



Deferred Compensation/457 Plan & Coronavirus FAQs

These FAQs are for Pinellas County employees participating in the deferred compensation/457 plan who are experiencing financial hardship due to the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.

Coronavirus-Related Distribution

Can I access my deferred compensation money now?

If you have been financially impacted by the pandemic, you may be eligible to use funds in your deferred compensation account. Pinellas County has opted in to the CARES Act provision that allows for a new type of distribution called a Coronavirus-Related Distribution.

Am I a qualified individual for purposes of section 2202 of the CARES Act?

You are a qualified individual if:

- You are diagnosed with the virus SARS-CoV-2 or with coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) by a test approved by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention;
- Your spouse or dependent is diagnosed with SARS-CoV-2 or with COVID-19 by a test approved by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention;
- You experience adverse financial consequences as a result of being quarantined, being furloughed or laid off, or having work hours reduced due to SARS-CoV-2 or COVID-19;
- You experience adverse financial consequences as a result of being unable to work due to lack of child care due to SARS-CoV-2 or COVID-19; or
- You experience adverse financial consequences as a result of closing or reducing hours of a business that you own or operate due to SARS-CoV-2 or COVID-19.

Under section 2202 of the CARES Act, the Treasury Department and the IRS may issue guidance that expands the list of factors taken into account to determine whether an individual is a qualified individual as a result of experiencing adverse financial consequences. The Treasury Department and the IRS have received and are reviewing comments from the public requesting that the list of factors be expanded.

What is the deadline to take a Coronavirus-Related Distribution?

December 31, 2020

What tax rules apply?

Check with your tax advisor and deferred compensation provider.

How do I apply?

Contact your deferred compensation provider. See www.pinellascounty.org/hr/deferred-comp for contact information for ICMA, Mass Mutual, Nationwide, and VALIC.

Loan

Can I get a loan on my deferred compensation money?

Contact your [deferred compensation provider](#) for loan information (note: Mass Mutual participants do not have a loan option). The CARES Act changed certain loan provisions as follows:

- Plan loans may be made up to \$100,000 (increased from \$50,000) without regard to the normal 50% of account balance limit.
- Loan payments on existing deferred compensation/457 plan loans may be delayed. Contact your deferred compensation provider for details if you have a loan that is outstanding.