

**Pension Lump Sum Payout Effort** - The Benefits Office started a project last year that would allow certain eligible employees and former employees to elect a lump sum pension payment of an amount of their pension during a limited window of time. The project was put on hold due to the pandemic and the challenges to administer the project in that environment. The project has now been restarted and eligible employees will receive an announcement letter within the next week.

Last year, letters were originally sent to active employees who were age 62 as of 5/31/2020 and terminated vested employees who left employment on before 9/30/2019. However, the pandemic has brought about some changes in the CARES Act that have allowed us to expand the offering to active employees who are age 59.5 as of 3/1/2021. We are also extending this offering to terminated vested employees who left employment on or before 9/30/2020. After the initial announcement mailing, a Lump Sum Election Package Mailing will be made in the first week of January 2021 to eligible employees and former employees for their review and decision.

When receiving questions from affected staff about this effort, it is recommended to avoid providing any advice or explanations. Instead, questions from employees regarding this offering should be referred to the Archdiocese of Baltimore Lump Sum Service Center that has been specifically set up for this purpose at **(866) 305-8846, Plan Code 616**, from 8am – 5pm (EST). Eligible employees who would prefer to receive the normal pension benefit in the form of a monthly annuity should continue to send their pension request forms to [insure@archbalt.org](mailto:insure@archbalt.org).