

By designating a beneficiary, you help ensure your benefits are paid as you wish should you die before you start your pension. Funds are paid directly to your beneficiary, if age 18 or older, without the delays or probate fees associated with the processing of an estate. Estate taxes are also avoided, although your heirs will pay tax on your death benefit.

Recipients

“Living separate and apart” means you are no longer sharing a spousal relationship (i.e., having joint finances, sharing a conjugal relationship) and intend to terminate your relationship.

You can be living separate and apart without a formal separation agreement and/or in the same residence.

Order of eligible recipients

Pre-retirement death benefits are paid in the following order to your:

1. Eligible spouse
2. Dependent children
3. Designated beneficiary
4. Estate

Eligible spouse

Your spouse is your married or common-law partner. A common-law partner must have lived with you in a conjugal relationship for:

- at least three continuous years; or
- a shorter period if you're the parents of a child.

To be eligible for survivor benefits, you and your spouse must not be living separate and apart when your pension starts. If you subsequently separate or divorce, your spouse remains eligible to receive a survivor pension.

Dependent children

If you do not have an eligible spouse when you die, your dependent children will receive survivor benefits if they are reliant on you for support at the time of your death and are:

- under age 18; or
- 18 to 24 years of age and enrolled in full-time, continuous education since age 18 or since your date of death, whichever occurred later; or
- disabled, having been disabled without interruption since the date of your death.

If you have more than one dependent child, your benefit is divided equally and paid to each child for as long as he or she remains eligible for benefits.

The rules concerning eligibility for dependent children are complex. For more information, please contact our Client Services department.

Designated beneficiary

The beneficiary you name on this form may receive death benefits if you die before retirement without an eligible spouse and a benefit remains to be paid after accounting for dependent children. You can designate one or more people or an incorporated organization, such as a charity.

Information to help you designate

Under Ontario's *Pension Benefits Act*, your spouse is automatically entitled to survivor benefits when you die. Your designated beneficiary should be the person or organization you want to receive benefits if you die before retirement and you do not have a surviving spouse when you die.

Consider naming your children

If you want your children to receive the biggest death benefit possible, name them as your beneficiaries. Although dependent children may be entitled to a survivor pension, there is often a benefit, in addition to the pension, to pay out. This benefit can be substantial if your dependent children are older and will qualify for a pension for only a few years. Children who are not dependants can receive benefits only if named as your designated beneficiary.

Multiple beneficiaries receive equal benefit

Your death benefit will be divided equally among your designated beneficiaries. For example, if you designate your favorite charity and two children, your death benefit will be split in three.

Introduction

Use this form or our website to designate a non-spouse beneficiary in case you die before retirement. To designate a beneficiary online, sign in to your Ontario Teachers' account at www.otpp.com. Before completing this form, please read page 2 for important information.

Member information

SIN* or Ontario Teachers' Account Number _____

Name *last* _____ *first* _____ *middle* _____

Please print

Telephone *home* _____ *work* _____

** Providing your SIN is optional. Ontario Teachers' is requesting your SIN for identification purposes and will not use it for any other purpose other than plan administration as set out in Ontario Teachers' privacy policies.*

Non-spouse beneficiary designation

Name *last* _____ *first* _____ *middle* _____

Date of birth

This form cancels all previous beneficiary designations; re-list any beneficiaries you want to keep from a previous designation.

Name *last* _____ *first* _____ *middle* _____

Date of birth

If necessary, list additional beneficiaries on a separate piece of paper.

Name *last* _____ *first* _____ *middle* _____

Date of birth

Name *last* _____ *first* _____ *middle* _____

Date of birth

I designate the following charity or incorporated organization:

Name of organization _____

Address *street* _____ *city* _____

province _____ *postal code* _____

Member signature

I understand the above designation will cancel and replace any previous beneficiary I may have named for my pension benefit.

Signature _____

Date