

Pension deduction information, maintaining NYSUT membership in retirement

Your NYSUT membership offers the opportunity to participate in a number of programs through NYSUT Member Benefits that can save you money, safeguard your family, and prepare for the future. NYSUT retirees can enjoy up to an additional 15% discount when purchasing these endorsed benefits through pension deduction.

With this convenient payment option, you won't have to worry about forgetting important due dates for bills and can save through reduced fees or the elimination of service fees. Pension deduction is available if you are collecting a monthly pension benefit from the New York State Teachers' Retirement System, Teachers' Retirement System of the City of New York, New York State and Local Retirement System, New York City Board of Education Retirement System, or receiving a monthly lifetime annuity from TIAA.

Note: You must have an active NYSUT membership as a retiree member to participate in pension deduction of Member Benefits-endorsed programs. If you are interested in switching from payroll to pension deduction upon retiring, please follow these steps to ensure a smooth transition.

- #1: Contact Member Benefits at **800-626-8101** with your definite retirement date and we will communicate that information to each plan administrator of programs you participate in.
- #2: Call each plan administrator of programs you participate in to verify your mailing address so you can be billed directly once payroll deductions stop.

- #3: If you do not receive a bill for each program you had on payroll deduction, contact the applicable program administrator to verify a bill was mailed to your correct address. All discounts provided through payroll deduction will continue for up to one year with direct billing.
- #4: Make sure to pay each bill you receive. You must be on direct billing for at least one billing cycle to allow time for your pension system to put your permanent monthly pension benefit in place (this can take up to six months). Deductions can only be taken from the permanent benefit.
- #5: When you receive your next bill, complete the Pension Deduction Authorization Form enclosed with it and send the form back with the bill to the plan administrator (without payment). If you do not receive a pension deduction form, contact Member Benefits.
- #6: Upon receiving your pension deduction form, the plan administrator will send the details to Member Benefits to submit to your pension system and start the deductions with your next monthly benefit. This process must be done for each program you participate in.

Retiree membership can be maintained in either of the following ways:

1. Continue membership within your local if retiree membership is offered.

Contact your local to find out if any retiree membership requirements are in place. Retiree membership is required to continue your membership in NYSUT and our national affiliates, the American Federation of Teachers (AFT) and National Education Association (NEA).

2. Continue as an at-large member of NYSUT through the Retiree Council in your region. Contact your local to ensure you will be reported as retired to NYSUT. This will provide you with membership in the Retiree Council in your region along with NYSUT, AFT, and NEA.

NYSUT membership is required to participate in any NEA Member Benefits programs. To be eligible to vote and participate in NEA governance activities, you will need to make a one-time payment of \$300 for a lifetime membership. Contact

NYSUT Membership Support Services at 800-342-9810 or <u>membership@nysut.org</u> to make your one-time payment.

For questions about establishing retiree membership, you may reach out to the following membership departments:

- ✓ United Federation of Teachers members: 212-598-6855
- ✓ United University Professions members: 800-342-4206
- ✓ Professional Staff Congress/CUNY members: 212-354-1252
- ✓ All other NYSUT members: 800-342-9810

For questions about maintaining NYSUT retiree membership or further information about NYSUT retiree programs, contact the NYSUT Retiree Services Consultant (RSC) serving your region. You can also find this information at *nysut.cc/retireeconsultants*.

- Retiree Councils 1, 2, 3 & 44 (Buffalo region): Janet Goddard, 716-634-7132 or *janet.goddard@nysut.org*
- Retiree Councils 4 & 46 (Jamestown region): Louise Ortman, 716-664-7425 or *louise.ortman@nysut.org*
- Retiree Councils 5 & 6 (Rochester region): Peter Randazzo, 585-454-5550 or peter.randazzo@nysut.org
- Retiree Councils 7 & 8 (Syracuse/Utica region): Anne Marie Voutsinas, 315-431-4040 or *annemarie.voutsinas@nysut.org*
- Retiree Councils 9 & 10 (North Country/Capital District region): Chris Fowler, 518-783-7977 or *chris.fowler@nysut.org*
- Retiree Councils 11 & 45 (Southern Tier region): Mark Padgett, 607-786-5742 or <u>mark.padgett@nysut.org</u>
- Retiree Councils 12 & 13 (Greater Capital District/Mid-Hudson region): Sheryl Baker Delano, 845-339-4450 or sheryl.delano@nysut.org
- Retiree Councils 14, 15 & 16 (Orange, Rockland, Putnam & Westchester Counties): Lynn O'Donnell, 914-592-4411 or lynn.o'donnell@nysut.org
- Retiree Councils 17, 18 & 19 (Nassau region): TBD

- Retiree Councils 20, 21, 22 & 23 (Suffolk region): James Kinnier, 631-273-8822 or *james.kinnier@nysut.org*
- Retiree Council 43 (Florida): Miriam Hanan, 516-236-0276 or *miriam.hanan@nysut.org*

Learn more about continuing participation in Member Benefits-endorsed programs or the pension deduction process by visiting *memberbenefits.nysut.org* or calling **800-626-8101**.

For information about contractual endorsement arrangements with providers of endorsed programs, please contact NYSUT Member Benefits.

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