

Why Church Extension Plan's 403(b)? The plan was selected because of its low cost, excellent customer service, variety of investment options, and its emphasis on ministry. CEP is headquartered in Salem, Oregon and has been a valued partner of the Network for over 70 years.

I already have a retirement account with AGFS (MBA). Can I receive contributions to that account?

Yes, you can. You will need to notify the Network office that you already have an account established with AGFS.

How do I get started with CEP? Scan the QR code or visit cepnet.com/simn403bmr. Complete the Participation form and CEP will notify the SIMN office that you have successfully submitted your forms. Contributions will be made to your account when you next send your tithes to the Network office.

What are my investment options? CEP has investment options that provide an opportunity to support church ministry projects through the Vision Fund. The other investment options are Biblically responsible mutual funds and more traditional mutual funds. For a full list of the investment options, please visit CEP's website at cepnet.com.

I am not employed by the Network. Can they contribute to my account? IRS regulations allow for association based plans that cover a group of related employers. The district is considered a co-employer for purposes of retirement plan contributions.

Are contributions from the Network considered taxable income? Contributions to your 403b account are not considered taxable income.

What if I already have an account with CEP? Contributions will be made to your existing account. A second account does not need to be established. **However, you still need to complete the Participant form** in order to be eligible for contributions from the Network.

What if I don't want to participate? There is no obligation to participate. If you do not wish to participate in this benefit from SIMN, do not complete the enrollment Participant form. However, there will be no reduction in the amount of your tithes/dues.

Can I transfer my existing AGFS account to CEP? Yes. Once your account with CEP is open, contact the CEP office and they will assist you with completing a transfer. You can email investment@cepnet.com or call **503-399-0552**.

Can I keep my account with AGFS and open a new account with CEP? Yes. You can keep your account with AGFS and open a new account with CEP. Since each plan provides different investment options, you may want to take advantage of the diversification of investments and fees that comes with multiple accounts.

Can I contribute directly to my account? Your church can facilitate direct contributions by adopting the CEP 403(b) Retirement Plan. For more information, contact CEP by emailing retirement@cepnet.com or calling **800-821-1112**.