension questions, who should you call? Your first call should be to the Fund Office at (262) 784-7880. The Fund Office staff are knowledgeable on the intricacies of the plan and will be able to answer all your questions. You can also stop by the Fund Office to speak directly with one of your representatives at 500 Elm Grove Road, Suite 300, Elm Grove, WI. The office is open Monday through Friday 8 am to 5 pm. Finally, you can email us your questions through the Contact tab of the website at <https://www.thepensionfund.com>.

Meet Your Trustees

Mark Kessenich



Mark Kessenich is Chief Executive Officer of the Associated General Contractors of Greater Milwaukee (AGC-GM) – a construction contractors trade association representing over 300 members in southeastern Wisconsin. The AGC-GM provides members with professional services in education, industry networking, leadership development, and safety programming, as well as representing the industry in public policy, civic engagement, and workforce and economic development initiatives. AGC-GM negotiates and manages Milwaukee area labor contracts with the Operating Engineers, Cement Masons, Bricklayers, Laborers, Carpenters, and Iron Workers.

Prior to AGC-GM, Mr. Kessenich worked as President & CEO of the Wisconsin Regional Training Partnership / BIGSTEP, a critical workforce development organization recruiting and preparing individuals for opportunities in the skilled trades in the construction, manufacturing, and energy sectors. Under his leadership the organization played a key role in the efforts to meet local hiring demands on several large-scale projects in downtown Milwaukee. During his tenure the organization expanded offices and services to the greater Madison and Racine areas, and is recognized at the national level as a leading model for workforce development.

Mr. Kessenich was appointed by the Governor to serve on the State of WI Council on Workforce Investment, he also serves on the Board of Directors of WRTP/BIGSTEP and Employ Milwaukee – Milwaukee’s local workforce investment board. In addition to serving as a trustee to the Milwaukee United Building Trades Pension Trust Fund, he also serves on several other Health & Welfare funds and Labor-Management committees. Mr. Kessenich serves on the Engineering Advisory Councils at both Marquette University and UW-Milwaukee. Mr. Kessenich is an active member of the Rotary Club, the Wisconsin Policy Forum and other business and civic organizations in the greater Milwaukee area. Mr. Kessenich is the proud dad of three adult children and recently became a grandfather. He and his fiancée reside in Glendale and in his free time he enjoys biking, fitness, outdoor activities, and a game of cribbage. Mr. Kessenich is a graduate of the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee.

Brett Large

Brett Large has been a Business Manager for Local 19 since 2004 and works with various departments including Organizing, Apprenticeship and Marketing. He is also responsible for negotiating contracts, enforcing contracts, assisting employers to remain competitive in the market, and protects members and their rights. He has previously served as President, Vice President, Executive Board member, Trustee, Midwest States Conference President, and Midwest States Conference Secretary/Treasurer.

Brett has been a Trustee on the Heat & Frost Insulators Local 19 and 127 Health Fund since 2000, the Building Trades United Pension Trust Fund since 2004, and is also a member of the Executive, Investment, and Building Committees. Additionally, Brett also serves on the Wisconsin Workers’ Compensation Advisory Committee.

In his time away, Brett enjoys spending time with his wife, daughter, two grandsons and dog. He also enjoys hiking, camping, fishing, kayaking, woodworking, and riding motorcycles and ATVs.



For more information on the Pension Fund, please scan the QR code below to visit the website:



Employer Updates

NEW EMPLOYERS: The following employers recently entered into a participation agreement covered by the Building Trades United Pension Trust Fund

Employer	Craft	Address	Effective Date
Consolidated Flooring of Chicago	Carpenters	Addison, IL	Oct-23
Fore-Front Mechanical, Inc.	Steamfitters	Wausau, WI	Jun-23
Joe DeBelak Plumbing & Heating	Laborers - WUCA	Menomonee Falls, WI	Sep-23
Frattonone Companies, Inc.	Laborers	St. Paul, MN	Nov-23
Mission Drywall Company, LLC	Carpenters	Green Bay, WI	Aug-23
Mitch and Sons Excavation	Laborers	Kewaunee, WI	Sep-23
Pipeworx, Inc.	Steamfitters	Janesville, WI	Nov-23
RSM Tile	Carpenters	Waukesha, WI	Oct-23
Reflection Window Company	Ironworkers	Chicago, IL	May-23
Stiles, Inc.	Laborers	Love Park, IL	Jun-23
Wallner Industrial, LLC	Carpenters	Greenfield, WI	Aug-23
Watt Construction, LLC	Carpenters	Milwaukee, WI	Oct-23

WITHDRAWN EMPLOYERS: The following employers have recently withdrawn from the Building Trades United Pension Trust Fund.

Employer	Craft	Address	Effective Date
Clow Construction Services	Carpenters	Colgate, WI	Oct-23
Concrete & Masonry, Inc.	Laborers, Bricklayers	New Berlin, WI	Oct-23
Construction Services of Milwaukee	Laborers, Cement Masons	South Milwaukee, WI	Sep-23
Louis Hoffmann Company	Painters	Meno Falls, WI	Jul-23



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This newsletter is published by the Trustees of the BTUPTF

The Pension Fund is administered by Wilson-McShane Corporation.

This newsletter is intended for your general information and not as a complete description of the Fund’s legal documents. The Trust Agreement and Plan Document are the only instruments governing the legal rights, privileges and obligations under the Fund.

Due to limited newsletter space, it is important that you are also familiar with your

Summary Plan Description (SPD). It contains detailed information concerning the Pension Plan. The most recent SPD was issued in 2021 and a copy was mailed to you. If you would like an additional copy of the SPD, feel free to contact us.

Phone number: (262) 784-7880
Toll free number: (800) 433-8570
Website address: www.thepensionfund.com

The SPD can also be found on the website or by scanning the QR code with a smart phone.

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