

October 8, 2014
D/BU #44/2014-2015



OTPP Amendment Re: Short Leaves of Absence

To: Presidents and Local Executives
From: Paul Elliott, President

For Information

A change to the Ontario Teachers' Pension Plan eliminates the need to buy back short leaves of absence.

As of September 1, 2014, OTPP members automatically maintain service credit for employer-approved absences that span five or fewer consecutive school days. These "short absences" include any days for which mandatory contributions are not already being deducted. Depending on the collective agreement this could include personal days, religious holidays or days to recover from illness when sick days have expired and additional time is required. Keep in mind that pension contributions are waived for OTPP contributors who qualify for LTD.

Employers report credit, deduct and remit contributions from salary as they normally would if members were working. For approved absences of one to five days, members will not be required to do anything regarding pension. Service credit in OTPP will be automatically maintained without members being required to buy back service for these short absences.

If members take an employer-approved leave of absence that lasts more than five consecutive school days, they will still have the option to buy back credit for all or a portion of the leave.

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