



PENSION ISSUES

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Internal Revenue Service Issues Notice to Provide Guidance to on Multiemployer Defined Benefit Pension Plans Provisions under ARPA

On Tuesday the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) issued [Notice 2021-57](#) providing guidance for sponsors of multiemployer defined benefit pension plans on elections under sections 9701 and 9702 of the [American Rescue Plan Act of 2021](#) (ARPA) and the relief provided under section 9703 of ARPA, relating to Internal Revenue Code (IRC) sections 431 and 432. These provisions permit plan sponsors of multiemployer defined benefit pensions to elect to delay designating a plan as being in endangered, critical, or critical and declining status. Sponsors of multiemployer defined benefit pension plans can also elect to extend the plan's funding improvement period, and to spread certain losses related to COVID-19 over a period of up to 30 years in determining charges to the funding standard account.

If you have any questions regarding this *Academy Alert*, please contact Philip Maguire, pension policy analyst (maguire@actuary.org; 202-785-7865).

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