

Dreaming and planning for your retirement?
Saving for your future doesn't need to be stressful. It can be easy.

Planning for your future

One way to save for your retirement is contributing to your IBEW Local 353 Group Registered Retirement Savings Plan (RRSP). Your Group RRSP is a "self-directed" plan. Self-directed means that when you enroll in the plan, you select from a list of investment funds where you would like your money to be invested. If you don't make a choice, your money will automatically be invested in the Continuum Target Date Fund closest to the year you reach age 65. You can change this selection at any time. You can make an appointment with a Canada Life representative to review your investment options by calling 1-800-724-3402 between 8:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. Monday to Friday.

For most members, for every hour you work, your employer contributes 3% of your wages to the IBEW Local 353 Group Retirement Savings Plan, administered by Canada Life. Once you join, you'll receive quarterly updates showing how the investments you've selected are performing, along with the amount of contributions made or withdrawn during that quarter. You can also monitor your contributions online at [My Canada Life at Work](#) or by reviewing your Quarterly Contribution Statements from TEIBAS. For questions regarding contributing to your spouse's RRSP or questions regarding transferring to another RRSP, please call Canada Life directly at 1-800-724-3402.

What to know about RRSP Contribution Room

Remember to take the time to review your RRSP contributions prior to December 31st of each year and to monitor how much you and your employer have contributed over the year. Your RRSP "contribution room" for the year is the maximum amount that can be contributed to RRSPs on your behalf during that year. This amount is generally determined by the following calculation: 18% of your previous year's income minus any contributions to a registered pension plan (such as the IBEW 353 pension plan) in the previous year plus any RRSP room carried forward from prior years. If your employer's total annual contributions to the pension plan and group RRSP are more than your annual "contribution room" this may result in an overcontribution. It's your responsibility to monitor your contribution room to make sure you don't overcontribute.

Overcontributing can result in a penalty of 1% per month on your contributions that exceed your contribution room by more than \$2,000. To avoid over contributing, make sure you monitor your contributions online at [My Canada Life at Work](#) or visit myteibas.com to review your quarterly contribution statements from TEIBAS.

For more information on RRSP contribution limits visit the Canada Revenue Agency's website at www.canada.ca/en/revenue-agency.html or call 1-800-959-8281 to answer your questions.

Questions? Call Canada Life at 1-800-724-3402 weekdays between 8:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. to speak to a client service representative.

Six advantages to a Group RRSP

Belonging to the group retirement savings plan has several important advantages:

1. Service fees are generally less than half of the going retail rate as compared to individual RRSP accounts.
2. There are reduced administrative fees compared to individual RRSP accounts.
3. It's a painless way to save because contributions are paid directly by your employer and deposited into your individual RRSP account.
4. As with other retirement savings plans, your contributions to the group RRSP are tax deductible (to a contribution limit affected by pension contributions) when you file your tax return.
5. You choose the investment strategy that's right for you — from a variety of funds.
6. You can use your RRSP to supplement your income in retirement, or to buy your first house, or use it in a financial emergency.

RRSP Tax Savings

You'll receive a tax receipt annually from Canada Life. Here are three ways RRSPs can reduce your taxes:

1. Contributions are deducted from income before calculating income tax.
2. Income earned within your RRSP account (interest and/or investment returns) isn't taxed until money is withdrawn from the plan.
3. Money may be withdrawn from an RRSP in tax years when you have less income (due to retirement, unemployment, etc.) placing you in a lower tax bracket and reducing your tax obligations.

Questions? You can email us at members@teibas.com or call us at 416-637-6789, toll-free: 1-800-267-0602.

Disclaimer: The information contained in this document is not meant to convey legal or financial advice, but rather provide information. We have made every effort to make sure this information is accurate but if there is a difference between the information contained here and legal plan documents, the official plan documents will apply. Always consult your own legal or financial advisor.

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