

CARES ACT 2020

A SUMMARY AND RESOURCES FOR CHURCHES



SUMMARY OF CARES ACT PROVISIONS CHARITABLE CONTRIBUTIONS LIMITS

Note from the Christian Church Foundation, Disciples Church Extension Fund, and Pension Fund of the Christian Church: The material contained in this document is for informational purposes only and not to be construed as tax, financial, or legal advice. Before making decisions about financial matters, please consult your attorney, tax preparer or other financial advisor to find out how these programs will impact your individual or corporate situation.

For Pension Fund members only: If any differences exist between this summary and the plan documents, the plan documents will control.

Note from Church Alliance: This document briefly summarizes provisions in the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act ("the CARES Act") that could possibly be of interest to church plans, ministries and plan members. This summary reflects those CARES Act provisions as they are currently understood on March 29, 2020, without any agency guidance. As guidance is issued that may be applicable, we plan to provide information to you on that guidance or to refer you to that guidance but may not be able to update the summary with that information.

Unless stated otherwise in this document, staff from DCEF, CCF, and PFCC cannot provide tax or legal advice, nor interpret these documents.

Charitable Contribution Incentives

Allowance of Partial Above the Line Deduction for Charitable Contributions

The provision encourages individuals to contribute to religious, charitable and educational organizations by creating a new “above the line” deduction (i.e. for taxpayers who take the standard deduction). This deduction will permit them to deduct up to \$300 of annual monetary contributions. This is applicable for tax years beginning after 2019, and does not sunset after 2020 like the increased limits described below.

Modification of Limitations on Charitable Contributions during 2020

The provision increases the limitations on deductions for charitable contributions by individuals who itemize, as well as corporations. Such cash contributions must be made during 2020, and this provision does not extend the due date of the 2020 tax return.

For individuals, the 50-percent of adjusted gross income limitation is suspended for cash contributions made in 2020. For corporations, the 10-percent limitation is increased to 25 percent of taxable income for cash contributions made in 2020. This provision also increases the limitation on deductions from 15-percent to 25-percent of net income for corporate food donations made during 2020.