



Tier 2 | Investing in Your Future



Welcome to Investing in Your Future

For employees who are new to state
employment or who are not retirement age
but want to learn about SERS benefits

General Contact Resources

Web Address:

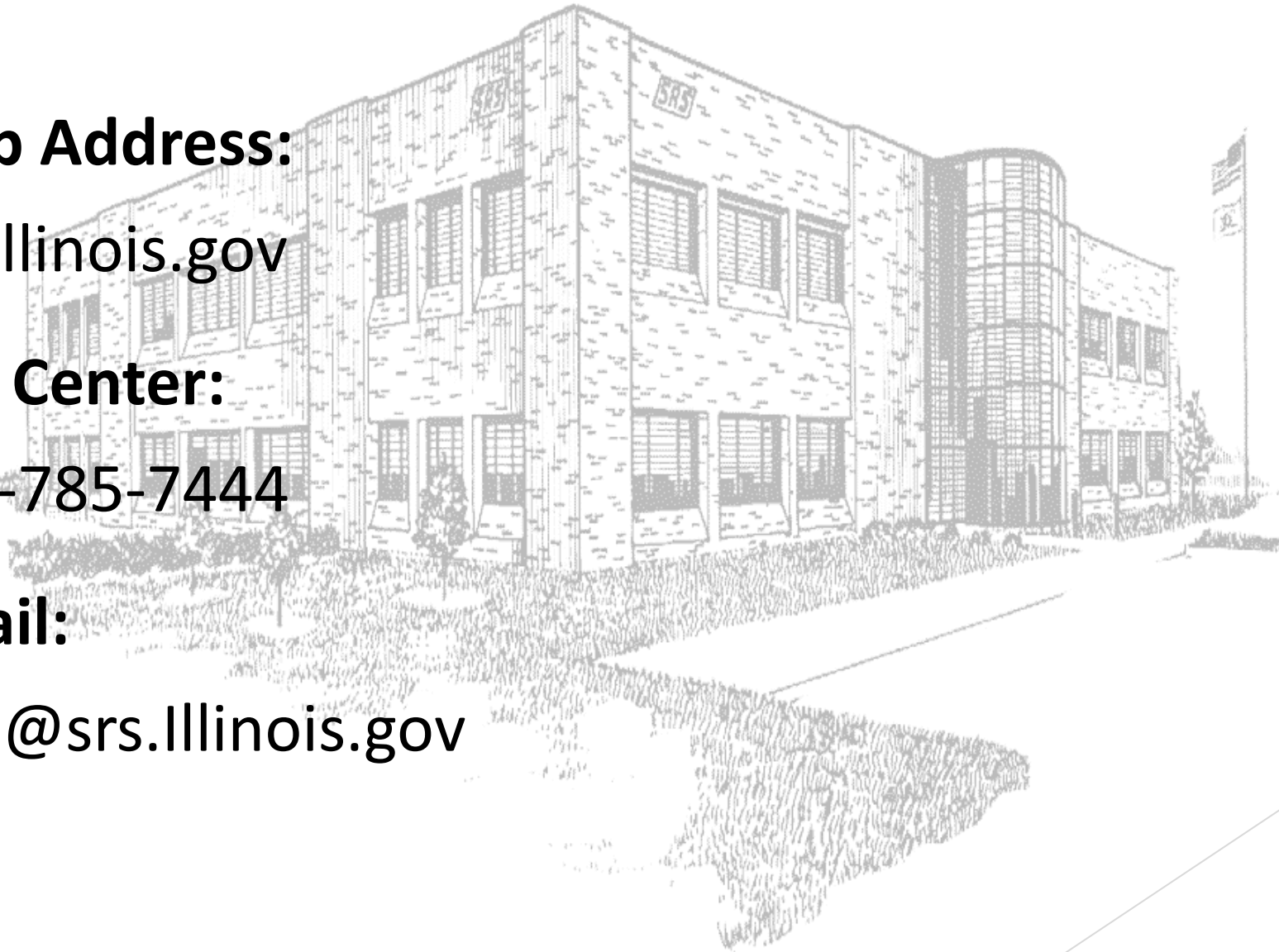
srs.illinois.gov

Call Center:

217-785-7444

Email:

sers@srs.Illinois.gov



SERS Terminology

- **Annuity**: Monthly pension payment paid for the member's lifetime.
- **CPI**: Consumer Price Index (Tier 2). Annual pension increases are $\frac{1}{2}$ of the **CPI** or 3% of pension, whichever is less.
- **CUP**: Civil Union Partner.
- **Tier 2**: Individuals who became a member of SERS or a reciprocal system after January 1, 2011.
- **Vested**: Once vesting service credit has been met, members will qualify for a monthly annuity after reaching their eligibility date to retire.
 - Tier 2 – needs 10 years service credit to be vested

Important Dates

- **62** – Reduced benefit from Social Security & Tier 2 eligible to retire with reduced pension
- **67** – Tier 2 age of retirement eligibility

Website / Member Services



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State Employees' Retirement System Judges' Retirement System General Assembly Retirement System



State Retirement Systems of Illinois



Member Services Login Instructions



Contacts



Support



Reciprocal Login

Helpful Links



Retirement Coordinators



Open IFBs/RFPs



Closed and Awarded IFBs/RFPs



Sign in using ILogin



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State Employees' Retirement System



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Retirement Coordinators



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Member Services Registration
Instructional Video



Tier 2

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Tier 2 Retirement Fact Sheets

[Regular Formula](#)[Alternative Formula](#)[Retirement Application FAQs](#)[Retirement Systems Reciprocal Act](#)[QILDRO](#)

Active Member

[Credited Service](#)[Refunds](#)[Optional Service Credit](#)[Benefits](#)

Retiree & Survivor

[Retirement Annuity](#)[Death Benefits](#)

Salary Limitations/Cola Increase

In accordance with state law, the Department of Insurance (DOI) is to annually determine certain annuity limitations for use in benefit determinations by the Retirement Systems and Pension Funds operating under the Illinois Pension Code. The calculations include:

The retirement Cost of Living Adjustment ("COLA") applicable to Tier 2 participants, and

- The annual salary maximum applicable to Tier 2 participants.
- The annual increase to be used in determining the COLA for Tier 2 is derived from the change in the Consumer Price Index-Urban ("CPI-U") for the 12 months ending with the September proceeding each November 1. State statute requires that the DOI provide these calculations to impacted Retirement Systems and pension Funds by November 1 of each year.


For the State Employees' Retirement System (SERS) the annuity COLA and the increase in the annual salary maximum equals the lesser of 3% or half the CPI-U. The following table outlines the COLA to be applied and the maximum salary for Tier 2 annuity purposes by calendar year.



State Employees' Retirement System


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State Retirement Systems > State Employees Retire...

Calculators

[Social Security Benefit Estimate Calculator](#)

[Service Credit Calculator](#)

[Sick Leave and Vacation Chart](#)

[Pension Estimate Calculator Training Video](#)

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SERS CONTACT INFORMATION

2101 S. Veterans Parkway
Springfield, IL 62704
Phone: 217-785-7444
Fax: 217-785-7019

[Email SERS](#)

HELPFUL LINKS

[Illinois State Board of Investments](#)

[Report SERS Fraud](#)

[Report JRS Fraud](#)

[Report GARS Fraud](#)

JRS/GARS CONTACT INFO



FOR JRS/GARS MEMBERS ONLY
JRS/GARS representatives do not have the ability or authorization to access SERS member data, or to assist SERS members.

2101 S. Veterans Parkway
Springfield, IL 62704
Phone: 217-782-8500
Fax: 217-524-9039

[Email JRS](#)

[Email GARS](#)



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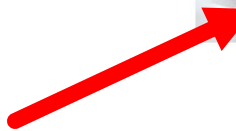
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Member Services Registration
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ILogin

Sign In

Email or Username

Next

[Unlock account?](#)

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Don't have an account? [Sign up](#)

If you already have an account, sign in as usual

First time users should click "Sign up"



Sign up

Email

First name

Last name

Honorific suffix

Optional

Middle name

Optional

Password



Sign Up

[Already have an account?](#)

Doe, Jane - XXX-XX-9999 - [Member Id: 12-3456789]

Account as of 8/20/2015

SERS MEMBERSHIP RECORD

BASIC

ACCOUNT

BENEFIT

TOTAL BUYOUT

CALCULATORS

NOMINATED BENEFICIARIES

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Retirement System	State Employees' Retirement System
Status	Active
Birth Date	3/12/1974
Age	41 years 5 months
Membership Date	11/01/2019
Tier	<u>Tier 2</u>

LAST PAYROLL OR DISABILITY POSTING

Type	Salary
Current Plan	[B] SERS Regular - Coordinated, Tier 2, 4%
Pay Code	<u>10-000</u>
Agency	Human Services, Department of
Position Code	65325
Timeworked Basis	Monthly
Pickup Code	00 (None)
Last Salary Date	07/31/2015
Current Rate	\$2,917.28

Doe, Jane - XXX-XX-9999 - [Member Id: 12-3456789]

Account as of 8/20/2015

SERS MEMBERSHIP RECORD

BASIC

ACCOUNT

BENEFIT

TOTAL BUYOUT

CALCULATORS

Total Service Credit ⓘ 5 years 4 months

NOMINATED BENEFICIARIES

Total Contributions \$11,088.19

DEMOGRAPHICS

Final Average Compensation (FAC) ⓘ \$4,264.64

FORMS & APPLICATIONS

EARNINGS AND SERVICE CREDIT

SERVICE PURCHASES

Earnings and Service Credit [Earnings and Service Credit by Calendar Year](#)

ANNUAL STATEMENTS

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

Contributions Summary
FAC Summary

Earnings Calendar



STATE
RETIREMENT
SYSTEMS

Doe, Jane - XXX-XX-9999 - [Member Id: 12-3456789]



Doe, Jane

SERS CONTRIBUTION SUMMARY

Type	Pre-Tax	Post-Tax	Employer Pickup	Total
Retirement	\$18,582.20	\$0.00	\$4,564.56	\$23,146.76
Widow & Survivor	\$2,655.38	\$0.00	\$993.72	\$3,649.10
	\$21,237.58	\$0.00	\$5,558.28	\$26,795.86

Close

Log Out

Account as of
8/20/2015

15 years 1 month

\$26,795.86

\$2,917.28

Earnings and Service Credit

Earnings and Service Credit by Calendar Year

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PAY STUB



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Doe, Jane - XXX-XX-9999 - [Member Id: 12-3456789]



SERS FAC SUMMARY

Calculated Date	04/22/2022
Calculated FAC	\$7,044.87
Earnings for FAC	\$676,307.98
Months	96.00
Used Start Date	04/2014
Used End Date	03/2022

Close

Doe, Jane

Log Out

Account as of
8/20/2015

15 years 1 month

\$26,795.86

\$2,917.28

Logs and Service Credit by Calendar Year

Doe, Jane - XXX-XX-9999 - [Member Id: 12-3456789]

Account as of 8/20/2015

SERS MEMBERSHIP RECORD

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Print Statement On-Demand

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Your estimated benefits have been calculated as of 1/29/2025. The estimate is based on the most recent payroll data that we have received and posted to your account (1/15/2025). As additional payrolls are received and posted to your account, the benefit calculations will be updated accordingly.

ESTIMATED RETIREMENT BENEFITS

These benefits assume continuous service at current rate of pay through benefit effective date.

Regular Retirement - Monthly Benefit **7/1/2056** **\$3,277.91**

Age 67 with 10 Years of Service: You must be at least age 67 with 10 years of service.

Reduced Retirement - Monthly Benefit **7/1/2051** **\$1,982.35**

You must be age 62 with 10 years of service. Your benefit is reduced by ½ of one percent for each month under the age of 67.

For each month (21 days) of unpaid sick days and/or paid sick and vacation days, your projected monthly gross is anticipated to increase by \$7.43.

Benefit Calculation

SERS ESTIMATED REGULAR RETIREMENT - MONTHLY BENEFIT

Plan	Service Credit (Years)		Formula		% of FAC
SERS Regular - Tier 2	36.6667	X	1.67%	=	61.2334%
Total Percentage of FAC =					61.2334%
Projected FAC X					\$4,265.00 ⓘ
Estimated Benefit					\$2,611.60
Projected Retirement Date					7/1/2056

Notes:

- The benefit was calculated as of 04/15/2022 instead of 04/22/2022, because of the Member's latest posted earnings date.
- Eligibility rule met: Tier 2: 67 and 10 yrs.
- Additional projected service: 34.1667 years.
- Receiving Regular formula (40 ILCS 5/14-108).
- Projected monthly gross increase for unused benefit time: \$5.94.

□ Doe, Jane ▾

□ Log Out

Account as of
8/20/2015

15 years 1 month

\$26,795.86

\$2,917.28

by Calendar Year

Close



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SERS ESTIMATED ALTERNATIVE RETIREMENT - MONTHLY BENEFIT

Plan	Service Credit (Years)	Formula	% of FAC
SERS Alternative - Tier 2	20.3333	X 2.50 %	= 50.8333 %
SERS Regular - Tier 2	10.4167	X 1.67 %	= 17.3959 %
Total Percentage of FAC =			68.2292 %
Projected FAC X			\$6,043.93
Estimated Benefit			\$4,123.73
Projected Retirement Date			9/1/2016

Notes:

- The benefit was calculated as of 12/15/2022 instead of 01/11/2023, because of the Member's latest posted earnings date.
- Eligibility rule met: Tier 2: 67 and 10 yrs.
- Additional projected service: 0.25 years.
- Receiving Regular formula (40 ILCS 5/14-108).
- [S] SERS Alternative - Coordinated Corrections, Tier 2. 8.5% service qualifies for Alternative rate ((40 ILCS 5/14-108) (g), (h), (j)).
- Projected monthly gross increase for unused benefit time: \$6.16.

Doe, Jane

Log Out

Account as of 8/20/2015

15 years 1 month

\$26,795.86

\$2,917.28

Service Credit by Calendar Year

ESTIMATED DISABILITY BENEFITS

If you become disabled and meet SERS qualifications for disability benefits you may be eligible to receive one of the following estimated benefits below:

Non-Occupational - Monthly Benefit **\$1,458.64**

(These benefits will be reduced by any Social Security Disability benefits received.)

Occupational - Monthly Benefit **\$2,187.96**

(These benefits will be reduced by Workers' Compensation benefits received.)

While you receive SERS disability benefits, your SERS account will continue to be credited with service and contributions as if you were working.

ESTIMATED DEATH/SURVIVOR BENEFITS

Non-Occupational Death - Survivor Monthly Benefit **\$400.00**

When death results from non-work related cause, this benefit is payable to your eligible spouse at age 50 (or sooner if you have eligible children).

Non-Occupational Death - Family Maximum Monthly Benefit **\$600.00**

Occupational Death - Survivor Monthly Benefit* **\$1,458.64**

When death results from work-related duties, this benefit is payable to your eligible survivors. This benefit will be reduced by any Workers' Compensation benefits received.

Lump Sum Death Benefit without Eligible Survivors **\$44,299.54**

Lump Sum Death Benefit with Eligible Survivors **\$23,146.76**

*Occupational benefits may have additional amounts payable if you have children under 18 or under 22 if a full time student.

Doe, Jane - XXX-XX-9999 - [Member Id: 12-3456789]

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FEDERAL TAX WITHHOLDING CALCULATOR

[Federal Tax Withholding Calculator](#)

SERS BENEFIT ESTIMATOR

[SERS Pension Estimator](#)

Pension Estimate



PENSION ESTIMATE DISCLAIMER

- **This is just an estimate and does not guarantee a certain benefit.**
- The estimate provided is based on information given at the time of the estimate and is subject to change.
- Any estimate provided is not binding upon SRS as actual benefits must comply with state law.

By checking this box, I acknowledge that I have read the above statements and I am ready to do a pension estimate.



Start Estimate

Cancel

Pension Estimate

SERVICE CREDIT

Plan	Months of Service
[B] SERS Regular - Coordinated, Tier 2, 4%	118

Total Service Credit: 118

SICK AND VACATION DAYS

Please enter total unused sick days earned you would like to include:

Prior to January 1, 1984:

After December 31, 1997:

After December 31, 1983 and before January 1, 1998:

Please enter vacation days you would like to include:

Vacation Days:

LEVEL INCOME

Only members who contribute to Social Security are eligible to choose the Level Income option.

Please enter the level income option you would like to include:

Next Cancel

Input the amount of unused sick time in each of the three date ranges requested.

Input the amount of unused vacation time separately.

Pension Estimate ×

Total Service Credit: 110

SICK AND VACATION DAYS

Please enter total unused sick days earned you would like to include:

Prior to January 1, 1984:

After December 31, 1997:

After December 31, 1983 and before January 1, 1998:

Please enter vacation days you would like to include:

Vacation Days:


LEVEL INCOME

Only members who contribute to Social Security are eligible to choose the Level Income option.

Please enter the level income option you would like to include:

Member elected the Level Income Option for age 62 years and 1 month.

Member elected the Level Income Option for the age at which member will receive unreduced social security benefits.



If you are going to elect the Level Income option at the time of retirement, scroll down and check the level income option that you would like to include in your estimate.

Pension Estimate



ELIGIBILITY DETAILS

Date Eligibility Met	Retirement Date	Rule
6/30/2024	7/1/2024	Tier 2: 67 and 10 yrs

SEPARATION DATE

Please enter separation date you would like to estimate:

Separation Date

RETIREMENT DATE

Please enter retirement date you would like to estimate:

Retirement Date

Pension Estimate



ELIGIBILITY DETAILS

Calculated Benefit	Benefit Available Date	Final Average Compensation (FAC)	Estimate Type
<u>\$728.40</u>	7/1/2024	\$4,325.67	Benefit With Purchase
\$0.00		\$0.00	Benefit Without Purchase

Download Retirement Estimate Letter 



Back

Cancel

Doe, Jane - XXX-XX-9999 - [Member Id: 12-3456789]

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SERS NOMINATED BENEFICIARIES

Order Number	Beneficiary Name	Date Added
1	John Doe	8/1/2010
2	Sarah Doe	6/14/2012
2	William Doe	6/14/2012
3	Thomas Doe	11/8/2014

The beneficiaries listed above are your nominated beneficiaries to whom a lump sum death benefit will be payable at your death. Lump sum death benefits will be paid equally to surviving primary beneficiaries (those listed as #1). Secondary beneficiaries are only paid if no primary beneficiaries survive you. The same process applies to remaining beneficiaries with number 3 or greater.

You may have other nominated beneficiary forms to update for benefits through state-sponsored programs such as MetLife or the State's Deferred Compensation Plan.

UPDATE NOMINATED BENEFICIARIES

If you need to update your beneficiaries or if any of the above information is incorrect, please complete, sign, and return the appropriate Beneficiary Nomination form found on the [Member Services](#) page.



2101 South Veterans Parkway
P.O. Box 19255
Springfield, IL 62794-9255

217-785-7444
855-564-4275
Email: sers@srs.illinois.gov

Death Benefit Beneficiary Designation

Refer to instructions on opposite page. Type or print in ink.

Member information

Name (Last, first, middle)

SSN (last 4) or Member ID

Address (Street, City, State, Zip)

Phone number

Any death benefits payable by State Employees' Retirement System shall be paid in EQUAL SHARES to the following beneficiaries who survive me.

PRIMARY	Beneficiary name (last, first, middle initial)	Street Address	SSN (last 4 digits) (optional)
	Relationship / Phone number	City, State, Zip code	Date of Birth (MM/DD/YYYY)

In the event all primary beneficiaries die before me, the death benefit shall be paid in EQUAL SHARES to the following secondary beneficiary(ies) who survive me.

SECONDARY	Beneficiary name (last, first, middle initial)	Street Address	SSN (last 4 digits) (optional)
	Relationship / Phone number	City, State, Zip code	Date of Birth (MM/DD/YYYY)

By signing below I certify this information is correct and that I am aware that knowingly making a false statement or falsifying a record in an attempt to defraud SERS is a class 3 felony. I understand that if the SERS Board of Trustees has a reasonable suspicion that an attempt has been made to defraud SERS, it is required to report the matter to the appropriate State's Attorney for investigation.

Member signature _____ Date _____

Beneficiary Information

- **Keep current** – State employees have 3 possible beneficiary forms.
- Name and address change
- **How you identify** – spouse, sons, daughters, etc.
- Minors/Guardians
- Your estate is your beneficiary
- Updating SERS beneficiary form
 - **Does not change**
 - Life Insurance
 - Deferred Compensation



Doe, Jane - XXX-XX-9999 - [Member Id: 12-3456789]

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PROFILE

Full Name	Jane Doe
SSN	XXX-XX-9999
Gender	Female
Birth Date	3/12/1974

ADDRESSES

Home	1123 West Washington Street, Springfield, IL 62704
Work	7854 Taylor Avenue, Springfield, IL 62712

The only way to change your home address is to submit two (2) W4 forms (C-25 Employee's Withholding Exemption Certificate) to your Agency's Payroll Office that indicate your correct address.

PHONE NUMBERS

Cell	(217) 444-2222
Fax	(217) 888-9999
Home <input type="checkbox"/>	(217) 777-4444
Work	(217) 888-3333

EMAIL ADDRESSES

Home <input type="checkbox"/>	Jane@gmail.com
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Address Changes

Make sure SRS has your current address by changing your address by filling out the Employee Address Certification (C-26) Form at your agency.

Doe, Jane - XXX-XX-9999 - [Member Id: 12-3456789]

Account as of 5/19/2022

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SERS MEMBER FORMS	
ACCOUNT NUMBER CHANGE - SAME BANK ⬇	Form 3867
AUTHORIZATION TO RELEASE ⬇	Form 3934
BENEFICIARY NOMINATION ⬇	Form 101
CHANGE OF INFORMATION ⬇	Form 501
DIRECT DEPOSIT - NEW BANK ⬇	Form 3967
FEDERAL WITHHOLDING ⬇	Form W4P
ILLINOIS TAX WITHHOLDING REQUEST ⬇	Form 3965
INITIAL DIRECT DEPOSIT ⬇	Form 3967-Initial
NON OCC DISABILITY MEDICAL REPORT ⬇	Form 3114
OCC DISABILITY MEDICAL REPORT ⬇	Form 3213
TEMPORARY DISABILITY MEDICAL REPORT ⬇	Form 3135
TRANSFER/ROLLOVER CERTIFICATION ⬇	Form 2064

SERS MEMBER PACKETS	
SERS Non Occ Disability Benefit Application Packet ⬇	
SERS Occ Disability Benefit Application Packet ⬇	
SERS Pension Benefit Application Packet ⬇	
SERS Temp Disability Benefit Application Packet ⬇	
SERS Termination Refund Application Packet ⬇	



Doe, Jane - XXX-XX-9999 - [Member Id: 12-3456789]

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SERS SERVICE PURCHASES

[Request the Cost of Optional Service Purchases for which I May Qualify.](#)

[My Service Purchase Offers with Payment Options](#)

[View My Service Purchase Payments and Balances](#)

SERS PAYABLE BENEFIT TIME (ONLY AVAILABLE UPON RETIREMENT)

[My Sick And Vacation Contribution Election](#)





Doe, Jane - XXX-XX-9999 - [Member Id: 12-3456789]

Account as of
5/29/2022

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OPT OUT PREFERENCES

Opt Out of Paper Annual Statements: **Yes**

SERS ANNUAL STATEMENTS

SERS Active Member Statement	6/30/2022 SERS Active Member Statement
SERS Active Member Statement	6/30/2021 SERS Active Member Statement
SERS Active Member Statement	6/30/2020 SERS Active Member Statement
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SERS Active Member Statement	6/30/2017 SERS Active Member Statement
SERS Active Member Statement	6/30/2016 SERS Active Member Statement
SERS Active Member Statement	6/30/2015 SERS Active Member Statement
SERS Active Member Statement	6/30/2014 SERS Active Member Statement

Retirement Benefits



How many years of service credit does it take to receive the maximum benefit of 75% under the regular formula?

44 years and 11 months

How many years to achieve the max benefit of 80% for coordinated alternative formula?

32 years

How much is a state worker's regular formula contribution rate to SERS?

Regular Formula

4% Coordinated

8% Non-Coordinated

What is the name of the 457B plan that a state worker can contribute to?

Deferred Compensation

Name the program that allows a state worker to defer money for medical and daycare expenses.

Flex Spending

If a state worker dies and his/her beneficiary is a minor, who is paid?

The minor's guardian OR to a Uniform Transfers to Minors Act (UTMA) account

If you receive a SERS pension, may you still receive social security if you paid into social security?

Yes

Tier 2 Benefits

Tier 2 members are individuals who became a member of SERS or a reciprocal system after January 1, 2011.

Tier 2 Contributions Coordinated

	Regular	Alternative
Retirement	3.5%	8.0%
Survivor	0.5%	0.5%
Total	4.0%	8.5%

Tier 2 Contributions Non-Coordinated

	Regular	Alternative
Retirement	7.0%	11.5%
Survivor	1.0%	1.0%
Total	8.0%	12.5%

Tier 2

Regular Formula

Eligible at age 67 with 10 years
of service credit

FAC: Final Average Compensation is the average
of the highest consecutive 96 months over the
last 120 months of service.

Early Option

Tier 2 Reduced Regular Formula

Age Service	62	thru	67
Credit	At least 10 years		

Reduced $\frac{1}{2}$ of 1% per month under age 67

Example: Age 62 is a 30% reduction from your pension.

Tier 2 Regular Formula Coordinated Employees who pay into Social Security

Years of
Service X 1.67% X FAC = Pension
Credit

FAC is the highest consecutive 96 months out
of the last 120 months.

Tier 2 Regular Formula Non-Coordinated Employees who do not pay into Social Security.

Years of
Service X 2.2% X FAC = Pension
Credit

FAC is the highest consecutive 96 months out
of the last 120 months.

Tier 2

Final Average Compensation

An average of the monthly salary during the 96 highest consecutive months of service within the last 120 months.

The retirement benefit is calculated on a maximum salary posted on our website.

This amount increases annually by 3% or one-half of the Consumer Price Index, whichever is less.

Tier 2

Alternative Formula

- Age 60 with 20 years of alternative service credit

FAC: Final Average Compensation is the average of the highest consecutive 96 months over the last 120 months of service.

Tier 2 Alternative Formula Employees Coordinated

- Dept. of Corrections
- Juvenile Justice

Tier 2 Alternative Formula Coordinated

Years of
Service X 2.5% X FAC = Pension
Credit

FAC is the highest consecutive 96 months out
of the last 120 months.

Tier 2 COLA Increase

3% or $\frac{1}{2}$ of the **Consumer Price Index** for the preceding calendar year, whichever is less. Tier 2 increases are non-compounded.

Regular Formula: The January after you have been retired for a full year. If you retire under age 67, the January after you turn 67.

Alternative Formula: The January after you have been retired for a full year or age 60, whichever is later. Future increases are not limited by the 80% maximum.

COLA: Cost of Living Adjustment.

Optional Service

The background features a series of overlapping, semi-transparent triangles in various shades of brown, tan, and orange. These shapes are arranged in a way that creates a sense of depth and movement, primarily concentrated on the right side of the frame. The overall aesthetic is clean and modern.

Optional Service Purchases

Short periods:

- Does not allow for temporary or contractual time

Previously Refunded Service Credit

- Must have 24 months of service credit with SERS or a reciprocal system to be eligible to purchase with SERS or a reciprocal system.

Optional Service Purchases

Military Time:

- Maximum of 48 months of active duty (can be purchased in one-month increments)

Leaves of Absence service credit:

- Must be after 1982 and less than one year

Is it worth it to buy service credit?

EXAMPLE:

6 months short period costs to purchase:
\$2,000.00

Every month of service credit you add to your projected monthly increase is $\$9.50 \times 6 = \57.00

$\$2,000.00$ divided by $\$57.00 = 35.09$ months

Less than 3 years to recover the cost of purchase

Service Purchase Payment Options

PRE-TAX OPTIONS

- Payroll deduction (irrevocable)
- Sick & vacation payment (upon retirement)
- Tax Deferred lump sum
- Rollovers
 - Deferred Compensation
 - IRA
 - Eligible pension plan

Optional Service Payment Options

POST-TAX OPTIONS

- Lump sum
- Post-tax installment periods
- **NO CASH ACCEPTED**

Sick & Vacation



Sick & Vacation Days

- Can Make You Eligible to Retire Sooner
- Can Increase Your Pension
- Counts for Insurance

Sick Leave & Vacation Service Credit Conversion Chart

Days	=	Months	Days	=	Months
1-5	=	0.25	131-135	=	6.25
6-10	=	0.50	136-140	=	6.50
11-21	=	1.00	141-151	=	7.00
22-26	=	1.25	152-156	=	7.25
27-32	=	1.50	157-161	=	7.50
33-43	=	2.00	162-173	=	8.00
44-48	=	2.25	174-178	=	8.25
49-53	=	2.50	179-183	=	8.50
54-65	=	3.00	184-195	=	9.00
66-70	=	3.25	196-200	=	9.25
71-75	=	3.50	201-205	=	9.50
76-86	=	4.00	206-216	=	10.00
87-91	=	4.25	217-221	=	10.25
92-96	=	4.50	222-226	=	10.50
97-108	=	5.00	227-238	=	11.00
109-113	=	5.25	239-243	=	11.25
114-118	=	5.50	244-248	=	11.50
119-130	=	6.00	249-260	=	12.00

Payable Time

- Vacation Days 55
 - Personal Days* 1.5
- 56.5 = 3.00 Months

* Personal time is payable at half the rate.

Example: 3 days = 1.5 days payable.

Unpaid Time

Sick days earned after 1997

88 = 4.25 Months

Lump Sum Checks for vacation days are issued from your respective Agency.

Members can pay their contribution rate to establish additional service credit from their paid vacation days and accumulated sick days. This is done by completing Form 1404 with your payroll officer.

Reciprocity

The background features a series of overlapping, semi-transparent triangles in various shades of brown and orange, creating a dynamic, layered effect on the right side of the page. The triangles vary in size and orientation, some pointing upwards and others downwards, contributing to a sense of movement and depth.

Reciprocal Time

- 13 Systems
- Make the choice at retirement to use reciprocity
- Repay the contributions to the reciprocal system that you took a refund from
- Must be employed with SERS for 24 months
- Required minimum of 12 months of employment at a reciprocal system to use reciprocity. To purchase a refund from another reciprocal system, contact other reciprocal systems directly.

Reciprocal Time

- Must have at least one year (12 months), of credit with the other reciprocal system.
- Minimum vesting of ten years

Reciprocal Time

- Can NOT be used to meet the Alternative formula eligibility.
- Not all Reciprocal Systems service counts towards insurance, only eligible SURS time and all TRS time if the member is vested with SERS.



2101 South Veterans Parkway
P.O. Box 19255
Springfield, IL 62794-9255

217-785-7444
Email: sers@srs.illinois.gov

Retirement Systems Reciprocal Act Fact Sheet

Reciprocal Systems	
Chicago Teachers' Pension Fund 425 S. Financial Place, Ste. 1400 Chicago, IL 60605-1000	ctptf.org 312-641-4464 Fax: 312-641-7185
County Employees' Annuity & Benefit Fund of Cook County 70 W. Madison St., Ste. 1925 Chicago, IL 60602-3103	cookcountypension.com 312-603-1200 Fax: 312-603-9760
Forest Preserve District Employees' Annuity & Benefit Fund of Cook County 70 W. Madison St., Ste. 1925 Chicago, IL 60602-3103	cookcountypension.com 312-603-1200 Fax: 312-603-9760
Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund 2211 York Rd., Ste. 500 Oak Brook, IL 60523-2337	imrf.org 800-ASK-IMRF (800-275-4673) Fax: 630-706-4289
Judges' & General Assembly Retirement Systems 2101 S. Veterans Pkwy, P.O. Box 19255 Springfield, IL 62794-9255	srs.illinois.gov 217-782-8500 Fax: 217-524-9089
Laborers' Annuity & Benefit Fund of Chicago 321 N. Clark St., Ste. 1300 Chicago, IL 60654-4739	labfchicago.org 312-236-2065 Fax: 312-236-0574
Metropolitan Water Reclamation District Retirement Fund 111 E. Erie, Ste. 330 Chicago, IL 60611-2898	mwrdrf.org 312-751-3222 Fax: 312-751-5689
Municipal Employees' Annuity & Benefit Fund of Chicago 321 N. Clark, Ste. 700 Chicago, IL 60654-4767	meabf.org 312-236-4700 Fax: 312-527-0192
Park Employees' Annuity & Benefit Fund of Chicago 55 E. Monroe, Ste. 2720 Chicago, IL 60603	chicagoparkpension.org 312-553-9265 Fax: 312-553-9114
State Employees' Retirement System of Illinois 2101 S. Veterans Pkwy, P.O. Box 19255 Springfield, IL 62794-9255	srs.illinois.gov Springfield: 217-785-7444 Chicago: 312-814-5853 Fax: 217-524-2293

What is system reciprocity?

The Illinois Retirement Systems Reciprocal Act gives retiring Illinois public employees the option to use service credit earned within the public retirement systems listed in this fact sheet toward a benefit calculated based upon combined pension service between funds.

To use the provisions of the Reciprocal Act, the systems will exchange information regarding service credits, earnings and other important information to determine payable benefits.

Earning service credits

Service credits are earned based on the amount of time you participate in a retirement system. Service credit established in all retirement systems is considered under the Reciprocal Act, with the exception of the following:

- credit of less than one year (12 months) of participation in any system, except credit earned by teacher's aides in IMRF (check with your IMRF representative for specific provisions on this rule);
- credits that have been forfeited by accepting a refund, but have not been repaid; and
- credits that have already been applied toward a retirement pension.

Benefits of reciprocity

You can decide if you want to combine your service credits or retire independently under each individual system. In both scenarios, you must meet the qualifications of each individual retirement system before you are eligible to earn a pension, but combining service credits can potentially give you enough total service credits to qualify in a system that you might not have enough credits for otherwise (Example 1).

Because of the ability to use your service credits among reciprocal systems, you could have a larger combined pension and/or begin drawing benefits earlier than if you retire from each system independently.

Reciprocal Systems (Cont'd)	
State Universities Retirement System 1901 Fox Drive Champaign, IL 61820-7333	surs.org 800-275-7877 Fax: 217-378-9800
Teachers' Retirement System 2815 W. Washington St., P.O. Box 19253 Springfield, IL 62794-9253	trsi.org 877-927-5877 Fax: 217-753-0394

If you choose to combine your service credits using reciprocity, you must meet the highest minimum qualification of all systems involved. Each system looks at combined service credits and earnings, paying their share of the pension accordingly. The highest final average compensation (FAC) from all systems is used to calculate your benefit, but each system uses its own formula to determine the amount you'll receive from them, including annual increases (Example 2).

Concurrent service

If a member is granted service credit by multiple funds for a given period of time, adjustments are made to ensure the member does not receive service credit from both systems for the same period of time.

If you contribute to multiple systems in the same month, it's not legally permitted to earn more than one-month's service credit during that time.

Reinstating service credits

If you previously participated in a reciprocal system and took a refund when you separated service, you will need to reinstate your service credit in order to include it in your reciprocal benefit.

You can do this by repaying the refunded amount after a minimum of two years with another retirement system, but it must be reinstated while you're still a contributing member under the Reciprocal Act.

Pension estimates

You can receive an estimate of your benefit by submitting a request to the most recent system with which you're employed. Include information about all systems you participated in, as well as your estimated retirement date.

Applying for benefits

If you'd like to apply for benefits under the Reciprocal Act, you should:

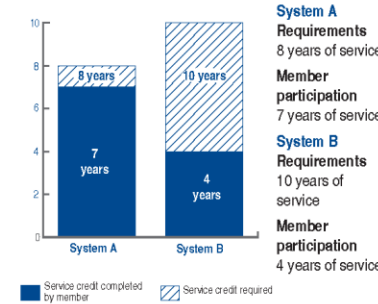
- request an application from each system you participated in a minimum of 60 days before your planned retirement date; and
- return the completed forms to each system, requesting reciprocity provisions.

Returning to work

If you have started receiving retirement benefits but return to work with one of the reciprocal systems paying a pension to you, all systems may suspend payments based on direction from the employing system.

Once your employment ends, the pension payments will be reinstated. Each system will determine if your benefit needs to be recalculated to add the additional service credits earned.

Example 1: The benefit of time



This member wouldn't have enough service credit to retire independently in either system.

However, under reciprocity the member's combined service credit is 11 years, which qualifies the member for a proportional pension from each system (assuming the member meets all other system requirements for eligibility).

Example 2: The potential of a higher benefit

A member has 12 years of service with a final average compensation (FAC) of \$1,600 per month with System A, and 20 years of service with a FAC of \$2,400 per month with System B.

System A has a flat rate formula of 1.67% for each year of service.

$$1.67\% \times 12 = 20.04\%$$

$$20.04\% \times \$1,600 \text{ (FAC)} = \$320.64/\text{month}$$

System B has a step-rate formula of 1.67% for each year of the first 15 years and 2% for each year after.

$$1.67\% \times 15 = 25.05\%$$

$$2\% \times 5 = 10.00\%$$

$$35.05\%$$

$$35.05\% \times \$2,400 \text{ (FAC)} = \$841.20/\text{month}$$

Total combined benefit of \$1,161.84

Now let's see what the benefit would be when calculated with reciprocity:

$$1.67\% \times 12 = 20.04\%$$

$$20.04\% \times \$2,400 \text{ (highest FAC for both systems)} = \$480.96/\text{month}$$

$$1.67\% \times 3 = 5.01\%$$

$$2\% \times 17 = 34.00\%$$

$$39.01\%$$

$$39.01\% \times \$2,400 \text{ (FAC)} = \$936.24/\text{month}$$

Total combined benefit of \$1,417.20 with reciprocity

Disability

- Nonoccupational
- Occupational
- Temporary

Occupational Disability

Work-Related Injury or Illness

Requirements:

- Be a member of SERS.
- File a claim with Workers' Compensation and receive benefits or a settlement.
- File the required forms with SERS.
- Members DO NOT have to use any benefit time to receive an occupational disability benefit.

Occupational Disability

- Can receive 75% of your Final Average Compensation or monthly salary at the time of injury, whichever is higher, for Tier 1, 75% of FAC for Tier 2 in total benefits.
- SERS will offset the difference between what Workers' Compensation pays to get to 75% of the member's monthly rate of pay or FAC.
- The member is not required to use sick time

Occupational Disability Ends

- Your disability ends, when your doctor releases you.
- You resume employment
- Workers' Compensation TTD payments end
- You reach age 65
- If your disability begins after age 60, benefits are payable up to 5 years.

If your WC claim was denied or if WC stops paying you and you're still disabled, you **MUST** file for Temporary disability benefits.

SERS will pay occupational disability while the member is receiving Temporary Total Disability (TTD) from WC or if a member has received a settlement.

WC claims for State employees are handled by Gallagher Bassett. Employees of the Toll Highway are handled by CorVel.

Once WC starts paying the member, then SERS can start paying benefits.

Remember

- If you were denied by Workers' Comp., you need to apply for SERS Temporary disability benefit.
- To receive Temporary Disability benefits, members have a 30-day waiting period from their date last paid by their agency.
- Not required to use sick days.

Temporary Disability

- Is only an option for members who have had their Workers' Comp. claim denied or their TTD benefits suspended or terminated.
- Must have 18 months of creditable service with the state (Can use SURS or TRS time).
- Must complete the required packet and be found disabled by SERS.
- If member was receiving TTD benefits and WC stopped paying, SERS can begin paying the next day.
- Will be required to submit forms showing they are appealing their WC denial.
- Can only be on benefit for $\frac{1}{2}$ the time they have worked for the state.
- Member can only be on the benefit until age 65
- If benefit started after age 60, the member must have at least 10 years of service.

When a WC claim is denied

- If WC denies a claim and the member is NOT going to appeal the decision, they can apply for a nonoccupational benefit.
- They MUST submit a letter to SERS stating they are not appealing their denial.
- The letter MUST say that they are not now, and will not in the future, seek any compensation from the Illinois Workers' Compensation Commission for their injury or illness.

Nonoccupational Disability

- Disability resulting from causes not related to your occupation.
- Must be granted a medical leave of absence approved by your agency.
- Must use all your accumulated sick leave.
- Must be absent from work for 30 or more days to begin receiving a nonoccupational benefit.
- 18 months credited service. Only SURS and TRS reciprocal time can be used for eligibility.
- Must submit the required forms and be found to be disabled by SERS.

Nonoccupational Disability

How Long Can I Stay on
Nonoccupational Disability?

- Eligible for 1/2 of your active service credit.

Example: worked 10 years, is eligible for
disability benefits for 5 years

Nonoccupational Disability Ends

- You resume employment
- Your disability ends, your doctor releases you
- You exhaust one-half of your credited service
- If your disability begins after age 60, benefits are payable up to 5 years for Tier 1 members as long as they have at least 10 years of credited service.

Nonoccupational Disability

How much am I allowed to receive?

- **Tier 2** – 50% of your FAC

Pregnancy and Nonoccupational Disability

Members now receive 12 weeks of maternity leave. Most will no longer qualify for SERS' Non-Occ disability benefit. If the member has a medical condition that would keep her off work after the maternity leave, the member will need to supply medical evidence to support inability to return to work.

This does not apply to Tollway employees.

Early Pregnancy Leave

Members who are taken off work for a medical condition prior to delivery can apply for SERS' Non-Occ disability. They must supply medical evidence of their need to be off work and must be off work more than 30 days prior to the birth of the baby to qualify.

Occupational, Temporary, & Nonoccupational Disability

While receiving a disability benefit with SERS, your service credit continues to be applied to your account as if you were working.

That way you will not be missing service credit when you are ready to retire. Please keep in mind, if you did not have enough benefit time to cover the 30-day waiting period, you may want to purchase that time after returning to work.

My Agency wants me to resign?

- Members may resign from their agency and remain on SERS disability benefits as long as they are still disabled and continue to meet the SERS eligibility requirements.
- Members must be established on SERS disability benefit BEFORE they resign from their agency.
- The resignation allows the agency to post and fill your position.

Death Benefits

Active Employees Death Benefits (Qualified Survivors if 18 months of service)

Survivor Benefits

- \$1,000 Lump Sum Payment
- Monthly Annuity
 - **Tier 2:** 66 2/3% of accrued pension
- Insurance (possibly)

AND

- Retirement contributions portion to nominated beneficiary plus interest

Active Employees Death Benefits With No Qualified Survivors

- All contributions plus interest to nominated beneficiary or estate

AND

- One month's salary for each full year of service credit, up to six years
 - Six month maximum
 - One month minimum

Important Resources

- State Employees' Retirement System
217-785-7444
srs.illinois.gov
sers@srs.illinois.gov
- CMS Deferred Compensation
800-442-1300 ext. 3
217-782-7006
- Social Security Administration
800-772-1213
ssa.gov
- MyBenefits Service Center
844-251-1777
mybenefits.illinois.gov
- Empower
833-969-4532
myillinoisdcplan.com

Any Questions?

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