



49th EDITION

READY OR NOT

YOUR RETIREMENT PLANNING GUIDE




BROUGHT TO YOU BY THE
**BRICKLAYERS & TROWEL TRADES
INTERNATIONAL PENSION FUND**

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The Trustees of the International Pension Fund (IPF) are pleased to bring you *Ready or Not*, a publication of the International Foundation of Employee Benefit Plans (IFEBP). This publication is designed to help working IPF participants make a smooth transition into retired life and also assist retired participants get more out of their retirement. *Ready or Not* features clear and concise articles and worksheets created to help readers make well-informed decisions regarding retirement. The IFEBP regularly updates *Ready or Not* to provide timely information and has published this book without advertising or sales pitches. Along with tips on budgeting and finance, the publication provides information on Social Security and Medicare. It also looks at aging and health, retiree lifestyles, and lists important contacts for further information.

Ready or Not is part of continuing efforts by both the International Union of Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers (BAC) and IPF to assist Union members prepare for and enjoy a rewarding and well-deserved retirement. The Trustees encourage you to make use of this resource. Please take time to read *Ready or Not* and work through the worksheets provided within. We are certain that the information presented will be of value to you now and in years to come.

Sincerely,



Timothy Driscoll

Co-chair, IPF Board of Trustees

BRICKLAYERS & TROWEL TRADES INTERNATIONAL PENSION PLAN

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The Bricklayers & Trowel Trades International Pension Fund is administered by a joint Board of Trustees comprised of Union and Employer Representatives. Records and Benefit Payments are processed at the Fund office which is managed by an Executive Director appointed by the Board of Trustees.

The Fund Office can answer any retirement questions you have specific to the Bricklayers & Trowel Trades International Pension Fund and advise you of any benefits you may be entitled to from the Fund. Any inquiry you have should be addressed to dstupar@ipfweb.org.

Further information is at your fingertips at the BAC Member Portal. With the Member Portal you can see your current Normal Pension and project your benefit at a future date with additional years of service under different payment options. In addition, registered participants can review their IPF hours history and access an application to apply for benefits.

Get started today by registering online now at member.bacweb.org for the BAC Member Portal by following these simple steps:

- Log onto BAC's homepage at www.bacweb.org
- Have your IU Number ready (located on the upper left of your Union card)
- Have the address of your active e-mail account ready
- Click on the "Member Portal" banner
- Click on "Create an Account"
- Follow the instructions on the screen
- Sign up for the receipt of IPF/BAC SAVE materials electronically
- Record your username and password for future use

***Ready or not* is a comprehensive guide that provides actionable advice on — plus practical worksheets and checklists for — preparing for retirements.**

Topics include:

- Budgeting for your retirement needs
- Evaluating cash flow and net worth
- Saving and investing goal setting based on time horizons
- Considering new options for leisure activities, volunteering or work
- Weighing the pros and cons of early or late retirement
- Choosing housing options
- Clarifying differences between Original Medicare, Medigap and Medicare Advantage
- Assessing caregiving alternatives
- Retirement planning in a gig economy
- Debt Management including student loan debt
- Mental health and resilience
- Health insurance past age 65
- Impact of health savings accounts (HSAs) on Social Security benefits, Medicare and estate planning

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