



HOOPP
Healthcare of Ontario
Pension Plan



OPB
Your Pension. Our Promise.

[Date]

[Name]

[Address]

[City], [Province] [Postal Code]

Dear **Member name**:

RE: Application for Pension Transfer Options for Members Involved in a Past Divestment from the Public Service Pension Plan (PSPP) to the Healthcare of Ontario Pension Plan (HOOPP)

TO RECEIVE A PENSION TRANSFER OPTIONS PACKAGE YOU MUST COMPLETE AND RETURN THE ENCLOSED APPLICATION FORM TO HOOPP BY [DUE DATE]

We are writing to advise you of a new, one-time opportunity to transfer the value of your pension entitlement from the Public Service Pension Plan (PSPP) to the Healthcare of Ontario Pension Plan (HOOPP). Previously, you were part of a “divestment” that took place when your job or duties were transferred from your original employer to your successor employer. When this divestment occurred, you ceased to be a contributing member of the PSPP and became a member of HOOPP.

Until recently, divested members did not have the option to transfer the value of their pension benefits from their former pension plan to their successor pension plan. As a result of recent changes to the *Pension Benefits Act*, certain divested members are now able to transfer the value of their pension benefits from their former pension plan to their successor pension plan so they can receive one pension from their successor plan instead of receiving a separate pension from each plan.

If you wish to learn more about this one-time opportunity to consolidate your pension benefits you must complete, sign and return the attached application form to HOOPP by [Due date]. By submitting a completed application form you are not committing to a transfer, you are simply requesting that the pension administrators prepare and send you a personalized transfer options package. No changes will be made to your pension entitlements at this time.

If you complete and return the application form by the due date, the pension plan administrators will exchange data in order to perform the necessary transfer calculations. You will then be eligible to receive a personalized transfer options package which will provide you with information to help you make an informed decision.

If you are not interested in receiving more information about this transfer opportunity, no further action is required from you. If you do not send a completed application form to HOOPP by the due date shown above, you will not receive a transfer options package and your pension benefits will remain separate as they are today.

Please note that if you submit a completed application form it will likely be several months before you receive your transfer options package. The transfer process is a lengthy one and this offer is being given to a large group of members who were involved in a divestment.

We appreciate your patience and understanding, and encourage you to read the enclosed FAQs to learn more about this transfer opportunity.

Sincerely,

Healthcare of Ontario Pension Plan (HOOPP)

Client Service
1 Toronto Street, Suite 1400
Toronto, ON M5C 3B2

Tel: 416-646-6445 in Toronto
1-877-43HOOPP (46677) toll-free in Canada
clientservices@hoopp.com

www.hoopp.com

Ontario Pension Board (OPB)

Client Care Centre
200 King Street West, Suite 2200
Toronto, ON M5H 3X6

Tel: 416-364-5035 in Toronto
1-800-668-6203 toll-free in Canada
clientservice@opb.ca

www.opb.ca

Frequently Asked Questions

Pension Transfer Options for Eligible Members Involved in a Past Divestment

What is a divestment?

A “divestment” refers to the transfer of all or part of an operation and its employees from one employer to another employer due to a sale of business or the assignment or disposition of all or part of an employer’s operations to a new employer. Under Ontario’s *Pension Benefits Act (PBA)*, special rules apply for pension plan members who join a different pension plan as a result of a divestment, and until recently these members were unable to combine their separate pension entitlements in their current pension plan.

What has changed?

On July 24, 2014, the rules under section 80.1 of the PBA and Ontario Regulation 308/13 were changed to remove specific transfer restrictions for former and retired members who were involved in certain public sector divestments before January 1, 2014.

As a result of these legislative changes, a number of pension plan administrators have worked together to develop a transfer agreement, which provides divested members who are eligible under the agreement with the option to transfer the value of their pension benefits from their former pension plan to their successor pension plan.

Who is eligible?

In accordance with the terms of the transfer agreement the following minimum eligibility criteria must be met:

- (i) You were affected by a divestment that occurred prior to January 1, 2014.
- (ii) You terminated employment with your successor employer or terminated membership in your former or successor pension plan on or after May 18, 2010.
- (iii) You are a former or retired member in your former pension plan and are an active, former or retired member in your successor pension plan.
- (iv) You were not previously eligible to transfer all or part of your credited service in your former pension plan to your successor pension plan.
- (v) You return a completed application form to your successor pension plan by the due date.

Other conditions may apply depending on your personal circumstances and the terms under each of the pension plans.

If I return a completed application form, what options will I receive?

If you submit a completed application form by the due date a transfer options package will be sent to you in 2016. This package will outline your options to keep your pensions separate as they are today or to consolidate your pension benefits by transferring the value of your pension from your former pension plan to your successor pension plan.

This package will include personalized pension estimates and information about the benefits you are entitled to from both pension plans to help you determine which option is best for you. After you receive your package, client service representatives from both your former and successor pension plan administrators will be available to discuss your options in more detail.

Why do I need to complete an application form to get a transfer options package?

HOOPP and the Ontario Pension Board (OPB) need to confirm your current marital status and spousal information as this information is needed to perform the calculations that are required to prepare your transfer options package.

When will I receive my personalized transfer options package?

Your personalized transfer options package will be mailed to you in 2016. This package will contain an election form that you will need to complete, sign and return to your successor pension plan administrator within 90 days from the date the package is sent to you.

What are the potential impacts of consolidating my pension benefits?

If you choose to consolidate your pension benefits, this could affect your future pension entitlements because your combined pension would be determined only by your successor pension plan's benefit provisions.

For example, your total monthly pension could increase or decrease, the amount of inflation protection that is applied to your pension could change and the benefits available to your survivors could also be affected. If you transfer the value of your pension from the PSPP to HOOPP you will also forfeit any post retirement insured benefits that you are eligible to receive as a member of this plan. These are just a few of the important factors you may need to consider before you decide which option is right for you.

If you apply for your transfer options, your package will contain detailed information regarding the specific impacts to your pension to help you determine which option is best for you.

Will I be able to transfer all of my credited service from my former pension plan to my successor pension plan? Will there be a cost to transfer my pension benefits?

The value of your pension benefits in your former pension plan will determine how much credited service can be established in the successor plan. The value of the credited service in your former pension plan may not be enough to provide an equivalent amount of credited service in your successor pension plan. If this situation applies to you, you will have what is known as a "credited service shortfall". There are a number of factors that can influence whether you have a shortfall, such as increases in your salary after the divestment or differences in the provisions of your former and successor pension plans.

If you have a credited service shortfall and you choose to consolidate your pension benefits in your successor pension plan you will be given an option to purchase all or a portion of the shortfall. If this situation applies to you, further information will be included in your personalized transfer options package.

If I do not return a completed application form to my successor pension plan administrator by the due date will I have the opportunity to consolidate my pensions in the future?

No. This is a one-time opportunity and is subject to timelines set out under provincial pension legislation and the terms of the transfer agreement. If you do not return a completed application form to your successor pension plan administrator by the due date, your benefits will remain separate as they are today.

This document is meant to provide general information about this one-time transfer opportunity and to answer some common questions. If you need more information, please contact HOOPP or OPB.

Transfer Options Application Form

Due Date: [Date]

If you are interested in receiving a personalized transfer options package outlining your options under this one-time opportunity to transfer the value of your benefits from the PSPP to HOOPP, please complete and sign this form and return it to HOOPP in the enclosed postage-paid envelope by the due date above.

Important! HOOPP must receive your completed application form no later than the due date indicated above. If you do not submit a completed application form by the due date, you will not be eligible to receive a transfer options package.

Please complete all sections that apply to you. Please print clearly.

First Name and Initials	Last Name	Date of Birth (DD/MMM/YYYY)
_____	_____	___ / ___ / ____
What is your current marital status?		
<input type="checkbox"/> Married <input type="checkbox"/> Common-law <input type="checkbox"/> Single <input type="checkbox"/> Separated <input type="checkbox"/> Widowed <input type="checkbox"/> Divorced		
Name of Current Spouse (if applicable)	Spouse's Date of Birth (DD/MMM/YYYY)	
_____	___ / ___ / ____	
Date of marriage or date common-law relationship began	___ / ___ / ____ (DD/MMM/YYYY)	
Authorization and Application		
<p>By completing this form I hereby request that the Healthcare of Ontario Pension Plan and the Ontario Pension Board share the relevant data required to provide me with options that will allow me to transfer the value of my benefits from the Public Service Pension Plan to HOOPP. I understand that I am not committing to a transfer by completing this form and that no changes to my pension benefits will be made at this time. I consent to the collection, use, retention and disclosure of the information contained on this form as may be required by the pension plan administrators listed above for divestment calculation purposes only, and I understand that the information collected on this form will be handled in a confidential manner and used only for the purpose of preparing an options package for me.</p>		
_____	___ / ___ / ____	
Applicant's Signature	Date (DD/MMM/YYYY)	