

Tax Cuts and Jobs Act Alters Tax Rules for Alimony

Effective January 1, 2019, changes in the federal income tax laws have eliminated tax deductions for alimony if the marriage was dissolved or a property settlement was made on or after January 1, 2019. This also includes any modification to an existing order or agreement if the modification is made on or after January 1, 2019. This means that income deduction orders which require alimony payments to a former spouse will be income to the member.

Dissolutions of marriage orders or separation agreements entered on or before December 31, 2018 will remain under the prior rule. Members who are involved in a dissolution of marriage proceeding are strongly encouraged to consult a qualified tax advisor concerning the impact of both alimony and equitable division of marital property on the member's federal income tax obligations. The Pension Fund Board of Trustees and staff CANNOT provide individual tax advice.

Note: It is not the duty of the Pension Plan to give individual tax advice and this memo is not intended to provide individualized tax advice to any members.