

A defined benefit plan is an 'investment in time' account-meaning the value of the account is dependent on how much time the employee spouse invested for that particular employer. When dividing these accounts pursuant to dissolution of marriage, one of the most common methods of division is a 'fractional interest' division approach. This approach is not applicable to all retirement plans and your retirement plan may use a different method of valuing the accrued benefit in a particular retirement plan ('points', for example). Shared and separate interest division methods, depending on benefit plan, may be mandatory or optional.