

## **Special Tax Notice Regarding Plan Payments**

This notice explains how you can continue to defer federal income tax on your retirement savings in the State of Iowa's Retirement Investors' Club (the "Plan") and contains important information you will need before you decide how to receive your Plan benefits.

This notice is provided to you by the State of Iowa's Retirement Investors' Club (your "Plan Administrator") because all or part of the payment that you will soon receive from the Plan may be eligible for rollover by you or your Plan Administrator to a traditional IRA or an eligible employer plan. A rollover is a payment by you or the Plan Administrator of all or part of your benefit to another plan or IRA that allows you to continue to postpone taxation of that benefit until it is paid to you. Your payment cannot be rolled over to a Roth IRA, a SIMPLE IRA, or a Coverdell Education Savings Account (formerly known as an education IRA). An "eligible employer plan" includes a plan qualified under section 401(a) of the Internal Revenue Code, including a 401(k) plan, profit-sharing plan, defined benefit plan, stock bonus plan, and money purchase plan; a section 403(a) annuity plan; a section 403(b) tax-sheltered annuity; and an eligible section 457(b) plan maintained by a governmental employer (governmental 457 plan). The 457 Employee Account is where contributions from your paycheck are invested; the 401(a) Employer Match Account is where the State's contributions are invested.

An eligible employer plan is not legally required to accept a rollover. Before you decide to roll over your payment to another employer plan, you should find out whether the plan accepts rollovers and, if so, the types of distributions it accepts as a rollover. You should also find out about any documents that are required to be completed before the receiving plan will accept a rollover. Even if a plan accepts rollovers, it might not accept rollovers of certain types of distributions. If this is the case, you may wish instead to roll your distribution over to a traditional IRA or to split your rollover amount between the employer plan in which you will participate and a traditional IRA. If an employer plan accepts your rollover, the plan may restrict subsequent distributions of the rollover amount or may require your spouse's consent for any subsequent distribution. A subsequent distribution from the plan that accepts your rollover may also be subject to different tax treatment than distributions from this Plan. Check with the administrator of the plan that is to receive your rollover prior to making the rollover. If you have additional questions after reading this notice, you can contact your Plan Administrator.

### **SUMMARY**

There are two ways you may be able to receive a Plan payment that is eligible for rollover:

- (1) certain payments can be made directly to a traditional IRA that you establish or to an eligible employer plan that will accept it and hold it for your benefit ("DIRECT ROLLOVER"), or
- (2) the payment can be PAID TO YOU.

If you choose a DIRECT ROLLOVER:

- Your payment will not be taxed in the current year and no income tax will be withheld.
- You choose whether your payment will be made directly to your traditional IRA or to an eligible employer plan that accepts your rollover. Your payment cannot be rolled over to a Roth IRA, a SIMPLE IRA, or a Coverdell Education Savings Account because these are not traditional IRAs.
- Your payment will be taxed later when you take it out of the traditional IRA or the eligible employer plan. Depending on the type of plan, the later distribution may be subject to different tax treatment than it would be if you received a taxable distribution from the 457 Employee Account.

If you choose to have a Plan payment that is eligible for rollover PAID TO YOU:

- You will receive only 80% of the taxable amount of the payment, because the Plan Administrator is required to withhold 20% of that amount and send it to the IRS as income tax withholding to be credited against your taxes.
- The taxable amount of your payment will be taxed in the current year unless you roll it over. (For 401(a) Employer Match Account only – Under limited circumstances, you may be able to use special tax rules that could reduce the tax you owe. However, if you receive the payment before age 59 ½, you may have to pay an additional 10% tax.)
- You can roll over all or part of the payment by paying it to your traditional IRA or to an eligible employer plan that accepts your rollover within 60 days after you receive the payment. The amount rolled over will not be taxed until you take it out of the traditional IRA or the eligible employer plan.
- If you want to roll over 100% of the payment to a traditional IRA or an eligible employer plan, you must find other money to replace the 20% of the taxable portion that was withheld. If you roll over only the 80% that you received, you will be taxed on the 20% that was withheld and that is not rolled over.

### **Your Right to Waive the 30-Day Notice Period.**

Generally, neither a direct rollover nor a payment can be made from the plan until at least 30 days after your receipt of this notice. Thus, after receiving this notice, you have at least 30 days to consider whether or not to have your withdrawal directly rolled over. If you do not wish to wait until this 30-day notice period ends before your election is processed, you may waive the notice period by making an affirmative election indicating whether or not you wish to make a direct rollover. Your withdrawal will then be processed in accordance with your election as soon as practical after it is received by the Plan Administrator.

### **MORE INFORMATION**

- I. PAYMENTS THAT CAN AND CANNOT BE ROLLED OVER
- II. DIRECT ROLLOVER
- III. PAYMENT PAID TO YOU
- IV. SURVIVING SPOUSES, ALTERNATE PAYEES, AND OTHER BENEFICIARIES

## **I. PAYMENTS THAT CAN AND CANNOT BE ROLLED OVER**

Payments from the Plan may be "eligible rollover distributions." This means that they can be rolled over to a traditional IRA or to an eligible employer plan that accepts rollovers. Payments from a plan cannot be rolled over to a Roth IRA, a SIMPLE IRA, or a Coverdell Education Savings Account. Your Plan administrator should be able to tell you whether your payment is an eligible rollover distribution.

The following types of payments cannot be rolled over:

**Payments Spread over Long Periods.** You cannot roll over a payment if it is part of a series of equal (or almost equal) payments that are made at least once a year and that will last for:

- your lifetime (or a period measured by your life expectancy), or
- your lifetime and your beneficiary's lifetime (or a period measured by your joint life expectancies), or
- a period of 10 years or more.

**Required Minimum Payments.** Beginning when you reach age 70 1/2 or retire, whichever is later, a certain portion of your payment cannot be rolled over because it is a "required minimum payment" that must be paid to you.

**Unforeseeable Emergency Distributions.** A distribution on account of an unforeseeable emergency cannot be rolled over. (Applies to 457 Employee Account only)

**Distributions of Excess Contributions.** A distribution that is made because legal limits on certain contributions were exceeded cannot be rolled over.

The Investment Providers of this Plan should be able to tell you if your payment includes amounts which cannot be rolled over.

## **II. DIRECT ROLLOVER**

A DIRECT ROLLOVER is a direct payment of the amount of your Plan benefits to a traditional IRA or an eligible employer plan that will accept it. You can choose a DIRECT ROLLOVER of all or any portion of your payment that is an eligible rollover distribution, as described in Part I above. You are not taxed on any taxable portion of your payment for which you choose a DIRECT ROLLOVER until you later take it out of the traditional IRA or eligible employer plan. In addition, no income tax withholding is required for any taxable portion of your Plan benefits for which you choose a DIRECT ROLLOVER. This Plan might not let you choose a DIRECT ROLLOVER if your distributions for the year are less than \$200.

**DIRECT ROLLOVER to a Traditional IRA.** You can open a traditional IRA to receive the direct rollover. If you choose to have your payment made directly to a traditional IRA, contact an IRA sponsor (usually a financial institution) to find out how to have your payment made in a direct rollover to a traditional IRA at that institution. If you are unsure of how to invest your money, you can temporarily establish a traditional IRA to receive the payment. However, in choosing a traditional IRA, you may wish to make sure that the traditional IRA you choose will allow you to move all or a part of your payment to another traditional IRA at a later date, without penalties or other limitations. See IRS Publication 590, Individual Retirement Arrangements, for more information on traditional IRAs (including limits on how often you can roll over between IRAs).

**DIRECT ROLLOVER to a Plan.** If you are employed by a new employer that has an eligible employer plan, and you want a direct rollover to that plan, ask the plan administrator of that plan whether it will accept your rollover. An eligible employer plan is not legally required to accept a rollover. Even if your new employer's plan does not accept a rollover, you can choose a DIRECT ROLLOVER to a traditional IRA. If the employer plan accepts your rollover, the plan may provide restrictions on the circumstances under which you may later receive a distribution of the rollover amount or may require spousal consent to any subsequent distribution. Check with the plan administrator of that plan before making your decision.

**DIRECT ROLLOVER of a Series of Payments.** If you receive a payment that can be rolled over to a traditional IRA or an eligible employer plan that will accept it, and it is paid in a series of payments for less than 10 years, your choice to make or not make a DIRECT ROLLOVER for a payment will apply to all later payments in the series until you change your election. You are free to change your election for any later payment in the series.

**Change in Tax Treatment Resulting from a DIRECT ROLLOVER.** The tax treatment of any payment from the eligible employer plan or traditional IRA receiving your DIRECT ROLLOVER might be different than if you received your benefit in a taxable distribution directly from the Plan. See the sections below entitled "Additional 10% Tax May Apply to Certain Distributions" and "Special Tax Treatment if You Were Born before January 1, 1936."

## **III. PAYMENT PAID TO YOU**

If your payment can be rolled over (see Part I above) and the payment is made to you in cash, it is subject to 20% federal income tax withholding on the taxable portion (state tax withholding may also apply). The payment is taxed in the year you receive it unless, within 60 days, you roll it over to a traditional IRA or an eligible employer plan that accepts rollovers. If you do not roll it over, special tax rules may apply.

### **Income Tax Withholding:**

**Mandatory Withholding.** If any portion of your payment can be rolled over under Part I above and you do not elect to make a DIRECT ROLLOVER, the Plan is required by law to withhold 20% of the taxable amount. This amount is sent to the IRS as federal income tax withholding. For example, if you can roll over a taxable payment of \$10,000, only \$8,000 will be paid to you because the

Plan must withhold \$2,000 as income tax. However, when you prepare your income tax return for the year, unless you make a rollover within 60 days (see "Sixty-Day Rollover Option" below) you must report the full \$10,000 as a taxable payment from the Plan. You must report the \$2,000 as tax withheld, and it will be credited against any income tax you owe for the year. There will be no income tax withholding if your payments for the year are less than \$200.

**Voluntary Withholding.** If any portion of your payment is taxable but cannot be rolled over under Part I above, the mandatory withholding rules described above do not apply. In this case, you may elect not to have withholding apply to that portion. If you do nothing, 10% will be taken out of this portion of your payment for federal income tax withholding. To elect out of withholding, ask the Plan Administrator for the election form and related information.

**Sixty-Day Rollover Option.** If you receive a payment that can be rolled over under Part I above, you can still decide to roll over all or part of it to a traditional IRA or to an eligible employer plan that accepts rollovers. If you decide to roll over, you must contribute the amount of the payment you received to a traditional IRA or eligible employer plan within 60 days after you receive the payment. The portion of your payment that is rolled over will not be taxed until you take it out of the traditional IRA or the eligible employer plan.

You can roll over up to 100% of your payment that can be rolled over under Part I above, including an amount equal to the 20% of the taxable portion that was withheld. If you choose to roll over 100%, you must find other money within the 60-day period to contribute to the traditional IRA or the eligible employer plan, to replace the 20% that was withheld. On the other hand, if you roll over only the 80% of the taxable portion that you received, you will be taxed on the 20% that was withheld.

**Example:** Your payment that can be rolled over under Part I above is \$10,000, and you choose to have it paid to you. You will receive \$8,000, and \$2,000 will be sent to the IRS as income tax withholding. Within 60 days after receiving the \$8,000, you may roll over the entire \$10,000 to a traditional IRA or an eligible employer plan. To do this, you roll over the \$8,000 you received from the Plan, and you will have to find \$2,000 from other sources (your savings, a loan, etc.). In this case, the entire \$10,000 is not taxed until you take it out of the traditional IRA or an eligible employer plan. If you roll over the entire \$10,000, when you file your income tax return you may get a refund of part or all of the \$2,000 withheld.

If, on the other hand, you roll over only \$8,000, the \$2,000 you did not roll over is taxed in the year it was withheld. When you file your income tax return, you may get a refund of part of the \$2,000 withheld. (However, any refund is likely to be larger if you roll over the entire \$10,000.)

**Additional 10% Tax May Apply to Certain Distributions.** Distributions from the 457 Employee Account are generally not subject to the additional 10% tax that applies to pre-age-59 1/2 distributions from other types of plans. However, any distribution from the Plan that is attributable to an amount you rolled over to the Plan (adjusted for investment returns) from another type of eligible employer plan or IRA amount is subject to the additional 10% tax if it is distributed to you before you reach age 59 1/2, unless an exception applies. For distributions from the 401(a) Employer Match Account, if you receive a payment before you reach age 59 1/2 and you do not roll it over, then, in addition to the regular income tax, you may have to pay an extra tax equal to 10% of the taxable portion of the payment, unless an exception applies.

Exceptions to the additional 10% tax generally include (1) payments that are paid as equal (or almost equal) payments over your life or life expectancy (or you and your beneficiary's lives or life expectancies), (2) payments that are paid from an eligible employer plan after you separate from service with your employer during or after the year you reach age 55, (3) payments that are paid because you retire due to disability, (4) payments that are paid directly to the government to satisfy a federal tax levy, (5) payments that are paid to an alternate payee under a qualified domestic relations order, or (6) payments that do not exceed the amount of your deductible medical expenses. These exceptions may be different for distributions from a traditional IRA. See IRS Form 5329 for more information on the additional 10% tax. The additional 10% tax does not apply to distributions from the 457 Employee Account or any other governmental 457 plan.

In addition, any amount rolled over from a 457 plan to another type of eligible employer plan or to a traditional IRA will be subject to the additional 10% tax if it is distributed to you before you reach age 59 1/2, unless an exception applies.

#### **For 401(a) Employer Match Account only**

**Special Tax Treatment If You Were Born before January 1, 1936.** If you receive a payment from a plan qualified under section 401(a) or a section 403(a) annuity plan that can be rolled over under Part I and you do not roll it over to a traditional IRA or an eligible employer plan, the payment will be taxed in the year you receive it. However, if the payment qualifies as a "lump sum distribution," it may be eligible for special tax treatment. A lump sum distribution is a payment, within one year, of your entire balance under the Plan (and certain other similar plans of the employer) that is payable to you after you have reached age 59 1/2 or because you have separated from service with your employer (or, in the case of a self-employed individual, after you have reached age 59 1/2 or have become disabled). For a payment to be treated as a lump sum distribution, you must have been a participant in the plan for at least five years before the year in which you received the distribution. The special tax treatment for lump sum distributions that may be available to you is described below.

**Ten-Year Averaging.** If you receive a lump sum distribution and you were born before January 1, 1936, you can make a one-time election to figure the tax on the payment by using "10-year averaging" (using 1986 tax rates). Ten-year averaging often reduces the tax you owe.

There are other limits on the special tax treatment for lump sum distributions. For example, you can generally elect this special tax treatment only once in your lifetime, and the election applies to all lump sum distributions that you receive in that same year. You may not elect this special tax treatment if you rolled amounts into this Plan from a 403(b) tax-sheltered annuity contract or from an IRA not originally attributable to a qualified employer plan. If you have previously rolled over a distribution from this Plan (or certain other similar plans of the employer), you cannot use this special averaging treatment for later payments from the Plan. If you roll

over your payment to a traditional IRA, governmental 457 plan, or 403(b) tax-sheltered annuity, you will not be able to use special tax treatment for later payments from that IRA, plan, or annuity. Also, if you roll over only a portion of your payment to a traditional IRA, governmental 457 plan, or 403(b) tax-sheltered annuity, this special tax treatment is not available for the rest of the payment. See IRS Form 4972 for additional information on lump sum distributions and how you elect the special tax treatment.

#### **IV. SURVIVING SPOUSES, ALTERNATE PAYEES, AND OTHER BENEFICIARIES**

In general, the rules summarized above that apply to payments to employees also apply to payments to surviving spouses of employees and to spouses or former spouses who are "alternate payees." You are an alternate payee if your interest in the Plan results from a "qualified domestic relations order," which is an order issued by a court, usually in connection with a divorce or legal separation.

If you are a surviving spouse or an alternate payee, you may choose to have a payment that can be rolled over, as described in Part I above, paid in a DIRECT ROLLOVER to a traditional IRA or to an eligible employer plan or paid to you. If you have the payment paid to you, you can keep it or roll it over yourself to a traditional IRA or to an eligible employer plan. Thus, you have the same choices as the employee.

If you are a beneficiary other than a surviving spouse or an alternate payee, you cannot choose a direct rollover, and you cannot roll over the payment yourself.

If you are a surviving spouse, an alternate payee, or another beneficiary, your payment is generally not subject to the additional 10% tax described in Part III above, even if you are younger than age 59 1/2.

**For 401(a) Employer Match Account only** – If you are a surviving spouse, an alternate payee, or another beneficiary, you may be able to use the special tax treatment for lump sum distributions. If you receive a payment because of the employee's death, you may be able to treat the payment as a lump sum distribution if the employee met the appropriate age requirements, whether or not the employee had 5 years of participation in the 401(a) Employer Match Account.

#### **HOW TO OBTAIN ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

This notice summarizes only the federal (not state or local) tax rules that might apply to your payment. The rules described above are complex and contain many conditions and exceptions that are not included in this notice. Therefore, you may want to consult with the Plan Administrator or a professional tax advisor before you take a payment of your benefits from your Plan. Also, you can find more specific information on the tax treatment of payments from qualified employer plans in IRS Publication 575, Pension and Annuity Income, and IRS Publication 590, Individual Retirement Arrangements. These publications are available from your local IRS office, on the IRS's Internet Web Site at [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov), or by calling 1-800-TAX-FORMS.

### **Relevant Excerpts from Iowa Administrative Code**

**701-40.47(422) Partial exclusion of pensions and other retirement benefits for disabled individuals, individuals who are 55 years of age or older, surviving spouses, and survivors.** For tax years beginning on or after January 1, 2001, the partial exclusion of retirement benefits received in the tax year is increased up to a maximum of \$6,000 for a person other than a husband or wife who files a separate state return and up to a maximum of \$12,000 for a husband and wife who file a joint Iowa return. A husband and wife filing separate state income tax returns or separately on a combined state return are allowed a combined exclusion of retirement benefits of ... up to a maximum of \$12,000 for tax years beginning on or after January 1, 2001. The ... \$12,000 exclusion may be allocated to the husband and wife in the proportion that each spouse's respective pension and retirement benefits received bear to the total combined pension and retirement benefits received by both spouses.

...

Retirement benefits subject to the retirement income exclusion include, but are not limited to: benefits from defined benefit or defined contribution pension and annuity plans, benefits from annuities, incomes from individual retirement accounts, benefits from pension or annuity plans contributed by an employer or maintained or contributed by a self-employed person and benefits and earnings from deferred compensation plans. However, the exclusion does not apply to social security benefits. A surviving spouse who is not disabled or is not 55 years of age or older can only exclude retirement benefits received as a result of the death of the other spouse and on the basis that the deceased spouse would have been eligible for the exclusion in the tax year. In order for a survivor other than the surviving spouse to qualify for the partial exclusion of retirement benefits, the survivor must have received the retirement benefits as a result of the death of a pensioner or annuitant who would have qualified for the exclusion in the tax year on the basis of age or disability. In addition, the survivor other than the surviving spouse would have had to have an insurable interest in the pensioner or annuitant at the time of the death of the pensioner or annuitant.

For purposes of this rule, a disabled individual is a person who is receiving benefits as a result of retirement from employment or self-employment due to disability. In addition, a person is considered to be a disabled individual if the individual is determined to be disabled in accordance with criteria established by the Social Security Administration or other federal or state governmental agency.

Note that the pension or other retirement benefits that are excluded from taxation for certain individuals are to be considered as a part of net income for purposes of determining whether or not a particular individual's income is low enough to exempt that taxpayer from tax. In addition, the pension or other retirement benefits that are excluded from taxation for certain individuals are to be considered as a part of net income for the alternative tax computation, which is available to all taxpayers except those taxpayers filing as single individuals.

Finally, the pension or other retirement benefits are to be considered as a part of net income for individuals using the single filing status those tax liabilities are limited so the liabilities cannot reduce the person's net income plus exempt benefits below \$9,000.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code sections 422.5 and 422.7.