Service Canada College • Collège Service Canada

# Canada Pension Plan Online Retirement Application – Internet

# RELEASE 3.0 PARTICIPANTS GUIDE



Service Canada

# **Table of Contents**

Section 1 – Introduction	3
1.1 Motivation	3
1.2 Background	
1.3 System Functionality	5
1.4 Advantages of the Online Application	6
1.4.1 Effect of Change	6
1.4.2 Target Audience	7
1.4.3 Objectives	8
1.5 Prerequisites	8
1.6 Using this Guide	9
1.7 Tool Kits	9
1.8 Completion Time	9
1.9 References	9
Section 2 – Online Application	10
2.1 Objectives	10
2.2 Access the Online Application	11
2.3 Canada Pension Plan Retirement Application	13
2.4 Information Sheet	15
2.5 Online Application	17
2.5.1 Application Completion Steps	18
Participant Feedback Questionnaire	44

# **Section 1 – Introduction**

# 1.1 Motivation

As a Canada Pension Plan (CPP) Service Delivery Officer (SDO), Citizen Service Officer (CSO) and Payment Service Officer (PSO) you want to provide the best possible service to your clients. This becomes more challenging as the Canadian population ages and more and more clients submit Retirement (RTR) Applications and need your expert guidance.

This Training Guide has been up-dated to familiarize you with the recent changes impacting the online CPP RTR Application.

# 1.2 Background

For more than a decade, the Government of Canada has been working to create better ways to deliver services to Canadians. Every step of the way improvements have been made in order to keep up with the changing needs of Canadians.

In September 2005 Service Canada was launched. Service Canada integrates services from a number of federal departments to form an easy-to-access service delivery network.

This network brings together over 600 points of service in communities throughout Canada; a national 1-800-O-Canada (1-800-622-6232) telephone service providing Canadians with information about all federal government services, and a range of online services at www.servicecanada.gc.ca. Service Canada's mandate is to provide better service to more Canadians in more communities through customer-centered service delivery and knowledgeable service delivery staff.

The service delivery functions for Canada Pension Plan (CPP) and Old Age Security (OAS) programs are now part of Service Canada and are in step with Service Canada's client centered service delivery mandate.

In 2001, CPP and OAS programs became active partners in a five year initiative called <u>Modernizing Service for Canadians</u> (MSC). MSC is a plan to ensure that better, more responsive and more efficient programs, policies and services are developed and provided to Canadians. MSC will fundamentally change the way government thinks about what it does and how it delivers service.

As part of its MSC commitment, CPP and OAS Programs have undertaken several initiatives to transform themselves into a more client-centric organization. One such initiative is the Acceleration Project.

This project has two phases.

# **Acceleration Project Phase 1**

#### **Acceleration Project Phase 1** had two main objectives:

- The first was to simplify the existing CPP Retirement (CPP RTR) and OAS application forms and information sheets;
- The second was to make the new simplified forms available online in a fillable, printable format.

The CPP RTR application form and information sheet were the first to be simplified. These new products were tested in a pilot that ran from July 3 to September 30, 2003. The simplified CPP RTR application and information sheet were converted to an online fillable, printable format that is now available on the Internet.

The OAS forms and information sheets were simplified. Fillable, printable OAS forms were piloted for three months beginning in March 2004.

# **Acceleration Project Phase 2**

Acceleration Project Phase 2 had one objective and it was to take the new simplified CPP RTR and OAS application forms and make it possible for clients to fill these out online and submit them to CPP and OAS Programs electronically over the Internet.

CPP RTR Phase 2 (online version) was launched on March 19, 2004. Currently, clients are able to fill out a CPP RTR application online and submit the completed application over the Internet. However, due to current technological and legislative limitations, clients applying for this benefit using the Phase 2 process are:

- able to fill out and submit an application online; but
- are required to print a *Signature Page*, sign it, and mail it to CPP with all other required supporting documents (e.g. a void cheque to support the request for the direct deposit of benefits).

At this time, no date has been set for launching OAS Phase 2.

# 1.3 System Functionality

The Internet application allows a client to submit part 1 of a CPP RTR application online in a secure manner. In addition to submitting the electronic application, the client must print, sign and mail a *Signature Page*, along with any other documentation (e.g. void cheque) required to complete the application process.

The *Signature Page* features a unique confirmation number and date stamp which will be used by service delivery officers (SDOs) or by payment service officers (PSOs) to follow-up on the online application.

# 1.4 Advantages of the Online Application

The CPP Retirement application allows CPP contributors to apply for a CPP RTR pension online from anywhere in the world over the Internet.

#### It will also:

- Reduce the number of paper-based RTR application forms used by clients;
- Offer this service 24 hours a day, 7 days a week;
- Offer this service in both official languages;
- Increase the level of client satisfaction by providing more choices to match their preferred mode of service;
- Notify clients about possible eligibility for provisional benefits (for example, pension sharing), so application packages should be more complete when received.

# 1.4.1 Effect of Change

Front line and designated payment service officers will be affected by this new online service as follows:

- As a front line CSO, you will be impacted by additional phone calls from contributors asking about this new mode of service and how it works.
- You will also need to know how to access the Intranet database on the Information Technology Renewal Delivery System (ITRDS) in order to search for, view, and print online applications.

- As a designated SDO/PSO, you will need to know how to process and follow-up on applications received through the Phase 2 process.
   While applications received through the Phase 2 process will automatically be coded into the Intranet database, there are some additional processing steps required before the SDO/PSO can adjudicate the application. They include:
  - Monitoring and changing the status of the *Signature Page*;
  - Printing a process summary when the *Signature Page* has been received and matched to the online application;
  - Coding the application in the appropriate system (e.g. ITRDS or CPP Legacy).

# 1.4.2 Target Audience

Although this training guide is useful for all CPP staff who interact with clients in any mode of service (Service Canada Call Centres, Service Canada Centres, or Service Canada Mail Processing Centres) it is primarily intended for:

- Service delivery officers, citizen service officers and payment service officers who are expected to answer questions related to the online CPP RTR Application; and
- Designated SDOs/PSOs who will access, update and use the Intranet database of all submitted online CPP RTR applications.

# 1.4.3 Objectives

After completion of this training guide, you will be able to:

- Recognize the steps for locating the CPP RTR Online Application from the Service Canada Internet site;
- Assist a client who has questions related to the completion of the online CPP RTR application;
- Recognize the steps the client must follow to complete the online CPP RTR application;
- Define the following terms:
  - Error Message,
  - Hurdle page;
- Recognize how to access the information sheet; and
- Identify the information that is included on the information sheet.

# 1.5 Prerequisites

Before you begin, ensure that you have completed these modules:

- How to Use the Self-Directed Learning Packages
- Orientation to Income Security Programs (ISP)
- Legislative Overview
- <u>CPP Overview</u>
- Overview of Work tools
- Acts, Regulations and Policy Products
- Navigating the Benefit Procedures Manual
- International Social Security Agreements
- Earnings and Contributions
- Proof of Age
- RTR Benefit Pension

# 1.6 Using this Guide

The Internet application overview outlines the steps the client must take to complete the online Internet version of the CPP RTR Application. This will enable the front line staff to guide their client as they complete the online application.

Included are samples of screen shots with detailed explanations of the process and other related information. Some of the screen shots have been cut to fit the guide, so in certain cases the entire screen is not visible.

If you have any comments or suggestions about this module, please send an email to the Operational Training Group at Service Canada College at the following email address:

NC-OTG\_INQUIRIES-GFO\_DEMANDES-GD

# 1.7 Tool Kits

- Online Application for RTR Pension Form
- Online *Signature Page*

# 1.8 Completion Time

This module will take you approximately three hours to complete.

# 1.9 References

Functional Guidance and Procedures

**CPP Operations Manual, Section 2-2** 

Modernizing Service for Canadians Acceleration Phase 2: <u>Instructions for Dealing with Online Applications</u> and Qs and As are covered in the SDA Assist tool

SDB-100 Canada Pension Plan Retirement Application - Simplified

Now let's get started!

# **Section 2 – Online Application**

# 2.1 Objectives

After studying this section, you will be able to:

- Recognize the steps for locating the CPP RTR Application on the Service Canada Internet site;
- Assist a client who has questions related to the completion of the online CPP RTR application;
- Recognize the steps the client must follow to complete the online CPP RTR application;
- Define the following terms:
  - Error Message,
  - Hurdle page;
- Recognize how to access the information sheet; and
- Identify the information that is included on the information sheet.

# 2.2 Access the Online Application

Service Canada is the online access point to services for Canadians. The online CPP RTR Application can be found on the Service Canada Internet site at <a href="https://www.servicecanada.gc.ca">www.servicecanada.gc.ca</a>.



First the client must select their official language of choice.

The client can access the *Canada Pension Plan Retirement Application* screen by selecting the **Apply for the Canada Pension Plan Retirement Pension** link.



# 2.3 Canada Pension Plan Retirement Application

The next screen that the client will see is the *Canada Pension Plan Retirement Application* screen.

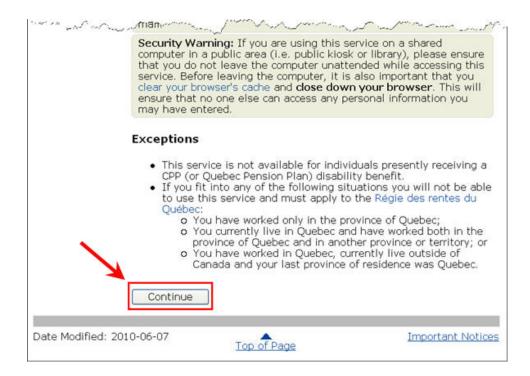


This screen outlines:

- Who can use this service;
- Information the client is required to provide; and
- Exceptions to this service.

The client will also find links to the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs), minimum computer requirements, and the Régie des rentes du Québec (RRQ).

To go to the next page, the client must scroll down to the bottom of this page and select the **Continue** button.



# 2.4 Information Sheet

The next screen the client will be directed to is the *Information Sheet* screen. It provides the client with all the information they will need to apply for a CPP RTR online.



Once all the information has been read, the client must select the **Continue** button located at the bottom of the page to start the application process.



If the client has problems or questions while they are completing the online application, they can select the **Help** link located on the top navigation bar.

If the client would like assistance from a Service Canada officer, they can go to the **Contact Us** link also located on the top navigation bar.



# 2.5 Online Application

The client will have to go through 8 different steps in order to successfully complete their online application.

After each step, the client must select the **Continue** button to go to the next step.

Some of the fields in each page of the online application are mandatory. Mandatory fields are not identified but if the client does not fill a mandatory field on any given page, they will not be able to move to the next page. An error message box will appear at the top of the screen indicating which field needs to be corrected, as shown below.



By selecting the error message hyperlink, the client will be directed to the field that needs to be corrected. Once the correction is made, the client will be able to move to the next page of the application by selecting **Continue** located at the bottom of the page.

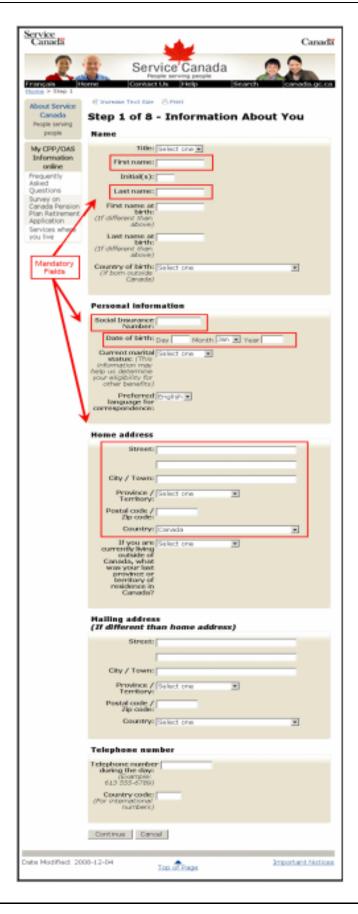
# 2.5.1 Application Completion Steps

# Step 1 of 8 - Information About You

The first step is the *Information About You* screen. This screen is divided into five blocks:

- Name
- Personal information
- Home address
- Mailing address (if different than home address)
- Telephone number

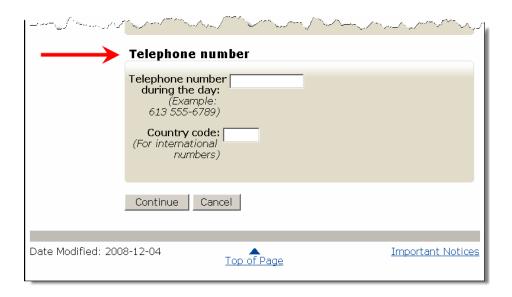
The client is asked to provide personal information such as: name, address, Social Insurance Number, etc. Many fields appearing on this page are not mandatory. However, there are some fields that the client MUST complete such as the **First name** and **Last name** fields, the **Social Insurance Number** field, the **Date of birth** field and the **Home address** field.



If the client's mailing address is different from their home address, they must fill out the **Mailing Address** block.



In the **Telephone number** block, the client should enter the **Telephone number during the day** field.



Once all the information has been entered, the client must select the **Continue** button located at the bottom of the page to go to Step 2 of the application process.

#### **Hurdle Page**

A hurdle page appears whenever a client provides an answer to a question related to the pension start date that conflicts with a specific business rule related to the age of the client and/or the pension start date.

When a hurdle page appears, the client is given the choice to either:

- provide a different answer (e.g., enter a different date of birth) by selecting **Re-enter date of birth**; or
- select the **Continue** button, in which case the original start date the client entered will be kept; or
- select the **Cancel** button to cancel the application.

In Step 1, there is one hurdle page. If the date of birth the client entered does not comply with business rules, a hurdle page will be displayed asking that the date of birth be re-entered, as seen here.



However, the client can continue with the date as entered by selecting **Continue** from the *Step 1 – Date of Birth* page.



**Take Note:** This is NOT an error message. An error message appears when a client fails to complete a mandatory field or makes a mistake in filling out a field and it must be corrected, e.g. invalid SIN. An error must be corrected before the client can go to the next page, but a client can choose to ignore a hurdle page and continue with their application.



**Take Note:** When processing the application, the processing SDO/PSO must adhere to the information submitted by the client but must also take into account the existing business rules in qualifying for a CPP RTR pension. For detailed information related to processing a CPP RTR application, refer to the NTP CPP Retirement Pension — Participant's Guide

# Step 2 of 8 – When Do You Want Your Pension To Start?

In this step, the client must choose at what age they want their pension to start.



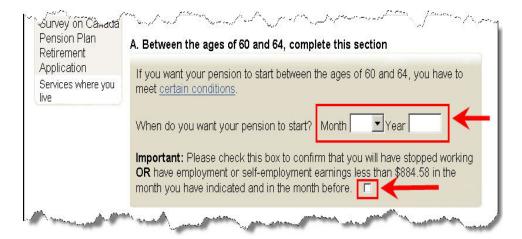
Three choices are offered:

- Option A: Between the ages of 60 to 64;
- Option B: At 65; or
- Option C: After the age of 65.

### Option A: Between the Ages of 60 to 64:

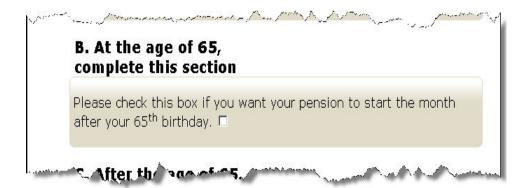
If the client chooses option A, they must:

- Indicate the year and month the pension is to start; and
- Select the box that confirms they will have stopped working, **OR** have employment or net self-employment earnings that are less than the maximum CPP RTR pension (payable at age 65) in the month before the CPP pension is to start, and in the month it starts.



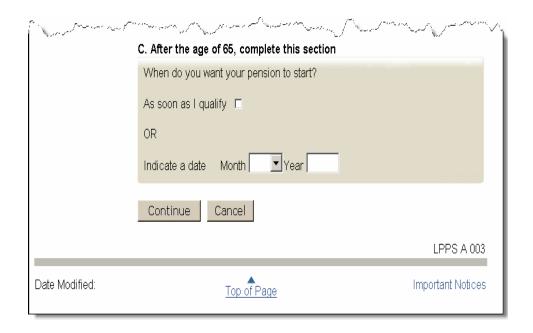
#### Option B: At 65:

If the client chooses option B, the pension will start the month after their 65th birthday.



### **Option C:** After the Age of 65:

If the client chooses option C, they select the **As soon as I qualify** box OR indicate the month and year the pension is to start.



# **Hurdle Page**

In Step 2, there are a total of three hurdle pages. As mentioned before, they will appear only if the start date does not comply with the business rules.

The three hurdle pages in Step 2 are very similar. The only difference between them is the  $2^{nd}$  paragraph. Here is an example of one of them:



The client will need to select **Re-enter start date** and re-enter a new date.

However, clients can continue with the date as entered by selecting **Continue**.

# Step 3 of 8 – Information That May Affect Your Pension

A client's pension amount can be affected by a number of things. In step 3, the client is asked to provide information on:

- Children born after 1958;
- Pension sharing;
- Disability; and/or
- Benefits from other countries.

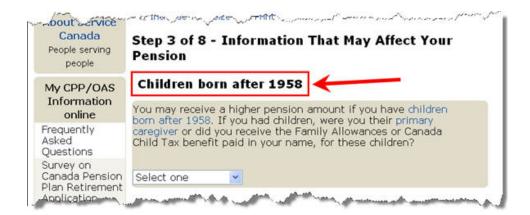
The client would complete the sections that are applicable to their situation.



Let's look at each section of Step 3:

# Children Born After 1958

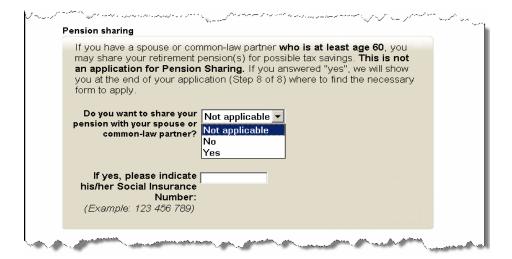
This information is used to establish eligibility for the Child Rearing Provision (CRP). The client is asked to provide information for each child born after 1958 (e.g. name, SIN, DOB etc) if applicable.



If the client has children who were born after 1958, they will be able to submit detailed information related to these children later on in Step 3 (Hurdle page).

#### **Pension Sharing/Assignment**

The client may wish to share their RTR pension(s) with their spouse or common-law partner, as it may represent tax savings for both of them.

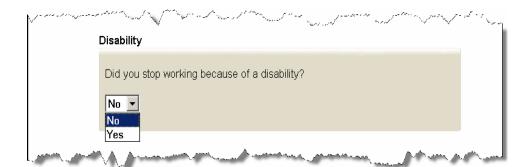


When the client indicates a desire to share their pension, messages will appear (Step 7 and 8) advising them to complete the pension sharing form if they wish to start a pension sharing arrangement.

In Step 8, the client will be able to select a link that will bring them directly to the appropriate Pension sharing application form located on the Internet.

# **Disability**

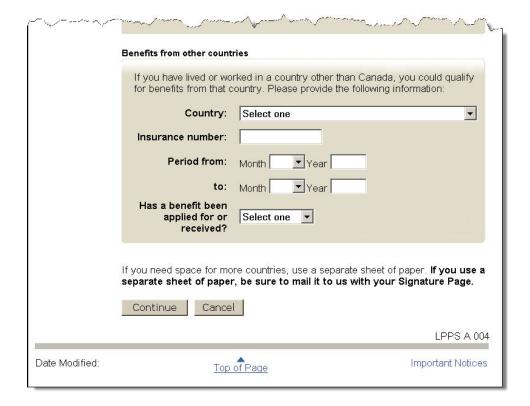
The client must indicate if they stopped working because of a disability.



#### **Benefits from other countries**

In this section, the client can provide the name of the country, the Insurance Number, the period of residence or work and if a benefit has been applied for under that country's social programs.

When the client has lived or worked in more than one country, they are requested to use a separate piece of paper to list any additional countries and submit it along with the *Signature Page*.





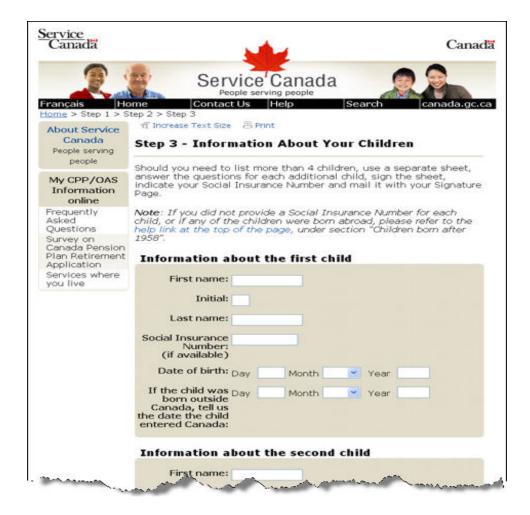
**Take Note:** If a client provides information in this section, a message appears in Steps 7 and 8 advising them to complete an application for foreign benefits. In Step 8, the client will be able to select a link that will bring them directly to the appropriate foreign benefit application form located on the Internet.

Once the client has completed Step 3, they must select **Continue** to move to the next section.

#### **Hurdle Page**

In Step 3, there is only one hurdle page and it will appear if the client answered yes to having children born after 1958. On this page, the client must fill out the information about the child or children:

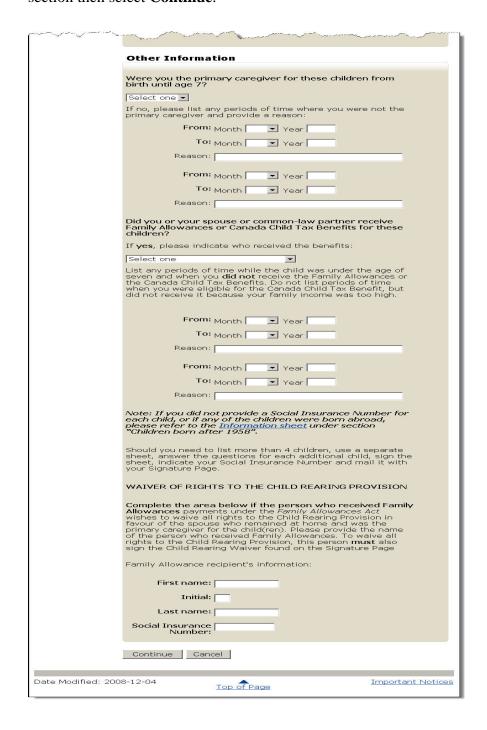
- First name;
- Last Name;
- SIN (if applicable);
- Date of birth.



The client can enter information for up to 4 children. If they have more than 4 children, they can use a separate sheet and answer the above questions for each additional child. They can submit this sheet along with the *Signature Page*.

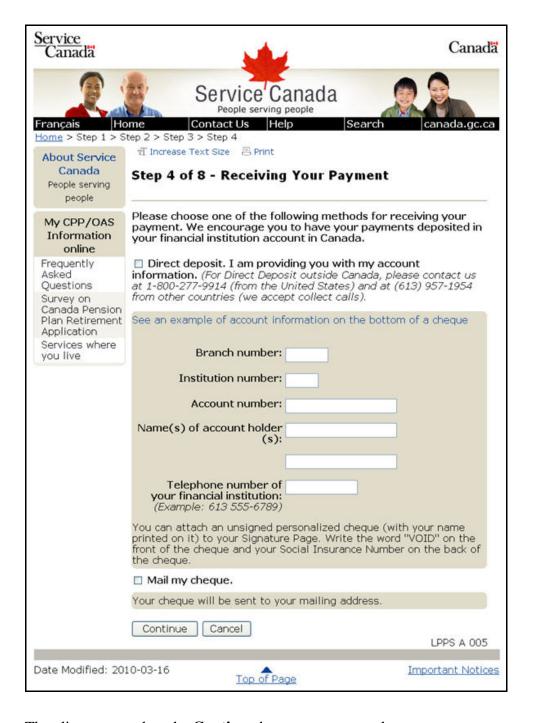
#### **Other Information**

The client **must** also answer the questions under the **Other Information** section then select **Continue**.



# Step 4 of 8 - Receiving Your Payment

On this step, the client selects their preferred payment method. The client can select direct deposit or receive their monthly cheque in the mail. If direct deposit is chosen, the client must either send a void cheque with their *Signature Page* or provide their account information.

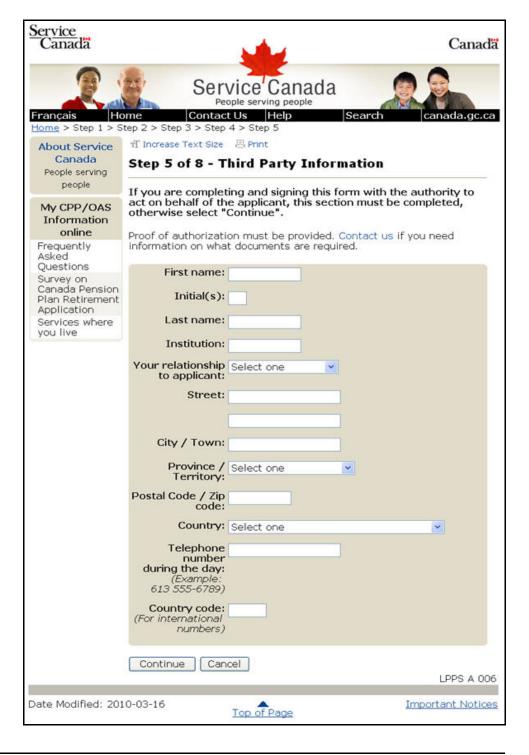


The client must select the **Continue** button to move to the next step.

# Step 5 of 8 – Third Party Information

This step must be completed ONLY if the application is being completed by someone who has the authority to act on behalf of the client.

Otherwise, the client can simply select the **Continue** button at the bottom of the screen.

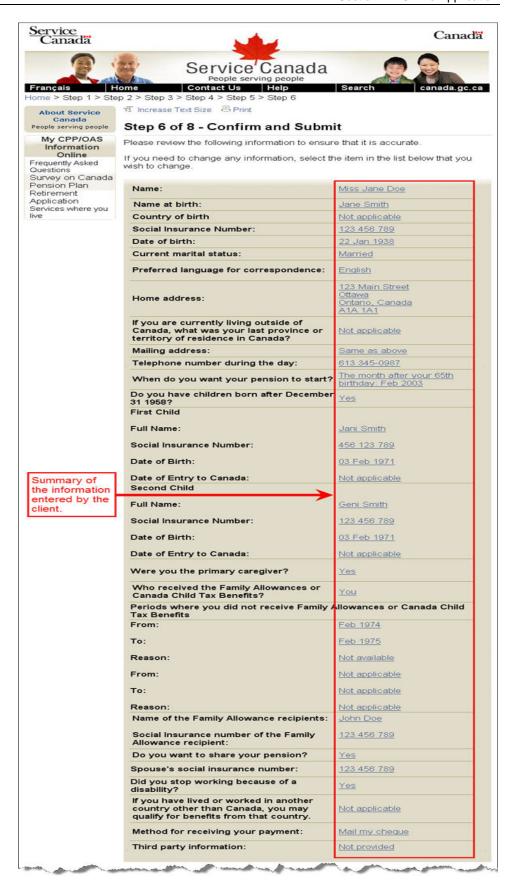


# Step 6 of 8- Confirm and Submit

The *Confirm and Submit* screen provides a summary of all the information the client entered in Steps 1 to 5.

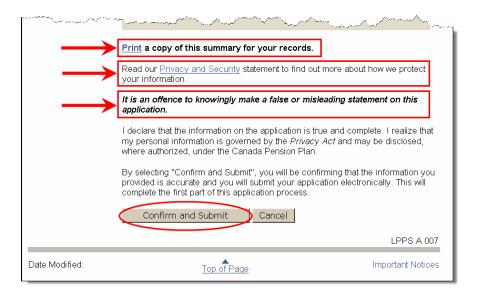
If the client notices inaccurate information, they must select the item that needs to be changed from the list in the right-hand column, and make the correction.

Once the change has been made, the client selects the **Continue** button to return to the *Confirm and Submit* screen.



Once the client reviews that the summary information is correct, they are advised to print a copy of this page for their records. The client can print this summary by selecting the **Print** link provided at the bottom of the page.

The client is also advised to read our **Privacy and Security Statement** and is reminded that it is an offence to knowingly make a false or misleading statement on this application.



After printing a copy, the client can select the **Confirm and Submit** button at the bottom of the page. This action sends the online application to the RTR database and brings the client to Step 7, which is the *Signature Page*.



**Take Note:** The protected receipt date is the date that the client submitted the online part of the application and NOT the date the **Signature Page** was received in the Service Canada Mail Processing Center.

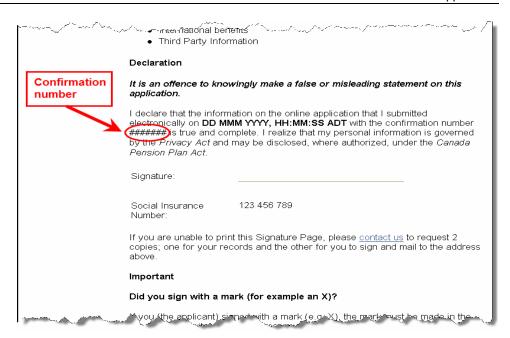
### Step 7 of 8 – Signature page

The client is advised to print 2 copies of the *Signature Page*. To do this, they must select the **Print** link located in the list of items the client must do in order to complete their application.



The client must sign one copy of the *Signature Page* and mail it along with any applicable documents (e.g., void cheque) to the address noted on the *Signature Page*. They are directed to keep the second copy for their records.

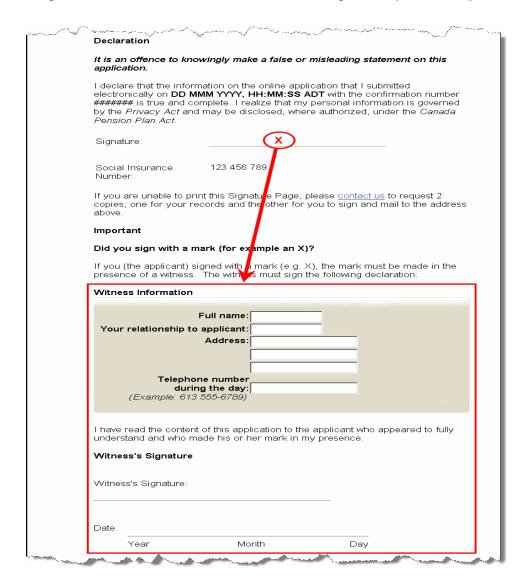
The information submitted using the online application is recorded in the RTR database. Using the Intranet, SDOs/PSOs will be able to retrieve a client's application using the **SIN** or the **Confirmation Number** that appears near the bottom of the *Signature Page*.



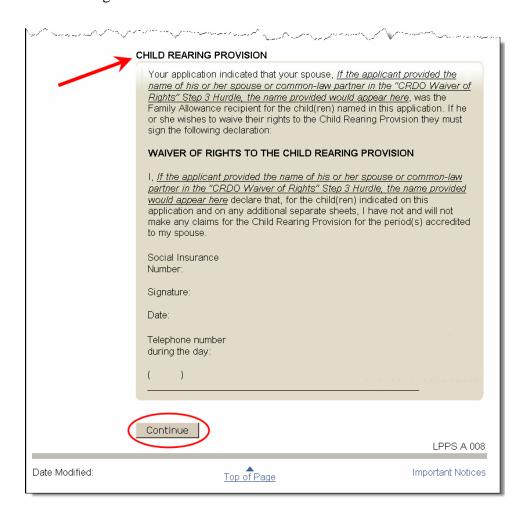
A client can apply for a CPP RTR benefit up to three times using the online application. As a result, it is highly recommended that you use the client's SIN to perform a search as this will capture all of that client's applications in the database. In contrast, a search using an application specific **Confirmation Number** would retrieve the one application linked to the *Signature Page* with that specific **Confirmation Number**.

The *Signature Page* also includes the Service Canada Mail Processing Centre address. It is determined by the system according to the home postal code entered by the client in Step 1. If the client applies from outside of Canada, the last Canadian province of residence for the client will be used to direct the application to that province's responsible Service Canada Mail Processing Center.

Still on the *Signature Page*, the client must fill in the **Witness information** block if they signed the application using a mark (i.e. X) in the presence of a witness. The witness MUST sign the *Signature Page*.



The last part of the *Signature Page* is the **Child Rearing Provision** block. If the client's spouse was the recipient of the Family Allowance and wishes to waive their rights to the Child Rearing Provision, they must sign the following declaration:



Once the *Signature Page* is completed, the client must select the **Continue** button to move on to the last step.

### Step 8 of 8- Important Additional Information

Step 8 is the last step in the application process. Based on the information the client provided in Steps 1 to 5, the system will provide information on provisional forms that the client should complete and submit with the *Signature Page*. The links take the client to the necessary forms (e.g., *tax deduction request form*) located on the Internet.

On this screen, the client is also invited to fill out a Client Survey and provide feedback on the new online service.



The client can then select **My Service Canada Account** to return to My Service Canada Account home page.

# Congratulations you have completed the Online Retirement Application training guide.

Want to test what you have learned? A workbook has been created to help you do that. You can access it at the following location:

http://intracom.hq-ac.prv/isp-psr/learning/it/gol\_e.shtml

Good luck!

September 2010

# Canada Pension Plan Online Retirement Application – Internet Participant Feedback Questionnaire

The Operational Training Group, NHQ, is committed to providing you with quality training products. In order to do that, we need your assistance.

Our purpose in requesting you to participate in the evaluation of this training is twofold: First, we would like your immediate reaction to the training you have just received; and second, your involvement in our continuous improvement process by providing your feedback once you have had an opportunity to apply the knowledge you have just received on the job.

#### **Immediate Reaction Section**

Your answers to the questions below will assist us in evaluating this course or module in a number of areas such as: instructional methods and content.

The content of this course or module was:
Comprehensive
Adequately covered
Missing information (please provide specific examples such as page numbers along with what you feel should have been added)

	Easy to understand.
	Overly sophisticated.
	(Please provide examples, such as wording was too complex, not clear or lacked conciseness.) Please reference page numbers, citing specific examples.
The s	structure of the course or module was:  Practical (the flow made sense)
The s	
The s	Practical (the flow made sense)
The s	Practical (the flow made sense)  Easy to follow (references and links to each topic were made)
The	Practical (the flow made sense)  Easy to follow (references and links to each topic were made)  Logical (Common Sense Approach)  Confusing (difficult to follow – please provide examples so changes can be
The	Practical (the flow made sense)  Easy to follow (references and links to each topic were made)  Logical (Common Sense Approach)  Confusing (difficult to follow – please provide examples so changes can be considered)
The	Practical (the flow made sense)  Easy to follow (references and links to each topic were made)  Logical (Common Sense Approach)  Confusing (difficult to follow – please provide examples so changes can be considered)

4. I will l	be able to do my job better as a result of this training.
Y	Z'es
N	Ю
Please	expand on the reasons for your answer.
We would particular t five to ten 10-15 minu	Improvement Section like to contact you in three to six months time, to complete another survey on this raining product. You will be contacted by one of our staff members who will ask you questions, similar to the ones you just completed. This survey will take approximately utes of your time. All replies are kept confidential. Please assist us in making this e best it can be by completing the following information.
Name:	
Region:	
Position Ti	tle:
	Questionnaire to:
Quality Of	
-	ll Training Group, NHQ
	River Road
	er, Tower A, 18 <sup>th</sup> Floor N K1A 0L1
Fax: (613)	948-8358