

Clergy Retirement Security Program

At-a-Glance



The Clergy Retirement Security Program (CRSP)

is an Internal Revenue Code section 403(b) retirement plan administered by Wespath Benefits and Investments (Wespath)—the largest denominational pension fund in the world. It is designed to provide you with one element of your overall retirement portfolio.

The Clergy Retirement Security Program (CRSP) is a retirement program that offers:

- 1 security through a defined benefit (DB) component that gives you lifetime retirement income, and
- 2 flexibility through a defined contribution (DC) component that provides you with an account balance you can access as your retirement needs require.

ELIGIBILITY

You are eligible to participate if you are a clergy member or local pastor under full-time Episcopal appointment to a conference, church, charge, district or conference-controlled entity or unit and you are receiving compensation. Your conference may also elect to cover clergy appointed at least half-time or at least three-quarter time.

CRSP FEATURES

- You are automatically enrolled by your plan sponsor.
- You receive account statements quarterly or upon demand.
- Account information is accessible 24/7 through the website (www.benefitsaccess.org).
- Representatives are available to answer calls at **1-800-851-2201** business days from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., Central time.

DEFINED BENEFIT (DB) COMPONENT

- Provides a monthly retirement benefit that is calculated using the following formula:

$$\begin{array}{r}
 1.25\% \times \text{Denominational Average Compensation (DAC)}^1 \\
 \text{at retirement} \times \text{years of credited service}^2 \\
 \text{from 1/1/07 through 12/31/13} \\
 + \\
 1.00\% \times \text{DAC}^1 \text{ at retirement} \times \text{years} \\
 \text{of credited service}^2 \text{ after 12/31/13} \\
 \hline
 \div 12
 \end{array}$$

- You will have various DB payment options when you retire
- There are annual cost-of-living increase options for retirees

¹ Final compensation substitutes for DAC for periods of service as a bishop.

² Reduced for less-than-full-time appointments.

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(continued)

Investment and Distribution Assistance

Wespath offers services at no additional cost to you that can help you manage your DC account:*

- LifeStage Investment Management is an investment service that selects a mix of Wespath funds for your retirement account(s) based on your individual circumstances.
- LifeStage Retirement Income determines a monthly retirement income amount for you and updates it annually based on cost-of-living increases and other factors, with the goal of making your account balance last for your lifetime.
- EY Financial Planning Services assists you with financial planning and investment needs.
- For more information about LifeStage Investment Management, EY Financial Planning Services and LifeStage Retirement Income, please visit www.wespath.org/retirement/services/.

* Costs for these services are included in Wespath's operating expenses that are paid for by the funds.

DEFINED CONTRIBUTION (DC) COMPONENT

- Every month, the Church contributes 2% of your plan compensation to your DC retirement account. In addition, the Church will match your personal contributions to the United Methodist Personal Investment Plan (UMPIP) up to 1% of your plan compensation.
- Your account—both earnings and contributions—grows tax deferred until you withdraw money.
- Provides convenient distribution options when you are eligible to access the money in your account—including lump sum or partial distributions, or a series of regular payments.
- Account balance can remain in the plan until the later of your retirement or age 73 (or later, depending on your birth date).



If approved at General Conference 2024, the new Compass plan will take effect. Compass is an account-based, defined contribution retirement plan for clergy. As proposed, CRSP would continue through December 31, 2025, and then “freeze.” Effective January 2, 2026, the new Compass plan would take effect. Clergy participants in CRSP would automatically be enrolled in Compass and begin earning benefits.

Clergy will not lose CRSP benefits they earn through December 31, 2025.

The maximum period of service under CRSP will be 19 years (CRSP will have been in effect 19 years: from January 2007 through December 2025). As of December 31, 2025, there will be no further service earned under CRSP.