# PERU ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT #124 403(B) PLAN

# **PLAN DESCRIPTION**

July 1, 2019

Prepared by:
Benefit Plans Administrative Services LLC

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#### **INTRODUCTION**

Your Employer, Peru Elementary School District #124 (the Employer), has established this 403(b) retirement plan, Peru Elementary School District #124 403(b) Plan (the Plan) to assist you and other Employees in saving for retirement. The Plan is governed by the Plan document, which is a complex legal contract that contains all of the provisions required by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) that the Employer must follow when administering the Plan. This document follows specific federal laws and regulations that apply to retirement plans. The Plan document may change when new laws or regulations take effect. The Employer also has the right to modify certain Plan features from time to time. When these changes occur, you will be notified about any changes that affect your rights under the Plan.

This document is a Plan Description (PD). It summarizes the important features of the Plan document, including your benefits and obligations under the Plan. If you want more detailed information about specific plan features or have questions about any of the information in the PD, you should contact your Employer via the methods outlined in this PD. You can also request a copy of the Plan document from your Employer.

You will notice that certain terms in the PD are capitalized. These are important terms to understand and they are defined in more detail in the DEFINITIONS section of the PD. Although the purpose of this document is to summarize the more significant provisions of the Plan, the Plan document will prevail in the event of any inconsistency. In addition, the terms of the Plan cannot be modified by written or oral statements made to you by the Plan Administrator or other personnel.

The Plan was originally effective January 01, 2009. The Plan was restated effective July 01, 2010. This PD describes the Plan as amended effective July 01, 2019. This PD supersedes all previous PDs.

#### **ELIGIBILITY FOR PARTICIPATION**

The Plan document has been amended and/or restated into a new Plan document. If you were eligible to participate in the prior Plan, you will continue to be eligible to participate in this Plan without satisfying any additional age or service requirements.

# Am I eligible to make Elective Deferrals and Roth Elective Deferrals?

Once you meet the eligibility requirements below, you will be eligible to make Elective Deferrals unless you fall into one of the following categories.

• You are a non-resident alien with no U.S. sourced income.

#### What eligibility requirements do I have to meet to make Elective Deferrals?

You will be eligible to make Elective Deferrals immediately upon your hire date.

#### **CONTRIBUTIONS - EMPLOYEE**

#### Does the Plan allow me to make Elective Deferrals?

Yes. Provided you have met the eligibility requirements and passed the entry date as specified in the section titled "Eligibility for Participation" you may contribute Elective Deferrals to the Plan.

#### Do I pay taxes on any Elective Deferrals I make?

You will have the option to have the Elective Deferrals you make taken out of your pay either before or after taxes are withheld. For those Elective Deferrals you choose to have taken out pre-tax, you will generally pay taxes on this amount when you take it out of the Plan.

For those Elective Deferrals you choose to have taken out after-tax (Roth Elective Deferrals), you will pay taxes on this amount when you contribute them to the Plan. However, provided the distribution is "qualified" the earnings on these amounts will not be taxed when they are removed from the Plan. A Roth Elective Deferral distribution is qualified when (1) it has been at least 5 years since the first Roth Elective Deferrals were contributed to the Plan and (2) you are at least 59 1/2 year of age, become disabled, or have died. Roth Contributions are made in the same manner as pre-tax Elective Deferrals. You must designate how much you would like to contribute on a pre-tax basis (normal 403(b) contribution) and how much you would like to contribute as an after-tax Roth Contribution. You are not required to make any Roth Contributions. You may designate all of your Elective Deferrals as pre-tax contributions.

# How do I make or change the amount of the Elective Deferrals being withheld?

You may make or change your deferral election by returning a deferral election form to the Plan Administrator.

## Once I make a deferral election, how often can I change, stop, or re-start the election?

You may change or re-start your deferral election as of the date determined by the Plan Administrator. You may stop your deferrals at any time.

#### What are the limits on Elective Deferrals?

Your Elective Deferrals are subject to the following limits:

- Federal law limits the amount you may elect to defer under this Plan and any other retirement plan permitting Elective Deferrals (including both other 403(b) and 401(k) plans). You are limited to contributing \$19,000 (for 2019) during any calendar year.
- If you are age 50 or over, you may defer an additional amount, called a "catch-up contribution", of up to \$6,000 (for 2019).
- If you have worked a minimum of 15 years for the Employer, you can defer additional compensation into the Plan under the Special 403(b) Catch-Up Rule. This special catch-up contribution is equal to the smallest of the three amounts listed below:
  - 1. \$3,000,
  - 2. \$15,000 minus the amount of Special 403(b) Catch-Up Contributions made in prior years, or
  - 3. \$5,000 times the number of years you have worked for the Employer minus the total amount of Elective Deferrals made while you worked for the Employer.
- The maximum amount you can defer is 100% of your compensation.

The Plan Administrator may establish additional rules you will need to follow when making your deferral election. Your deferral election is only effective for compensation you have not received yet. The Plan Administrator may also reduce or totally suspend your election if they determine that your election may cause the Plan to fail to satisfy any of the requirements of the Internal Revenue Code.

#### **CONTRIBUTIONS - EMPLOYER**

# Can the Employer make any other type of contributions to the Plan?

Yes. The Employer may have the discretion to reallocate any forfeitures and to make other contributions as necessary to comply with the IRS' non-discrimination requirements.

#### What are the limits on total contributions?

Your total contributions are subject to the following limits:

• The total amount that may be contributed to the Plan on your behalf in any year may not exceed the lesser of 100% of your compensation or \$56,000 (for 2019).

## Can I move money I have in another retirement plan to this Plan?

Yes. If you are eligible to participate in the Plan you can rollover the money you have in other plans into the Plan. While the Plan Administrator may establish procedures that relate to the requirements for Rollover Contributions, in general rollovers will be accepted from any plan that is eligible to be rolled into the Plan. While there are exceptions this generally includes rollovers from a qualified retirement plan (i.e., 401(k), defined benefit), another 403(b) plan, a governmental 457(b) plan and pre-tax assets held in a traditional IRA.

# Will I receive contributions when I am not working at the Employer due to my performing qualified military service?

If you are re-employed by the Employer after performing qualified military service you may be able to make up missed employee contributions and to receive make-up employer contributions. Additionally, if you meet all of the requirements the time you spend on qualified military service may count as Years of Service under the Plan. You can receive more information about your rights under the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act (USERRA) from the Plan Administrator.

## What happens if I die or become disabled while performing qualified military service?

If you die or become disabled while performing qualified military service the Employer will treat you as if you returned to work on the day before you died or became disabled and then terminated on the date of death or disability when determining any of your benefits under the Plan including contributions.

#### **VESTING**

#### Do I need to work a certain amount of time to keep my Elective Deferrals?

No. You will always be immediately 100% vested in your Elective Deferrals.

# How is my service with the Employer measured to earn a Year of Vesting Service?

You will earn a year of vesting service when you are still employed on the day before the anniversary of the date you first performed service for the Employer (your hire date).

#### **DISTRIBUTIONS - AFTER TERMINATION FROM SERVICE**

Can I take a distribution of my account balance after my employment terminates?

Yes. You can take a distribution of your account balance immediately after your employment terminates.

#### What form can my distribution after termination from service be taken in?

You can take your distribution after termination from service as a cash distribution.

Your distribution can be taken in a lump sum distribution and as a continuous right of withdrawal.

#### How soon after my death does my Beneficiary have to take distributions?

Your Beneficiary must take distributions as required by the IRS.

# What form can the distributions after my death be taken in?

Your beneficiaries can take distributions as a cash distribution.

Your beneficiary's distribution can be taken in a lump sum distribution and as a continuous right of withdrawal.

# Who gets my assets in the Plan if I don't designate a beneficiary?

If you die without designating a beneficiary, your Account will be payable to your spouse, or if you do not have a spouse, to your estate.

## Can the Employer ever force me to take a distribution from the Plan?

The Plan Administrator will force a distribution of your account balance when you reach your Required Beginning Date (see below for what your Required Beginning Date is).

#### Is there ever a time when I have to take a distribution from the Plan?

Yes. Once you reach your Required Beginning Date you must start taking distributions from the Plan. These distributions are called Required Minimum Distributions. Failure to take these payments can result in an IRS penalty tax of 50% of the amount that should have been distributed. Your Required Beginning Date is when you actually retire or age 70 1/2, whichever is later.

#### **DISTRIBUTIONS - IN-SERVICE**

#### Can I take a distribution of my account balance if I am still working when I reach normal retirement age?

Yes. You can take a distribution of all of your fully vested account balances when you reach normal retirement age (age 65) while you are still working.

#### Can I take a distribution of my account balance when I reach age 59.5?

Yes. You can take a distribution of the following fully vested accounts when you reach age 59.5:

- Elective Deferrals
- Roth Elective Deferrals

#### Can I take a distribution of my account balance while still working at any time?

Yes. You can take a distribution of your Rollover Contribution account balances at any time.

## Can I take a distribution of my Elective Deferrals while still working if I am called to active duty?

Yes. You can take a distribution of your Elective Deferrals while still working if you are called to active

military duty for at least 30 days. However, if you are not called to active duty for at least 180 days, you will not be able to have Elective Deferrals withheld from your pay for 6 months from the date of the distribution.

#### Can I take a distribution of my account balance while still working if I incur a hardship?

Yes. You can take a hardship distribution of the following fully vested account balances while still working if you incur a hardship:

- Elective Deferrals, excluding post-1988 earnings
- Roth Elective Deferrals

#### Are there requirements I must meet to take a hardship distribution?

Yes. In order to receive a hardship distribution from your Elective Deferrals, excluding post-1988 earnings you must have an immediate and heavy financial need that cannot be satisfied by other available resources. This determination is made by the Plan Administrator. The following are the only financial needs considered immediate and heavy:

- expenses incurred or necessary for medical care, described in Code section 213(d), for you or your spouse, children, dependents, or Primary Beneficiary;
- the purchase (excluding mortgage payments) of a principal residence for the Participant;
- payment of tuition and related educational fees for the next 12 months of post-secondary education for you or your spouse, children, dependents, or Primary Beneficiary;
- the need to prevent the eviction of you from your principal residence (or a foreclosure on the mortgage on your principal residence);
- payments for burial or funeral expenses for your deceased parent, spouse, children, dependents, or Primary Beneficiary; or
- expenses for the repair of damage to your principal residence that would qualify for the casualty deduction.

In order to have the hardship distribution satisfy an immediate and heavy financial need, the following also must be true:

- You have obtained all distributions, other than hardship distributions, and all nontaxable loans under all plans maintained by the Employer.
- The distribution is not in excess of the amount of an immediate and heavy financial need (including amounts necessary to pay any federal, state or local income taxes or penalties reasonably anticipated to result from the distribution).
- Your Elective Deferrals, if applicable, will be suspended for 6 months after the receipt of the hardship distribution.

# Can I move my assets in the Plan to a vendor that does not accept contributions directly from the Employer?

Yes. You can move your assets in the Plan to a vendor that does not accept contributions directly from the Employer (un-approved vendor) provided that the vendor has entered into an agreement with the Employer to share information related to the Plan and your account. See the Vendor Addendum for a list of un-approved vendors for the Plan.

#### Can I use my assets in the Plan to purchase service credit in another plan?

Yes. You can request to have your assets transferred to another plan to purchase service credit under that plan.

What form can my in-service distribution be taken in?

You can take your in-service distribution as a cash distribution.

Your in-service distribution can be taken in a lump sum distribution and as a continuous right of withdrawal.

#### LOANS

#### Am I eligible to take a loan from the Plan?

Yes. If you are an active employee you may apply for a loan from the Plan. Loans will only be made to persons who the Plan Administrator determines have the ability to repay the loan.

# How many loans can I have outstanding at any one time?

The maximum number of loans you can have outstanding at any one time is 1. This number will include any previous loans you may have taken that were not paid back in full.

#### Is there a minimum amount that I must take out as a loan?

Yes. The minimum loan amount is \$1,000.

#### Is there a maximum amount that I can take out as a loan?

Yes. Your loan amount is limited to the lesser of:

- \$50,000 minus the highest outstanding balance of loans in the past 12 months, or
- 50% of your vested account balance.

# Is all of my account balance used when determining the amount of my vesting account balance purposes?

Yes. However, the Plan Administrator will determine whether you may receive a loan from your Roth Contribution Account. If the Plan Administrator allows loans from your Roth Contribution Account, the Plan Administrator may specify an ordering rule for loans. The ordering rule will determine whether loans will be made first or last from your Roth Contribution Account or in any combination of your Roth Contribution Account and any other Account.

#### How long do I have to re-pay my loan?

Your loan must be repaid within five years from the date of the loan. If the loan will be used to purchase a principle residence a longer repayment may be allowed (determined at the time the loan is made). The maximum loan term for a principal residence loan is 25 years.

#### How often do I have to make loan payments?

You must repay your loan in accordance with the repayment schedule established at the time the loan is taken. These payment will be at least on a per payroll basis. Full or partial prepayments are allowed. If you fail to make loan payments according to the established repayment schedule and you do not correct this failure in a timely manner (as determined by the Plan Administrator) the remaining loan balance will be "deemed distributed". This means that the remaining balance will become a taxable distribution for the year in which it was deemed. However, this does not remove your obligation to repay the loan and the remaining balance plus the interest that has accrued since the loan was deemed will be taken into account when determining the maximum of any further loan and the deemed loan will count as an outstanding loan. Special repayment rules will apply if you take out a subsequent loan when you have an unpaid deemed loan outstanding.

#### Do I have to make my loan payments through payroll deduction?

Yes. Your loan payments will be made through payroll deduction from each of your regular paychecks.

#### Can I refinance my loan?

No. You may not refinance your loan.

# What happens to my loan if I terminate from service with the Employer?

When you terminate from service, you may continue to make the scheduled loan repayments by check or other method prescribed by the Plan Administrator. Payments must be received by the Plan Administrator on a timely basis.

#### Are there any fees associated with taking a loan?

You may be charged fees related to granting and administration of loans from the Plan. Please contact the Plan Administrator if you would like more information regarding taking a loan from the Plan.

#### **Outstanding Loan Balance upon Severance from Employment**

If you have an outstanding loan upon severance from employment, you may be eligible to continue to make payments and avoid tax penalties associated with a loan default. The MyPlanLoan Continuation Program allows you to transfer your outstanding loan to MyPlanLoan, a BPAS service, for invoicing and payment. The loan is re-amortized to monthly payments based on the original interest rate, remaining term, and loan balance. Please contact the Plan Sponsor for more information.

#### **INVESTMENTS**

#### Can I direct how my account balances will be invested?

Yes. You can direct how your entire account balance will be invested from among the different investments offered under the Plan.

You may make or change your investment elections by going to the following web site or calling the voice response unit at the following number: Please visit www.bpas.com or call (800) 530-1272.

# What type of accounts can my account balance be invested in?

Your account balance can be invested in custodial accounts.

## How often can I change my investment election?

Subject to any additional restrictions placed on investment timing by the actual investment, your elections will be subject to such rules and limitations as the Plan Administrator may prescribe.

#### How will my account balances be invested if I do not make an investment election?

If you do not make an investment election your account balances will be placed in investments selected by the Plan Administrator.

#### How often does the Plan Administrator determine how much my benefit in the Plan is worth?

The Plan Administrator will determine the value of each Participant's benefit under the Plan on each business day. The Plan Administrator may also choose other dates to determine the value of each Participant's benefit under the Plan.

#### **MISCELLANEOUS**

#### **Domestic Relations Orders**

Under certain circumstances, a court may issue a domestic relations order assigning a portion of your benefits under the Plan to a spouse, former spouse, child or other dependent. The Plan Administrator will determine whether the order is a qualified domestic relations order ("QDRO"). If the Plan Administrator determines that the order is a QDRO, it will implement the terms of the QDRO and divide your Account accordingly. You may obtain, without charge, a copy of the Plan's QDRO procedures from the Plan Administrator.

#### Insurance

The Plan is not insured by the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation (PBGC) because it is not a defined benefit pension plan.

#### **Administrator Discretion**

The Plan Administrator has the authority to make factual determinations, to construe and interpret the provisions of the Plan, to correct defects and resolve ambiguities in the Plan and to supply omissions to the Plan. Any construction, interpretation or application of the Plan by the Plan Administrator is final, conclusive and binding.

## Plan is Not a Contract of Employment

The Plan does not constitute, and is not to be deemed to constitute, an employment contract between the Employer and any employee or an inducement or condition of employment of any employee. Nothing in the Plan is to be deemed to give any employee the right to be retained in the Employer's service or to interfere with the Employer's right to discharge any employee at any time.

# Waiver

Any failure by the Plan or the Plan Administrator to insist upon compliance with any of the Plan's provisions at any time or under any set of circumstances does not operate to waive or modify the provision or in any other manner render it unenforceable as to any other time or as to any other occurrence, whether the circumstances are the same or different. No waiver of any term or condition of the Plan is valid or of any force or effect unless it is expressed in writing and signed by a person authorized by the Plan Administrator to grant a waiver.

#### **Errors**

Any clerical or similar error by the Plan Administrator cannot give coverage under the Plan to any individual who otherwise does not qualify for coverage under the Plan. An error cannot give a benefit to an individual who is not actually entitled to the benefit.

#### **Duty To Review Pay Records**

As a participant in the Plan, you should understand that you have a duty to review your pay records (pay stub, etc.) to confirm that your Employer has properly implemented your salary reduction election. Furthermore, you have a duty to inform the Plan Administrator if you discover any discrepancy between your pay records and any Salary Reduction Agreement you have submitted. In addition, you should understand that the Plan Administrator will treat your failure to report any withholding errors for any payroll to which your Salary Reduction Agreement applies, by the cut-off date for the next

following payroll, as your affirmative election to defer the amount actually withheld (including zero). You may, as mentioned above, modify your deferral election prospectively, consistent with the Plan terms.

#### **ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION**

#### **Plan Sponsor**

The Plan Sponsor is Peru Elementary School District #124.

• Employer Identification Number: 36-6004953

Address: 1800 Church Street, Peru, Illinois 61354

Phone number: (815)223-0486

#### **Plan Administrator**

The Plan Administrator is Peru Elementary School District #124.

Address: 1800 Church Street, Peru, Illinois 61354

Phone number: (815)223-0486

#### **Plan Assets**

Assets of the Plan are held in custodial accounts.

## **Agent for Legal Service**

The agent for legal service for the Plan is the president of the board of Peru Elementary School District #124.

Address: 1800 Church Street, Peru, Illinois 61354

Phone number: (815)223-0486

#### **Plan Number**

The Plan is a 403(b) plan. The Plan number is 999.

#### Plan and Fiscal Year

The Employer's fiscal year and the Plan Year end on June 30.

#### **DEFINITIONS**

#### **Account**

Your Account is the sum of all of your amounts in each of your different contribution accounts.

#### **Beneficiary**

Your Beneficiary is the individual who will get your benefit under the Plan upon your death. You have the right to designate one or more primary and one or more secondary beneficiary.

#### Compensation

Compensation is your wages from the Employer that are shown as taxable wages on your IRS Form W-2 measured over the Plan Year. For any self-employed individual, Compensation will mean earned income.

For purposes of Elective Deferrals, Compensation will include any amount you elect to defer on a taxpreferred basis to any benefit plan of the Employer.

For purposes of Elective Deferrals, Compensation will include payments of unused accrued bona fide sick, vacation, or certain other leave that are paid to you after you terminate employment.

Compensation will include wages paid during any period in which you are performing service in the uniformed services while on active duty for a period of more than 30 days that represents all or a portion of the wages you would have received if you were performing service for the Employer.

# Disability

You will be considered Disabled when you are unable to engage in any substantial gainful activity by reason of any medically determinable physical or mental impairment that can be expected to result in death or which has lasted or can be expected to last for a continuous period of not less than 12 months. The permanence and degree of such impairment must be supported by medical evidence.

#### **Elective Deferrals**

Elective Deferrals are the amount of your Compensation that you chose to deposit into the Plan under a salary reduction agreement you complete with the Employer.

Elective Deferrals can be contributed either on a pre-tax basis or an after-tax basis. After-tax Elective Deferrals are referred to as Roth Elective Deferrals.

#### **Normal Retirement Age**

Normal Retirement Age (NRA) is age 65.

## **Plan Year**

The Plan Year is the 12 month period ending on June 30.

#### **Rollover Contributions**

Rollover contributions are the assets that you moved (rolled over) from another retirement plan to the Plan.

#### **Termination from Employment**

You will be considered to have a Termination from Employment from the Employer when you are no longer employed by the Employer or on the day when the Employer is no longer eligible to sponsor the Plan.

#### **Transfer Contributions**

Transfer Contributions are contributions that were transferred over to the Plan from another eligible retirement plan. This is typically done at the Employer's discretion as part of a merger or related transaction.

#### **VENDOR APPENDIX**

#### **Approved Vendors**

An approved vendor is an organization who accepts ongoing Plan contributions directly from the Employer. Subject to procedures established by the Plan Administrator you may be able to move your Plan assets between the approved vendors listed below:

• Benefit Plans Administrative Services, Inc. (BPAS)

#### **CUSTOM LANGUAGE APPENDIX**

# **Custom Language**

This Plan is the first restatement onto a pre-approved 403(b) plan document, although the Plan's restated Effective Date is a retroactive date, all optional elections within this Adoption Agreement reflect Plan provisions that are in effect on the first day of the Plan Year in which this Plan is restated unless otherwise specified in the Effective Date Addendum or elsewhere within the Plan. As to elections that may have been in effect on and after the Effective Date of the restatement and which are not reflected in this Plan, see the Plan in effect prior to its restatement.