



Northern Illinois Conference

OF THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Illinois Secure Choice Retirement Savings Program FAQs

Based on Information from Illinois Great Rivers Annual Conference

What is the Illinois Secure Choice Retirement Savings Program?

The Illinois Secure Choice Savings Program Act is a state-facilitated retirement savings program for employers that have five or more employees who receive a W-2 and that do not already offer an employer-sponsored retirement plan. This mandate serves as a payroll function in which the local church deducts an employee's elected contributions from their paycheck to contribute to a state-facilitated Roth IRA retirement savings program. Employees are automatically enrolled once an employer is registered with Illinois Secure Choice. The employee has 30 days to elect their contributions or opt out. Employees should visit the Illinois Secure Choice website at www.ilsecurechoice.com/ for more information regarding making contribution elections. They may also choose to speak with their personal financial advisor.

Who is affected by the Illinois Secure Choice Savings Program Act?

The Illinois Secure Choice Savings Program Act is mandated for employers that have five or more employees who receive a W-2 and that do not do not already offer an employer-sponsored retirement plan.

Who is exempt from Illinois Secure Choice?

Local churches that have fewer than five employees that receive a W-2 are exempt from participating in Illinois Secure Choice.

Local churches that sponsor a retirement plan for their employees are exempt from participating in Illinois Secure Choice.

Our local church participates in the UMPIP retirement plan through Wespath for our employees. Are we exempt from Illinois Secure Choice?

Yes. Churches that participate in the UMPIP retirement plan through Wespath or a retirement plan through another entity are exempt from participating in Illinois Secure Choice.

We believe our church is exempt. What should we do?

If you believe that your local church is exempt, please visit www.ilsecurechoice.com/exempt to report your exemption.

Are employees required to participate?

No, employees are not required to participate in Illinois Secure Choice. Employees are automatically enrolled and have 30 days to make their contribution elections or opt out.

What is the deadline for implementation?

The deadline for implementation is Nov. 1, 2023. Find more information at www.ilsecurechoice.com/.

Will there be fees for the employer?

No. Employers are not required to pay fees or make contributions.

Will there be penalties for not registering?

Yes. If an employer has five or more employees and does not sponsor a retirement plan for them, it must register with Illinois Secure Choice. Those that fail to register are subject to fines and penalties, as described in 820 ILCS 80/85. Enforcement for noncompliant employers will begin in 2023.

Where can I find more information?

For more information regarding the Illinois Secure Choice Savings Program Act, please visit www.ilsecurechoice.com or call (855) 650-6913 for employer assistance.