

**CHITTENDEN COUNTRY TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY  
RETIREMENT PLAN**

**SUMMARY PLAN DESCRIPTION  
FOR NON-UNION PERSONNEL**

**Effective July 1, 2015**



**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

**INTRODUCTION TO YOUR PLAN**

What kind of Plan is this? ..... 1  
What information does this Summary provide? ..... 1

**ARTICLE I  
PARTICIPATION IN THE PLAN**

How do I participate in the Plan? ..... 1  
How is my service determined for purposes of Plan eligibility? ..... 1  
What service is counted for purposes of Plan eligibility? ..... 2  
What happens if I'm a participant, terminate employment and then I'm rehired? ..... 2

**ARTICLE II  
EMPLOYEE CONTRIBUTIONS**

What are rollover contributions? ..... 2

**ARTICLE III  
EMPLOYER CONTRIBUTIONS**

What is the Employer nonelective contribution and how is it allocated? ..... 2  
What are forfeitures and how are they allocated? ..... 3

**ARTICLE IV  
COMPENSATION AND ACCOUNT BALANCE**

What compensation is used to determine my Plan benefits? ..... 3  
Is there a limit on the amount of compensation which can be considered? ..... 3  
Is there a limit on how much can be contributed to my account each year? ..... 3  
How is the money in the Plan invested? ..... 4  
Will Plan expenses be deducted from my account balance? ..... 4

**ARTICLE V  
VESTING**

What is my vested interest in my account? ..... 4  
How is my service determined for vesting purposes? ..... 4  
What service is counted for vesting purposes? ..... 5  
When will the non-vested portion of my account balance be forfeited? ..... 5

**ARTICLE VI  
DISTRIBUTIONS PRIOR TO TERMINATION AND HARDSHIP DISTRIBUTIONS**

Can I withdraw money from my account while working? ..... 5  
Can I withdraw money from my account in the event of financial hardship? ..... 5

**ARTICLE VII  
BENEFITS AND DISTRIBUTIONS UPON TERMINATION OF EMPLOYMENT**

When can I get money out of the Plan? ..... 6  
What happens if I terminate employment before death, disability or retirement?..... 7  
What happens if I terminate employment at Normal Retirement Date?..... 7  
What happens if I terminate employment at Early Retirement Date? ..... 7  
What happens if I terminate employment due to disability? ..... 7  
How will my benefits be paid to me? ..... 7

**ARTICLE VIII  
BENEFITS AND DISTRIBUTIONS UPON DEATH**

What happens if I die while working for the Employer? ..... 8  
Who is the beneficiary of my death benefit?..... 8  
How will the death benefit be paid to my beneficiary?..... 8  
When must the last payment be made to my beneficiary? ..... 8  
What happens if I'm a participant, terminate employment and die before receiving all my benefits? ..... 8

**ARTICLE IX  
TAX TREATMENT OF DISTRIBUTIONS**

What are my tax consequences when I receive a distribution from the Plan?..... 8  
Can I elect a rollover to reduce or defer tax on my distribution? ..... 8

**ARTICLE X  
LOANS**

Is it possible to borrow money from the Plan?..... 9  
What are the loan rules and requirements? ..... 9

**ARTICLE XI  
PROTECTED BENEFITS AND CLAIMS PROCEDURES**

Are my benefits protected? ..... 10  
Are there any exceptions to the general rule? ..... 10  
Can the Plan be amended? ..... 10  
What happens if the Plan is discontinued or terminated?..... 10  
How do I submit a claim for Plan benefits? ..... 10  
What if my benefits are denied? ..... 10

**ARTICLE XII  
GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE PLAN**

Plan Name..... 11  
Plan Effective Dates ..... 11  
Other Plan Information ..... 11  
Employer Information..... 11

Administrator Information.....	11
Plan Trustee Information and Plan Funding Medium.....	12



**CHITTENDEN COUNTRY TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY  
RETIREMENT PLAN**

**SUMMARY PLAN DESCRIPTION**

**INTRODUCTION TO YOUR PLAN**

**What kind of Plan is this?**

Chittenden Country Transportation Authority Retirement Plan ("Plan") has been adopted to provide you with the opportunity to save for retirement on a tax-advantaged basis. This Plan is a type of qualified retirement plan. Generally you are not taxed on the amounts we contribute to the Plan until you withdraw these amounts from the Plan.

**What information does this Summary provide?**

This Summary Plan Description contains information regarding your Plan benefits, your distribution options, and many other features of the Plan. You should take the time to read this summary to get a better understanding of your rights and obligations under the Plan.

If you have any questions about the Plan, please contact the Administrator or other plan representative. The Administrator is responsible for responding to questions and making determinations related to the administration, interpretation, and application of the Plan. The name and address of the Administrator can be found at the end of this summary in the Article entitled "General Information About the Plan."

This summary describes the Plan's benefits and obligations as contained in the legal Plan document, which governs the operation of the Plan. The Plan document is written in much more technical and precise language and is designed to comply with applicable legal requirements. If the non-technical language in this summary conflicts with the language of the Plan document, then the Plan document always governs.

The Plan and your rights under the Plan are subject to various laws, including the Internal Revenue Code. The provisions of the Plan are subject to revision due to a change in laws. Your Employer may also amend or terminate this Plan.

**Types of Contributions.** The Plan includes provisions for the following types of contributions:

- Employer nonelective contributions
- Employee rollover contributions

**ARTICLE I  
PARTICIPATION IN THE PLAN**

**How do I participate in the Plan?**

You may begin participating under the Plan once you have satisfied the eligibility requirements and reached your "Entry Date." The following describes the eligibility requirements and Entry Dates that apply. You should contact the Administrator if you have questions about the timing of your Plan participation.

**Excluded Employees.** There are no Excluded Employees for purposes of the Plan.

**Eligibility Conditions.** You will be eligible to participate in the Plan when you have satisfied the following eligibility condition(s). However, you will actually become a Participant in the Plan once you reach the Entry Date as described below.

- attainment of age 21.
- completion of one (1) Year of Service.

**Entry Date.** Your Entry Date will be the first day of the Plan Year quarter in which you satisfy the eligibility requirements.

**How is my service determined for purposes of Plan eligibility?**

**Year of Service.** You will be credited with a Year of Service at the end of the twelve month period beginning on your date of hire if you have been credited with at least 1,000 Hours of Service during such period. If you have not been credited with 1,000 Hours of Service by the end of such period, you will have completed a Year of Service at the end of any following Plan Year during which you were credited with 1,000 Hours of Service.

**Hour of Service.** You will be credited with your actual Hours of Service for:

- (a) each hour for which you are directly or indirectly compensated by the Employer for the performance of duties during the Plan Year;
- (b) each hour for which you are directly or indirectly compensated by the Employer for reasons other than the performance of duties (such as vacation, holidays, sickness, disability, lay-off, military duty, jury duty or leave of absence during the Plan Year); and
- (c) each hour for back pay awarded or agreed to by the Employer.

You will not be credited for the same Hours of Service both under (a) or (b), as the case may be, and under (c).

**What service is counted for purposes of Plan eligibility?**

**Service with the Employer.** In determining whether you satisfy the minimum service requirements to participate under the Plan, all service you perform for the Employer will generally be counted.

**Service with another Employer.** For eligibility purposes, your Years of Service with any another Public Transportation Agency will be counted. Public Transportation Agency is defined as any form of transportation that charges set fares, runs fixed routes, and are available to the public such as busses, subways, ferries and trains.

**Military Service.** If you are a veteran and are reemployed under the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act of 1994, your qualified military service may be considered service with the Employer. If you may be affected by this law, ask the Administrator for further details.

**What happens if I'm a participant, terminate employment and then I'm rehired?**

If you are no longer a participant because you terminated employment, and you are rehired, then you will be able to participate in the Plan on your date of rehire provided you are otherwise eligible to participate in the Plan.

**ARTICLE II  
EMPLOYEE CONTRIBUTIONS**

**What are rollover contributions?**

**Rollover contributions.** At the discretion of the Administrator, if you are a Participant who is currently employed, you may be permitted to deposit into the Plan distributions you have received from other retirement plans. Such a deposit is called a "rollover" and may result in tax savings to you. You may ask the Administrator or Trustee of the other plan to directly transfer (a "direct rollover") to this Plan all or a portion of any amount that you are entitled to receive as a distribution from such plan. Alternatively, you may elect to deposit any amount eligible to be rolled over within 60 days of your receipt of the distribution. You should consult qualified counsel to determine if a rollover is in your best interest.

**Rollover account.** Your rollover will be accounted for in a "rollover account." You will always be 100% vested in your "rollover account" (see the Article in this summary entitled "Vesting"). This means that you will always be entitled to all amounts in your rollover account. Rollover contributions will be affected by any investment gains or losses.

**Withdrawal of rollover contributions.** You may withdraw the amounts in your "rollover account" at any time.

**ARTICLE III  
EMPLOYER CONTRIBUTIONS**

This Article describes Employer contributions that may be made to the Plan.

**What is the Employer nonelective contribution and how is it allocated?**

**Nonelective contribution.** Following the end of each quarter (September 30, December 31, March 31 and June 30) your Employer may make a discretionary nonelective contribution to the Plan. Your share of the contribution will depend on the classification to which you are assigned. You will be categorized into one of the following classifications:

- Non-Union participants contributing more than 3% but less than 5% of compensation to the CCTA 457 Plan will receive an Employer nonelective contribution equal to 5% of compensation.
- Non-Union participants with less than 25 Years of Service contributing at least 5% of compensation to the CCTA 457 Plan will receive an Employer nonelective contribution equal to 7% of compensation.



- Non-Union participants with 25 or more Years of Service contributing at least 5% of compensation to the CCTA 457 Plan will receive an Employer nonelective contribution equal to 14% of compensation.

If you shift from one classification to another during a Plan Year, then your group will be determined prorated based on the number of months you were employed within each group.

**Allocation conditions.** In order to share in the nonelective contribution for a Plan Year, you must satisfy the following conditions:

- Participants that work less than 250 hours during the quarter, or that terminate and are not employed on the last day of the quarter will be excluded from the Employer contributions for that quarter.
- The 250 hour, employment on last day of quarter requirements are waived if you terminate employment as a result of your death, disability, termination of employment after Normal Retirement Age or early retirement.

**What are forfeitures and how are they allocated?**

**Definition of forfeitures.** In order to reward employees who remain employed with the Employer for a long period of time, the law permits a "vesting schedule" to be applied to certain contributions that your Employer makes to the Plan. This means that you will not be "vested" in (entitled to) all of the contributions until you have been employed with the Employer for a specified period of time (see the Article entitled "Vesting"). If a participant terminates employment before being fully vested, then the non-vested portion of the terminated participant's account balance remains in the Plan and is called a forfeiture.

**Allocation of forfeitures.** The Employer may use forfeitures to pay Plan expenses or to reduce amounts otherwise required to be contributed to the Plan.

**ARTICLE IV  
COMPENSATION AND ACCOUNT BALANCE**

**What compensation is used to determine my Plan benefits?**

**Definition of compensation.** For the purposes of the Plan, compensation has a special meaning. Compensation is generally defined as your total compensation that is subject to income tax withholding and paid to you by your Employer during the Plan Year.

**Adjustments to compensation.** The following adjustments to compensation will be made:

- compensation paid while not a participant in the Plan will be excluded.
- compensation paid after you terminate is generally excluded for Plan purposes. However, the following amounts will be included in compensation even though they are paid after you terminate employment, provided these amounts would otherwise have been considered compensation as described above and provided they are paid within 2 1/2 months after you terminate employment, or if later, the last day of the Plan Year in which you terminate employment:
  - compensation for services performed during your regular working hours, or for services outside your regular working hours (such as overtime or shift differential) or other similar payments that would have been made to you had you continued employment
  - compensation paid for unused accrued bona fide sick, vacation or other leave, if such amounts would have been included in compensation if paid prior to your termination of employment and you would have been able to use the leave if employment had continued
  - nonqualified unfunded deferred compensation if the payment is includible in gross income and would have been paid to you had you continued employment

**Is there a limit on the amount of compensation which can be considered?**

The Plan, by law, cannot recognize annual compensation in excess of a certain dollar limit. The limit for the Plan Year beginning in 2015 is \$265,000. After 2015, the dollar limit may increase for cost-of-living adjustments.

**Is there a limit on how much can be contributed to my account each year?**

Generally, the law imposes a maximum limit on the amount of contributions that may be made to your account and any other amounts allocated to any of your accounts during the Plan Year, excluding earnings. Beginning in 2015, this total cannot exceed the lesser of \$53,000 or 100% of your annual compensation. After 2015, the dollar limit may increase for cost-of-living adjustments.

**How is the money in the Plan invested?**

The Trustee of the Plan has been designated to hold the assets of the Plan for the benefit of Plan participants and their beneficiaries in accordance with the terms of this Plan. The trust fund established by the Plan's Trustee will be the funding medium used for the accumulation of assets from which Plan benefits will be distributed.

**Participant directed investments.** You will be able to direct the investment of your entire interest in the Plan. The Administrator will provide you with information on the investment choices available to you, the procedures for making investment elections, the frequency with which you can change your investment choices and other important information. You need to follow the procedures for making investment elections and you should carefully review the information provided to you before you give investment directions. If you do not direct the investment of your applicable Plan accounts, then your accounts will be invested in accordance with the default investment alternatives established under the Plan.

**Earnings or losses.** When you direct investments, your accounts are segregated for purposes of determining the earnings or losses on these investments. Your account does not share in the investment performance of other participants who have directed their own investments. You should remember that the amount of your benefits under the Plan will depend in part upon your choice of investments. Gains as well as losses can occur and your Employer, the Administrator, and the Trustee will not provide investment advice or guarantee the performance of any investment you choose.

**Will Plan expenses be deducted from my account balance?**

**Expenses allocated to all accounts.** The Plan permits the payment of Plan expenses to be made from the Plan's assets. The method of allocating the expenses depends on the nature of the expense itself. For example, certain administrative (or recordkeeping) expenses would typically be allocated proportionately to each participant. If the Plan pays \$1,000 in expenses and there are 100 participants, your account balance would be charged \$10 (\$1,000/100) of the expense.

**ARTICLE V  
VESTING**

**What is my vested interest in my account?**

In order to reward employees who remain employed with the Employer for a long period of time, the law permits a "vesting schedule" to be applied to certain contributions that your Employer makes to the Plan. This means that you will not be entitled ("vested") in all of the contributions until you have been employed with the Employer for a specified period of time.

**Vesting schedules.** Your "vested percentage" for certain Employer contributions is based on vesting Years of Service. This means at the time you stop working, your account balance attributable to contributions subject to a vesting schedule is multiplied by your vested percentage. The result, when added to the amounts that are always 100% vested as shown above, is your vested interest in the Plan, which is what you will actually receive from the Plan.

**Rollover Contributions**

You are always 100% vested in your Rollover contribution accounts.

**Employer Contributions**

Your "vested percentage" in your account attributable to Employer contributions is determined under the following schedule. You will always, however, be 100% vested in these contributions if you are employed on or after your Early or Normal Retirement Age or if you die or become disabled.

Vesting Schedule Nonelective Contributions	
Years of Service	Percentage
Less than 3	0%
3	100%

**How is my service determined for vesting purposes?**

**Year of Service.** To earn a Year of Service, you must be credited with at least 1,000 Hours of Service during a Plan Year. The Plan contains specific rules for crediting Hours of Service for vesting purposes. The Administrator will track your service and will credit you with a Year of Service for each Plan Year in which you are credited with the required Hours of Service, in accordance with the terms of the Plan. If you have any questions regarding your vesting service, you should contact the Administrator.

**Hour of Service.** You will be credited with your actual Hours of Service for:

- (a) each hour for which you are directly or indirectly compensated by the Employer for the performance of duties during the Plan Year;
- (b) each hour for which you are directly or indirectly compensated by the Employer for reasons other than the performance of duties (such as vacation, holidays, sickness, disability, lay-off, military duty, jury duty or leave of absence during the Plan Year); and
- (c) each hour for back pay awarded or agreed to by the Employer.

You will not be credited for the same Hours of Service both under (a) or (b), as the case may be, and under (c).

**What service is counted for vesting purposes?**

**Service with the Employer.** In calculating your vested percentage, all service you perform for the Employer will generally be counted.

**Service with another Employer.** For vesting purposes, your Years of Service with public transportation industry outside State of Vermont will be counted.

**Military Service.** If you are a veteran and are reemployed under the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act of 1994, your qualified military service may be considered service with the Employer. If you may be affected by this law, ask the Administrator for further details.

**When will the non-vested portion of my account balance be forfeited?**

If you are partially vested in your account balance when you leave, the non-vested portion of your account balance will be forfeited on the earlier of the date:

- (a) of the distribution of your vested account balance, or
- (b) when you incur five consecutive 1-year Breaks in Service.

**ARTICLE VI  
DISTRIBUTIONS PRIOR TO TERMINATION AND HARDSHIP DISTRIBUTIONS**

**Can I withdraw money from my account while working?**

**In-service distributions.** You may be entitled to receive an in-service distribution. However, this distribution is not in addition to your other benefits and will therefore reduce the value of the benefits you will receive at retirement. This distribution is made at your election and will be made in accordance with the forms of distributions available under the Plan.

**Conditions and Limitations.** Generally you may receive a distribution from the Plan from certain accounts prior to your termination of employment provided you satisfy the condition described below:

- you have attained age 62

The following limitations apply to in-service distributions from certain accounts:

- The minimum amount you can receive as an in-service distribution is \$1,000.
- You can receive no more than 1 in-service distribution during a Plan Year.
- In-service distributions can only be made from accounts which are 100% vested.

**Can I withdraw money from my account in the event of financial hardship?**

**Hardship distributions.** You may withdraw money for financial hardship if you satisfy certain conditions. This hardship distribution is not in addition to your other benefits and will therefore reduce the value of the benefits you will receive at retirement.

**Qualifying expenses.** A hardship distribution may be made to satisfy certain immediate and heavy financial needs that you have. A hardship distribution may only be made for payment of the following:

- Expenses for medical care (described in Section 213(d) of the Internal Revenue Code) previously incurred by you, your spouse, your dependents or your beneficiaries or necessary for you, your spouse, your dependents or your beneficiaries to obtain medical care.
- Costs directly related to the purchase of your principal residence (excluding mortgage payments).
- Tuition, related educational fees, and room and board expenses for the next twelve (12) months of post-secondary education for yourself, your spouse, your dependents or your beneficiaries.
- Amounts necessary to prevent your eviction from your principal residence or foreclosure on the mortgage of your principal residence.
- Payments for burial or funeral expenses for your deceased parent, spouse, children, other dependents or beneficiaries.
- Expenses for the repair of damage to your principal residence that would qualify for the casualty deduction under the Internal Revenue Code.

The ability to obtain a hardship distribution for certain expenses of your beneficiary is effective July 1, 2009. A beneficiary is someone you designate under the Plan to receive your death benefit who is not otherwise your spouse or dependent.

A hardship distribution can only be made if there is an immediate and heavy financial need. In addition to the expenses listed above, a hardship distribution can be made to pay any federal, state, or local income taxes or penalties reasonably anticipated to result from a hardship distribution. The Administrator must determine, based on all relevant facts and circumstances, whether you have other resources available to satisfy the financial need. For this purpose, your resources will generally include property which is owned by your spouse or minor children.

**Limitations.** The following limitations apply to hardship distributions:

- The minimum amount you can request as a hardship distribution is \$1,000.
- Hardship distributions can only be made from accounts which are 100% vested.
- You must be employed with the Employer at the time of the hardship distribution.

## **ARTICLE VII BENEFITS AND DISTRIBUTIONS UPON TERMINATION OF EMPLOYMENT**

### **When can I get money out of the Plan?**

You may receive a distribution of the vested portion of some or all of your accounts in the Plan for the following reasons:

- termination of employment for reasons other than death, disability or retirement
- early retirement
- normal retirement
- disability
- death

This Plan is designed to provide you with retirement benefits. However, distributions are permitted if you die or become disabled. In addition, certain payments are permitted when you terminate employment for any other reason. The rules under which you can receive a distribution are described in this Article. The rules regarding the payment of death benefits to your beneficiary are described in "Benefits and Distributions Upon Death."

You may also receive distributions while you are still employed with the Employer. (See the Article entitled "Distributions Prior to Termination and Hardship Distributions" for a further explanation.)

**Military Service.** If you are a veteran and are reemployed under the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act of 1994, your qualified military service may be considered service with the Employer. There may also be benefits for employees who die or become disabled while on active duty. Employees who receive wage continuation payments while in the military may benefit from various changes in the law. If you think you may be affected by these rules, ask the Administrator for further details.

**Distributions for deemed severance of employment.** If you are on active duty for more than 30 days, then, effective January 1, 2007, the Plan generally treats you as having severed employment for distribution purposes. This means that you may request a distribution from the Plan.

#### **What happens if I terminate employment before death, disability or retirement?**

If your employment terminates for reasons other than death, disability or early or normal retirement, you will be entitled to receive only the "vested percentage" of your account balance.

You may elect to have your vested account balance distributed to you as soon as administratively feasible after the last day of the Plan Year quarter coinciding with or next following the date on which you terminate employment. However, if the value of your vested account balance does not exceed \$1,000, then a distribution will be made to you regardless of whether you consent to receive it. (See the question entitled "How will my benefits be paid to me?" for additional information.)

**Treatment of rollovers for consent to distribution.** In determining if the value of your vested account balance exceeds the \$1,000 threshold described above used to determine whether you must consent to a distribution, your rollover account will be considered as part of your benefit.

#### **What happens if I terminate employment at Normal Retirement Date?**

**Normal Retirement Date.** You will attain your Normal Retirement Age when you reach age 65. Your Normal Retirement Date is the first day of the month coinciding with or next following your Normal Retirement Age.

**Payment of benefits.** You will become 100% vested in all of your accounts under the Plan if you retire on or after your Normal Retirement Age. However, the actual payment of benefits generally will not begin until you have terminated employment and reached your Normal Retirement Date. In such event, a distribution will be made, at your election, as soon as administratively feasible. If you remain employed past your Normal Retirement Date, you may generally defer the receipt of benefits until you actually terminate employment. (See the question entitled "How will my benefits be paid to me?" for an explanation of how these benefits will be paid.)

#### **What happens if I terminate employment at Early Retirement Date?**

**Early Retirement Date.** Your Early Retirement Date is the first day of the month coinciding with or next following the date you have attained age 62 and completed 3 Years of Service with your Employer. Your Years of Service will be determined using Years of Service for vesting. You may elect to retire when you reach your Early Retirement Date.

**Payment of benefits.** If you are employed on the date you attain your early retirement age, you will become 100% vested in all of your accounts under the Plan. However, the payment of benefits generally will not begin until you actually retire after reaching your Early Retirement Date. In such event, a distribution will be made, at your election, as soon as administratively feasible. However, if you retire after reaching your Early Retirement Date but prior to your Normal Retirement Date and the value of your account balance does not exceed \$1,000, then a distribution of your account balance will be made to you, regardless of whether you consent to receive it. (See the question entitled "How will my benefits be paid to me?" for an explanation of how these benefits will be paid.)

#### **What happens if I terminate employment due to disability?**

**Definition of disability.** Under the Plan, disability is defined as a physical or mental condition resulting from bodily injury, disease, or mental disorder which renders you incapable of continuing any gainful occupation and which has lasted or can be expected to last for a continuous period of at least twelve (12) months. Your disability must be determined by a licensed physician. However, if your condition constitutes total disability under the federal Social Security Act, then the Administrator may deem that you are disabled for purposes of the Plan.

**Payment of benefits.** If you become disabled while an employee, you will become 100% vested in all of your accounts under the Plan. Payment of your disability benefits will be made to you as if you had retired. However, if the value of your account balance does not exceed \$1,000, then a distribution of your account balance will be made to you, regardless of whether you consent to receive it. (See the question entitled "How will my benefits be paid to me?" for an explanation of how these benefits will be paid.)

#### **How will my benefits be paid to me?**

**Lump-sum distributions.** All distributions from the Plan will be made in a single lump-sum payment. If your vested account balance exceeds \$1,000, you must consent to the distribution before it may be made.

**Delaying distributions.** You may delay the distribution of your vested account balance unless a distribution is required to be made, as explained earlier, because your vested account balance does not exceed \$1,000. However, if you elect to delay the distribution of your vested account balance, there are rules that require that certain minimum distributions be made from the Plan. Distributions are required to begin not later than the April 1st following the later of the end of the year in which you reach age 70 1/2 or retire.

**Medium of payment.** Benefits under the Plan will generally be paid to you in cash only, except for the following: participant loans.

**ARTICLE VIII  
BENEFITS AND DISTRIBUTIONS UPON DEATH**

**What happens if I die while working for the Employer?**

If you die while still employed by the Employer, then your vested account balance will be used to provide your beneficiary with a death benefit.

**Who is the beneficiary of my death benefit?**

**Beneficiary designation.** You may designate a beneficiary for your death benefit. The designation must be made in accordance with the procedures set forth by the Administrator. You should periodically review your designation to ensure it continues to meet your goals.

**Divorce.** If you have designated your spouse as your beneficiary for all or a part of your death benefit, then upon your divorce, the designation is no longer valid. This means that if you do not select a new beneficiary after your divorce, then you are treated as not having a beneficiary for that portion of the death benefit (unless you have remarried).

**No beneficiary designation.** At the time of your death, if you have not designated a beneficiary or your beneficiary is also not alive, the death benefit will be paid in the following order of priority to:

- (a) your surviving spouse
- (b) your children, including adopted children in equal shares (and if a child is not living, that child's share will be distributed to that child's heirs)
- (c) your surviving parents, in equal shares
- (d) your estate

**How will the death benefit be paid to my beneficiary?**

**Lump-sum distributions.** The death benefit will be paid to your beneficiary in a single lump-sum payment.

**When must the last payment be made to my beneficiary?**

The law generally restricts the ability of a retirement plan to be used as a method of retaining money for purposes of your death estate. Thus, there are rules that are designed to ensure that death benefits are distributable to beneficiaries within certain time periods.

Your death benefit must generally be paid to your beneficiary by the end of the fifth year following the year of your death. However, if your spouse is your designated beneficiary, then your spouse can elect to delay the payment until the year in which you would have attained age 70 1/2.

**What happens if I'm a participant, terminate employment and die before receiving all my benefits?**

If you terminate employment with the Employer and subsequently die, your beneficiary will be entitled to your remaining interest in the Plan at the time of your death. The provision in the Plan providing for full vesting of your benefit upon death does not apply if you die after terminating employment.

**ARTICLE IX  
TAX TREATMENT OF DISTRIBUTIONS**

**What are my tax consequences when I receive a distribution from the Plan?**

Generally, you must include any Plan distribution in your taxable income in the year in which you receive the distribution. The tax treatment may also depend on your age when you receive the distribution. Certain distributions made to you when you are under age 59 1/2 could be subject to an additional 10% tax.

**Can I elect a rollover to reduce or defer tax on my distribution?**

**Rollover or Direct Transfer.** You may reduce, or defer entirely, the tax due on your distribution through use of one of the following methods:

- (a) **60-day rollover.** The rollover of all or a portion of the distribution to an Individual Retirement Account or Annuity (IRA) or another employer retirement plan willing to accept the rollover. This will result in no tax being due until you begin withdrawing funds from the IRA or other qualified employer plan. The rollover of the distribution, however, **MUST** be made within strict time frames

(normally, within 60 days after you receive your distribution). Under certain circumstances, all or a portion of a distribution (such as a hardship distribution) may not qualify for this rollover treatment. In addition, most distributions will be subject to mandatory federal income tax withholding at a rate of 20%. This will reduce the amount you actually receive. For this reason, if you wish to roll over all or a portion of your distribution amount, then the direct transfer option described in paragraph (b) below would be the better choice.

(b) **Direct rollover.** For most distributions, you may request that a direct transfer (sometimes referred to as a direct rollover) of all or a portion of a distribution be made to either an Individual Retirement Account or Annuity (IRA) or another employer retirement plan willing to accept the transfer. A direct transfer will result in no tax being due until you withdraw funds from the IRA or other employer plan. Like the rollover, under certain circumstances all or a portion of the amount to be distributed may not qualify for this direct transfer. If you elect to actually receive the distribution rather than request a direct transfer, then in most cases 20% of the distribution amount will be withheld for federal income tax purposes.

**Tax Notice.** WHENEVER YOU RECEIVE A DISTRIBUTION THAT IS AN ELIGIBLE ROLLOVER DISTRIBUTION, THE ADMINISTRATOR WILL DELIVER TO YOU A MORE DETAILED EXPLANATION OF THESE OPTIONS. HOWEVER, THE RULES WHICH DETERMINE WHETHER YOU QUALIFY FOR FAVORABLE TAX TREATMENT ARE VERY COMPLEX. YOU SHOULD CONSULT WITH QUALIFIED TAX COUNSEL BEFORE MAKING A CHOICE.

## **ARTICLE X LOANS**

### **Is it possible to borrow money from the Plan?**

Yes, you may request a participant loan from all your accounts using an application form provided by the Administrator. Your ability to obtain a participant loan depends on several factors. The Administrator will determine whether you satisfy these factors.

### **What are the loan rules and requirements?**

There are various rules and requirements that apply to any loan, which are outlined in this question. In addition, your Employer has established a written loan program which explains these requirements in more detail. You can request a copy of the loan program from the Administrator. Generally, the rules for loans include the following:

- Loans are available to participants on a reasonably equivalent basis. Loans will be made to participants who are creditworthy. The Administrator may request that you provide additional information, such as financial statements, tax returns and credit reports to make this determination.
- All loans must be adequately secured. You must sign a promissory note along with a loan pledge. Generally, you must use your vested interest in the Plan as security for the loan, provided the outstanding balance of all your loans does not exceed 50% of your vested interest in the Plan. In certain cases, the Administrator may require you to provide additional collateral to receive a loan.
- You will be charged a commercially reasonable rate of interest. The Administrator will determine a reasonable rate of interest by reviewing the interest rates charged for similar types of loans by other lenders. The interest rate will be fixed for the duration of the loan.
- If approved, your loan will provide for level amortization with payments to be made not less frequently than quarterly. Generally, the term of your loan may not exceed five (5) years. However, if the loan is for the purchase of your principal residence, the Administrator may permit a longer repayment term. Generally, the Administrator will require that you repay your loan by agreeing to payroll deduction. If you have an unpaid leave of absence or go on military leave while you have an outstanding loan, please contact the Administrator to find out your repayment options.
- All loans will be considered a directed investment of your account under the Plan. All payments of principal and interest by you on a loan will be credited to your account.
- The amount the Plan may loan to you is limited by rules under the Internal Revenue Code. Any new loans, when added to the outstanding balance of all other loans from the Plan, will be limited to the lesser of:
  - (a) \$50,000 reduced by the excess, if any, of your highest outstanding balance of loans from the Plan during the one-year period ending on the day before the date of the new loan over your current outstanding balance of loans as of the date of the new loan; or
  - (b) 1/2 of your vested interest in the Plan.
- No loan in an amount less than \$1,000 will be made.
- The maximum number of Plan loans that you may have outstanding at any one time is 1.
- Loans will only be granted if you incur a financial hardship or have a specified financial need.

- If you fail to make payments when they are due under the terms of the loan, you will be considered to be "in default." The Administrator will consider your loan to be in default if any scheduled loan repayment is not made by the end of the calendar quarter following the calendar quarter in which the missed payment was due. The Plan would then have authority to take all reasonable actions to collect the balance owed on the loan. This could include filing a lawsuit or foreclosing on the security for the loan. Under certain circumstances, a loan that is in default may be considered a distribution from the Plan and could be considered taxable income to you. In any event, your failure to repay a loan will reduce the benefit you would otherwise be entitled to from the Plan.
- If you become entitled to a distribution from the Plan (except in the case of a hardship distribution, or an in-service distribution), or if you terminate employment, your loan generally becomes due and payable in full immediately. You may repay the entire outstanding balance of the loan (including any accrued interest). If you do not repay the entire outstanding loan balance, your vested account balance will be reduced by the remaining outstanding balance of the loan.

The Administrator may periodically revise the Plan's loan policy. If you have any questions on participant loans or the current loan policy, please contact the Administrator.

## **ARTICLE XI PROTECTED BENEFITS AND CLAIMS PROCEDURES**

### **Are my benefits protected?**

As a general rule, your interest in your account, including your "vested interest," may not be alienated. This means that your interest may not be sold, used as collateral for a loan (other than for a Plan loan), given away or otherwise transferred. In addition, your creditors (other than the IRS) may not attach, garnish or otherwise interfere with your benefits under the Plan.

### **Are there any exceptions to the general rule?**

There are three exceptions to this general rule. The Administrator must honor a "qualified domestic relations order." A "qualified domestic relations order" is defined as a decree or order issued by a court that obligates you to pay child support or alimony, or otherwise allocates a portion of your assets in the Plan to your spouse, former spouse, children or other dependents. If a qualified domestic relations order is received by the Administrator, all or a portion of your benefits may be used to satisfy that obligation. The Administrator will determine the validity of any domestic relations order received. You and your beneficiaries can obtain from the Administrator, without charge, a copy of the procedure used by the Administrator to determine whether a qualified domestic relations order is valid.

The second exception applies if you are involved with the Plan's operation. If you are found liable for any action that adversely affects the Plan, the Administrator can offset your benefits by the amount that you are ordered or required by a court to pay the Plan. All or a portion of your benefits may be used to satisfy any such obligation to the Plan.

The last exception applies to Federal tax levies and judgments. The Federal government is able to use your interest in the Plan to enforce a Federal tax levy and to collect a judgment resulting from an unpaid tax assessment.

### **Can the Plan be amended?**

Your Employer has the right to amend the Plan at any time. In no event, however, will any amendment authorize or permit any part of the Plan assets to be used for purposes other than the exclusive benefit of participants or their beneficiaries. Additionally, no amendment will cause any reduction in the amount credited to your account.

### **What happens if the Plan is discontinued or terminated?**

Although your Employer intends to maintain the Plan indefinitely, your Employer reserves the right to terminate the Plan at any time. Upon termination, no further contributions will be made to the Plan and all amounts credited to your accounts will become 100% vested. Your Employer will direct the distribution of your accounts in a manner permitted by the Plan as soon as practicable. (See the question entitled "How will my benefits be paid to me?" for a further explanation.) You will be notified if the Plan is terminated.

### **How do I submit a claim for Plan benefits?**

Benefits will generally be paid to you and your beneficiaries without the necessity for formal claims. Contact the Administrator if you are entitled to benefits or if you think an error has been made in determining your benefits. Any such request should be in writing.

If the Administrator determines the claim is valid, then you will receive a statement describing the amount of benefit, the method or methods of payment, the timing of distributions and other information relevant to the payment of the benefit.

### **What if my benefits are denied?**

Your request for Plan benefits will be considered a claim for Plan benefits, and it will be subject to a full and fair review. If your claim is wholly or partially denied, the Administrator will provide you with notification of the Plan's adverse determination. This written or electronic notification will be provided to you within a reasonable period of time.



**ARTICLE XII  
GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE PLAN**

There is certain general information which you may need to know about the Plan. This information has been summarized for you in this Article.

**Plan Name**

The full name of the Plan is Chittenden Country Transportation Authority Retirement Plan. It may also be referred to as the CCTA Retirement Plan.

**Plan Effective Dates**

This Plan was originally effective on July 1, 2001. The amended and restated provisions of the Plan become effective on July 1, 2015. However, this restatement was made to conform the Plan to new tax laws and some provisions may be retroactively effective.

**Other Plan Information**

Valuations of the Plan assets are generally made every business day. Certain distributions are based on the Anniversary Date of the Plan. This date is the last day of the Plan Year.

The Plan's records are maintained on a twelve-month period of time. This is known as the Plan Year. The Plan Year ends on June 30th.

**Employer Information**

Your Employer's name, address and identification number are:

Chittenden Country Transportation Authority  
15 Industrial Parkway  
Burlington, Vermont 05401  
20-1251628

The Plan allows other employers to adopt its provisions. You or your beneficiaries may examine or obtain a complete list of employers, if any, who have adopted the Plan by making a written request to the Administrator.

**Administrator Information**

The Administrator is responsible for the day-to-day administration and operation of the Plan. For example, the Administrator maintains the Plan records, including your account information, provides you with the forms you need to complete for Plan participation, and directs the payment of your account at the appropriate time. The Administrator will also allow you to review the formal Plan document and certain other materials related to the Plan. If you have any questions about the Plan or your participation, you should contact the Administrator. The Administrator may designate other parties to perform some duties of the Administrator.

The Administrator has the complete power, in its sole discretion, to determine all questions arising in connection with the administration, interpretation, and application of the Plan (and any related documents and underlying policies). Any such determination by the Administrator is conclusive and binding upon all persons.

The name, address and business telephone number of the Plan's Administrator are:

Chittenden Country Transportation Authority  
15 Industrial Parkway  
Burlington, Vermont 05401  
802-864-2282

### **Plan Trustee Information and Plan Funding Medium**

All money that is contributed to the Plan is held in a trust fund. The Trustees are responsible for the safekeeping of the trust fund and must hold and invest Plan assets in a prudent manner and in the best interest of you and your beneficiaries. The trust fund established by the Plan's Trustee(s) will be the funding medium used for the accumulation of assets from which benefits will be distributed. While all the Plan assets are held in a trust fund, the Administrator separately accounts for each Participant's interest in the Plan.

The Plan's Trustees are the individuals holding the following Chittenden County Transportation Authority positions:

- General Manager
- Director of Finance
- Chair of Board of Commissioners
- Vice Chair of Board of Commissioners

The Trustees mailing address and phone number are:

- 15 Industrial Parkway
- Burlington, Vermont 05401
- 802-864-2282

The Trustees shall collectively be referred to as "Trustee" throughout this Summary Plan Description.