

# SWORN



## Tier 2 | Sworn Officers



(Revised 1/30/2025)

# Welcome to the Tier 2 Workshop for Sworn Officers



# General Contact Resources

**Call Center:**

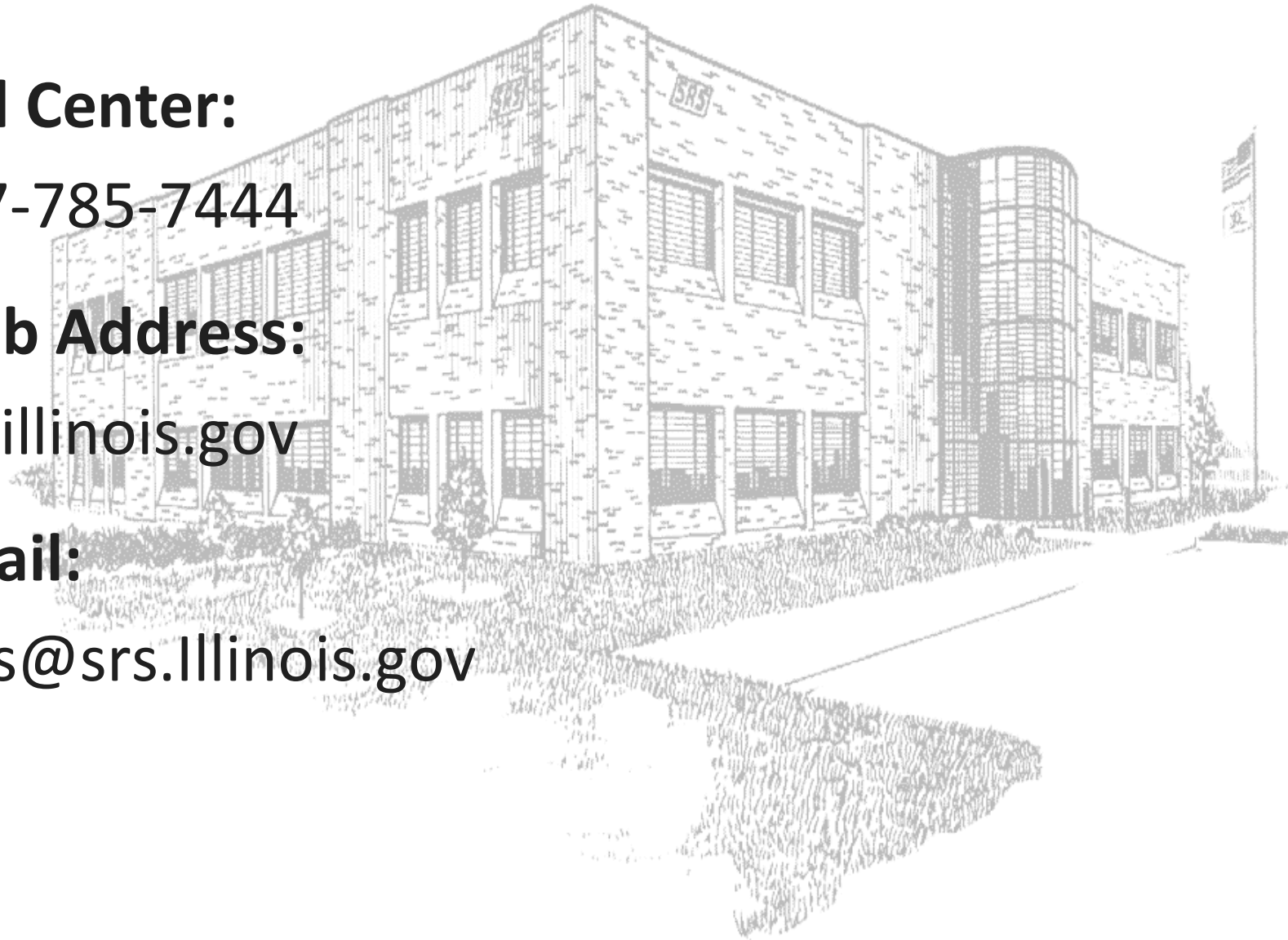
217-785-7444

**Web Address:**

[srs.illinois.gov](http://srs.illinois.gov)

**Email:**

[sers@srs.illinois.gov](mailto:sers@srs.illinois.gov)



# SERS Terminology

- **Annuity**: Pension payment of twelve equal monthly installments for the member's lifetime.
- **CPI**: Consumer Price Index.
- **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



# Website / Member Services





Select Language

Search

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



Employer Services Login



Member Services Registration Instructional Video



ILLINOIS.gov

AGENCIES SERVICES

Select Language

search

SERS  
State Employees' Retirement System

Home Contact SERS Disability Insurance Tier 1 Retirement Tier 2 Retirement Resources Publications

# State Employees' Retirement System

Member Services Login Instructions  
Workshops & Webinars  
Paystubs & ePass  
Forms  
Calculators

## Helpful Links



Retiree Corner



Retirement Coordinators



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Member Services Login Instructions



Member Services Registration Instructional Video





## Tier 2

[Tier 2 Retirement](#)[Credited Service](#)[Optional Service Credit](#)[Refunds](#)[Death Benefit](#)[Retirement Annuity](#)[Tier 2 Salary Limitations](#)[Benefits](#)[Regular Retirement Formula](#)[Alternative Retirement Formula](#)[Non-Occupational Death Benefits](#)[Occupational Death Benefits](#)[Tier 2 FAQs](#)[Retirement FAQs](#)[Refunds FAQs](#)[Taxes FAQs](#)[Direct Deposit FAQs](#)[Death Benefits FAQs](#)[Optional Service FAQs](#)

## 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



Member Services  
Login  
Instructions



Workshops &  
Webinars



Paystubs &  
ePass



Forms



Calculators



## Helpful Links



Retiree Corner



Retirement Coordinators



Employer Services Login



Sign in using ILogin



Member Services Login  
Instructions



Member Services Registration  
Instructional Video





Select Language

search

## Calculators

[Social Security Benefit Estimate Calculator](#)

[Service Credit Calculator](#)

[Sick Leave and Vacation Chart](#)

[Pension Estimate Calculator Training Video](#)

### 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](#)

[Back to top](#)





# State Employees' Retirement System



Member Services  
Login  
Instructions



Workshops &  
Webinars



Paystubs &  
ePass



Forms



Calculators

## Helpful Links



Retiree Corner



Retirement Coordinators



Employer Services Login



Sign in using ILogin



Member Services Login  
Instructions



Member Services Registration  
Instructional Video





Sign In

Email or Username

Next

[Unlock account?](#)

[Help](#)

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 8/26/2015

**SERS MEMBERSHIP RECORD**

**BASIC**   ACCOUNT   BENEFIT

CALCULATORS

NOMINATED BENEFICIARIES

DEMOGRAPHICS

FORMS & APPLICATIONS

SERVICE PURCHASES

ANNUAL STATEMENTS

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

Retirement System	State Employees' Retirement System
Status	Active
Birth Date	6/1/1970
Age	51 years 10 months
Membership Date	06/01/2013
Tier	Tier 2

**LAST PAYROLL OR DISABILITY POSTING**

Type	Salary
Current Plan	[C] SERS Alternative - Non-Coordinated, Tier 2, 12.5%
Pay Code	21-036
Agency	State Police, Illinois
Position Code	98031
Timeworked Basis	Monthly
Pickup Code	00 (None)
Last Salary Date	04/15/2022
Current Rate	\$7,621.00



**Doe, Jane - XXX-XX-9999 - [Member Id: 12-3456789]** Account as of 8/20/2015

<b>SERS MEMBERSHIP RECORD</b>	<b>BASIC</b>	<b>ACCOUNT</b>	BENEFIT	TOTAL BUYOUT
<a href="#">CALCULATE SRS</a>	Total Service Credit ⓘ		5 years 4 months	
<a href="#">NOMINATED BENEFICIARIES</a>	Total Contributions		\$11,088.19	
<a href="#">DEMOGRAPHICS</a>	Final Average Compensation (FAC) ⓘ		\$4,264.64	
<a href="#">FORMS &amp; APPLICATIONS</a>	<b>EARNINGS AND SERVICE CREDIT</b>			
<a href="#">SERVICE PURCHASES</a>	Earnings and Service Credit		<a href="#">Earnings and Service Credit by Calendar Year</a>	
<a href="#">ANNUAL STATEMENTS</a>				
<a href="#">TERMS AND CONDITIONS</a>				

Contributions Summary  
FAC Summary  
Earnings Calendar





STATE  
RETIREMENT  
SYSTEMS

Home Profile

SERS MEMBERSHIP RECORD

NOMINATED BENEFICIARIES

DEMOGRAPHICS

MEMBER SERVICES

ANNUAL STATEMENTS

PAY STUB

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



Doe, Jane

Log Out

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
	<b>\$21,237.58</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$5,558.28</b>	<b>\$26,795.86</b>

Close

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





- Home
- Profile
- SERS MEMBERSHIP RECORD
- NOMINATED BENEFICIARIES
- DEMOGRAPHICS
- MEMBER SERVICES
- ANNUAL STATEMENTS
- PAY STUB
- INSURANCE
- TERMS AND CONDITIONS

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

gs and Service Credit by Calendar Year



Legend:

Earnings ⓘ

Service Credit

Service Credit Adjustment ⓘ

Export To Excel

**SERS EARNINGS AND SERVICE CREDITS BY CALENDAR YEAR**

Year	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
<b>2018</b>	\$7,325.35	\$7,036.04	\$7,423.50	\$7,036.04	\$7,391.20	\$7,665.65	\$7,243.27	\$7,049.54	\$7,049.54	\$7,043.64	\$7,554.34	\$0.00	<b>\$79,818.11</b>
	0.0833	0.0833	0.0833	0.0833	0.0833	0.0833	0.0833	0.0833	0.0833	0.0833	0.0833	0.0000	<b>0.9167</b>
<b>2017</b>	\$6,504.88	\$6,504.88	\$6,504.88	\$6,749.58	\$6,644.97	\$6,884.07	\$6,510.48	\$6,674.86	\$6,510.48	\$6,988.68	\$6,510.48	\$6,719.69	<b>\$79,707.93</b>
	0.0833	0.0833	0.0833	0.0833	0.0833	0.0833	0.0833	0.0833	0.0833	0.0833	0.0833	0.0833	<b>1.0000</b>
	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	1.0000	0.0000	0.0000	<b>1.0000</b>
<b>2016</b>	\$6,433.44	\$6,433.44	\$6,433.44	\$6,433.44	\$6,433.44	\$8,068.30	\$6,504.88	\$6,504.88	\$6,504.88	\$6,504.88	\$6,504.88	\$6,504.88	<b>\$79,264.78</b>
	0.0833	0.0833	0.0833	0.0833	0.0833	0.0833	0.0833	0.0833	0.0833	0.0833	0.0833	0.0833	<b>1.0000</b>
<b>2015</b>	\$6,504.88	\$6,504.88	\$6,504.88	\$7,102.58	\$7,503.04	\$12,541.66	\$7,452.24	\$7,452.24	\$7,467.32	\$7,431.60	\$7,431.60	\$7,431.60	<b>\$91,328.52</b>
	0.0833	0.0833	0.0833	0.0833	0.0833	0.0833	0.0833	0.0833	0.0833	0.0833	0.0833	0.0833	<b>1.0000</b>
	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.3333	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	<b>0.3333</b>
<b>2014</b>	\$6,466.78	\$6,466.78	\$6,466.78	\$6,219.16	\$6,298.36	\$8,485.42	\$6,504.88	\$6,504.88	\$6,504.88	\$6,504.88	\$6,504.88	\$6,504.88	<b>\$79,432.56</b>
	0.0833	0.0833	0.0833	0.0833	0.0833	0.0833	0.0833	0.0833	0.0833	0.0833	0.0833	0.0833	<b>1.0000</b>
	1.3333	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	<b>1.3333</b>
<b>2013</b>	\$5,787.10	\$5,787.10	\$5,787.10	\$5,787.10	\$6,017.66	\$8,423.29	\$6,466.78	\$6,466.78	\$6,466.78	\$6,466.78	\$6,466.78	\$6,466.78	<b>\$76,390.03</b>
	0.0833	0.0833	0.0833	0.0833	0.0833	0.0833	0.0833	0.0833	0.0833	0.0833	0.0833	0.0833	<b>1.0000</b>
<b>2012</b>	\$5,423.96	\$5,604.75	\$5,785.54	\$5,787.10	\$5,787.10	\$5,787.10	\$5,787.10	\$5,787.10	\$5,787.10	\$5,787.10	\$5,787.10	\$5,787.10	<b>\$68,898.15</b>
	0.0833	0.0833	0.0833	0.0833	0.0833	0.0833	0.0833	0.0833	0.0833	0.0833	0.0833	0.0833	<b>1.0000</b>



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

Account as of 4/21/2022

SERS MEMBERSHIP RECORD

BASIC

ACCOUNT

**BENEFIT**

TOTAL BUYOUT

CALCULATORS

NOMINATED BENEFICIARIES

DEMOGRAPHICS

FORMS & APPLICATIONS

SERVICE PURCHASES

ANNUAL STATEMENTS

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

Print Statement On-Demand

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.

**Alternative Retirement - Monthly Benefit** 6/1/2042 **\$6,082.52**

Alternative Retirement: You must be age 55 with 20 years of service credit.

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 \$21.18.

### 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** **\$3,628.50**

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

**Occupational - Monthly Benefit** **\$5,442.75**

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




Benefit Calculation

**SERS ESTIMATED ALTERNATIVE RETIREMENT -  
MONTHLY BENEFIT**

Plan	Service Credit (Years)	Formula	% of FAC
SERS Alternative - Tier 2	20.3333	X 3.00 %	= 60.9999 %
Total Percentage of FAC =			60.9999 %
Projected FAC X			\$6,043.93
<b>Estimated Benefit</b>			<b>\$3,686.79</b>
<b>Projected Retirement Date</b>			<b>6/1/2033</b>

**Notes:**

- The benefit was calculated as of 07/15/2016 instead of 08/03/2016, because of the Member's latest posted earnings date.
- Eligibility rule met: Tier 2 Alternative: 55 and 20 yrs.
- Additional projected service: 0 years.
- Age at which eligibility met: 55.6667.
- Receiving Alternative formula (40 ILCS 5/14-110).



STATE RETIREMENT SYSTEM

Home Profile

SERS MEMBERSHIP RECORD

NOMINATED BENEFICIARIES

DEMOGRAPHICS

MEMBER SERVICES

ANNUAL STATEMENTS

PAY STUB

Doe, Jane

Log Out

Account as of 8/20/2015

15 years 1 month

\$26,795.86

\$2,917.28

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]**

Account as of 5/19/2022

SERS MEMBERSHIP RECORD

**FEDERAL TAX WITHHOLDING CALCULATOR**

[Federal Tax Withholding Calculator](#)

**CALCULATORS**

NOMINATED BENEFICIARIES

**SERS BENEFIT ESTIMATOR**

[SERS Pension Estimator](#)

DEMOGRAPHICS

FORMS & APPLICATIONS

SERVICE PURCHASES

ANNUAL STATEMENTS

TERMS AND CONDITIONS



## 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** [Close]

---

**SERVICE CREDIT**

Plan	Months of Service
[C] SERS Alternative - Non-Coordinated, Tier 2, 12.5%	79.25
<b>Total Service Credit: 79.25</b>	

---

**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.

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.

The Level Income section will not apply to sworn members.





## Pension Estimate



### ELIGIBILITY DETAILS

Date Eligibility Met	Retirement Date	Rule
5/14/2042	6/1/2042	Tier 2 Alternative: 55 and 20 yrs
5/14/2047	6/1/2047	Tier 2 Alternative: 60 and 20 yrs

### SEPARATION DATE

Please enter separation date you would like to estimate:

Separation Date

05/31/2042

### RETIREMENT DATE

Please enter retirement date you would like to estimate:

Retirement Date

06/01/2042

Back

Next

Cancel



## Pension Estimate



### ELIGIBILITY DETAILS

Calculated Benefit	Benefit Available Date	Final Average Compensation (FAC)	Estimate Type
<u>\$6,082.52</u>	6/1/2042	\$8,470.00	Benefit Without Purchase

Download Retirement Estimate Letter 



Back

Cancel



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

Account as of 8/20/2015

SERS MEMBERSHIP RECORD

CALCULATORS

**NOMINATED BENEFICIARIES**

DEMOGRAPHICS

FORMS & APPLICATIONS

SERVICE PURCHASES

ANNUAL STATEMENTS

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

### 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 \_\_\_\_\_



# Name Beneficiary

- Keep current
- Name and address change
- How you identify
- Minors
- Your estate is your beneficiary
- Changing SERS beneficiary form
  - Does not change
    - Life Insurance
    - Deferred Compensation



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

Account as of  
8/20/2015

SERS MEMBERSHIP RECORD

PROFILE

CALCULATORS

Full Name

Jane Doe

NOMINATED BENEFICIARIES

SSN

XXX-XX-9999

DEMOGRAPHICS

Gender

Female

FORMS &amp; APPLICATIONS

Birth Date

3/12/1974

SERVICE PURCHASES

ADDRESSES

Home

1123 West Washington Street, Springfield, IL 62704

Work

7854 Taylor Avenue, Springfield, IL 62712

ANNUAL STATEMENTS

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.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

PHONE NUMBERS —

Cell

(217) 444-2222

Fax

(217) 888-9999

Home ☐

(217) 777-4444

Work

(217) 888-3333

EMAIL ADDRESSES —

Home ☐

Jane@gmail.com



# Address Changes

Before retirement, contact your agency. Fill out the Employee Address Certification (C-26) Form at your agency.

After retirement, contact SERS.



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

Account as of 5/19/2022

- SERS MEMBERSHIP RECORD
- CALCULATORS
- NOMINATED BENEFICIARIES
- DEMOGRAPHICS
- FORMS & APPLICATIONS**
- SERVICE PURCHASES
- ANNUAL STATEMENTS
- TERMS AND CONDITIONS

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

SERS MEMBER PACKETS	
<a href="#">SERS Non Occ Disability Benefit Application Packet</a> ⬇	
<a href="#">SERS Occ Disability Benefit Application Packet</a> ⬇	
<a href="#">SERS Pension Benefit Application Packet</a> ⬇	
<a href="#">SERS Temp Disability Benefit Application Packet</a> ⬇	
<a href="#">SERS Termination Refund Application Packet</a> ⬇	





**Doe, Jane - XXX-XX-9999 - [Member Id: 12-3456789]**Account as of  
5/9/2022

SERS MEMBERSHIP RECORD

CALCULATORS

NOMINATED BENEFICIARIES

DEMOGRAPHICS

FORMS &amp; APPLICATIONS

**SERVICE PURCHASES**

ANNUAL STATEMENTS

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

**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](#)



STATE  
RETIREMENT  
SYSTEMS

# Member Services

□ Doe, Jane ▾

Home Profile Inbox Publications Help Contact

Log Out

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

Account as of  
5/9/2022

SERS MEMBERSHIP RECORD

CALCULATORS

NOMINATED BENEFICIARIES

DEMOGRAPHICS

FORMS & APPLICATIONS

SERVICE PURCHASES

**ANNUAL STATEMENTS**

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

## OPT OUT PREFERENCES

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

## SERS ANNUAL STATEMENTS

SERS Active Member Statement	<a href="#">6/30/2022 SERS Active Member Statement</a>
SERS Active Member Statement	<a href="#">6/30/2021 SERS Active Member Statement</a>
SERS Active Member Statement	<a href="#">6/30/2020 SERS Active Member Statement</a>
SERS Active Member Statement	<a href="#">6/30/2019 SERS Active Member Statement</a>
SERS Active Member Statement	<a href="#">6/30/2018 SERS Active Member Statement</a>
SERS Active Member Statement	<a href="#">6/30/2017 SERS Active Member Statement</a>
SERS Active Member Statement	<a href="#">6/30/2016 SERS Active Member Statement</a>
SERS Active Member Statement	<a href="#">6/30/2015 SERS Active Member Statement</a>
SERS Active Member Statement	<a href="#">6/30/2014 SERS Active Member Statement</a>



# Retirement Benefits



# To Retire

## The best time to retire

### End of the Year

- Tax Purposes
- COLA
- Deferred Comp

### End of the Month

- Insurance Reasons

### The Effective Date

- First of the Month following your resignation



# Steps to Retire

- You must resign in writing to your agency
- It is highly recommended that you submit a pension application packet 30-90 days prior to your retirement date\*
- Contact your Retirement Coordinator, contact SERS directly, download and complete online forms to forward on to SERS
- Member's and spouse if married – Birth Certificate(s) and marriage license must be on file at SERS, COPIES ONLY

\*Copies of the pension application packet may be downloaded from a member's SERS Member Services account.



# Pension

- Effective date of pension is the 1<sup>st</sup> day of the month following the date of your resignation.

# Checks

- Agency will pay in lump sum for vacation and sick time
- Lump sums from SERS only:
  - Widow/Survivors refund **if no** qualified survivor
  - Refund of excess contributions



# Retirement Packet Includes

- Retirement Checklist
- Retirement Application, Retiree Insurance Form, Direct Deposit Form, Beneficiary Form, & W-4P Form
- Fact Sheets



# First Retirement Check

- Approximately 8-10 weeks AFTER your last day of employment. The first payment is either mailed to your home or direct deposited into your bank account.
  - Regular payment will be mailed or direct deposited\* on the 19th of the month unless the 19th falls on a weekend or holiday
  - Retroactive to the effective date of your retirement
  - Lump sum payment is issued with first payment
- \* If a direct deposit form has been submitted







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

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

## Retirement Application

Please print or type

### Member information

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address (Street) \_\_\_\_\_

(City, State, Zip) \_\_\_\_\_

SSN (last 4) or Member ID \_\_\_\_\_

Date of birth \_\_\_\_\_

Personal Email address \_\_\_\_\_

Effective date of your  
retirement (MM/DD/YY)  
/ 01 / \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number

(H) \_\_\_\_\_

(C) \_\_\_\_\_

Birth certificate required

Yes  No

### Dependents

Current marital status (select one)

Single  Divorced  Widowed  Married – Date of marriage or civil union: Month \_\_\_\_ Day \_\_\_\_ Year \_\_\_\_

If currently married, name of spouse: \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse's date of birth \_\_\_\_\_

List all minor children, even if not living with you (including natural, adopted or step children) under age 18, under age 22 if a full-time student and/or over age 18 who are physically or mentally disabled. Dependent parents may be listed as well.

Name	Relationship	Date of birth	Disabled
_____	_____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
_____	_____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
_____	_____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
_____	_____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

If you are single, divorced or widowed and have no children under age 18, no children under age 22 who are a full-time student and/or no children over age 18 who are physically or mentally disabled, you may elect to take a refund of your survivor contributions. Do you elect a refund of survivor contributions?

Yes  No

*By electing to accept a refund of survivor contributions, I declare that there are no individuals eligible for survivor benefit payments on account of my death and all survivor benefits are forfeited.*

*This refund is only payable at retirement. If left blank, the default election is no refund being paid.*

### Legal history

Were you ever convicted of a felony related to, arising from or in connection with your service as a member of SERS?

Yes  No

### Social Security Offset removal

As part of your SERS benefits, your qualified survivor(s) will be eligible for a survivor annuity after your death. If you contributed to Social Security as a state employee, an offset of 50% is usually applied to the survivor benefit when the survivor becomes eligible for Social Security benefits. **You may elect to reduce your retirement annuity by 3.825% to avoid the offset that may be applied to a future survivor annuity.**

Please check one:

- I elect to participate and authorize SERS to reduce my monthly benefit by 3.825%.
- I do not elect to participate.

### Level Income option

Only members who contribute to Social Security are eligible to choose the Level Income option. This option increases your retirement by a percentage of the amount of Social Security benefit you are eligible to receive immediately. Your retirement benefit will later be reduced by the full amount of the Social Security benefit for which you are eligible to receive at the age you choose below. You must submit a Social Security estimate with your signature, dated within six (6) months of your retirement date, which will be used to calculate your Level Income amount.

*A retiring member with a QILDRO on file with SERS may not choose Level Income without contacting the QILDRO Department at 217-524-6965. A retirement benefit including a QILDRO and Level Income will require additional processing time.*

**I fully understand the Level Income option and agree my retirement benefit will be reduced at the age I elect.**

Please check one:

- I elect the Level Income option for age 62 years and 1 month.
- I elect the Level Income option for the age at which I am eligible to receive my full Social Security benefit.
- I do not elect the Level Income option, or it does not apply to me.

**Special note for those electing the Level Income option:** SERS benefits are paid for the current month (July's payment is paid in July) and Social Security benefits are paid one month behind (July's payment is paid in August); therefore, there will be one month you will receive a reduced benefit from SERS and you will not receive a Social Security benefit.

### Reciprocal service

Do you have service credit in any of the following systems?  Yes  No

If yes, please check only the system(s) you wish to include when having your reciprocal benefit calculated. **You must apply with all systems when you apply for a reciprocal retirement.**

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Chicago Teachers' Pension Fund                          | <input type="checkbox"/> Laborers' Annuity & Benefit Fund of Chicago             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> County Employees' Annuity & Benefit Fund of Cook County | <input type="checkbox"/> Metropolitan Water Reclamation District Retirement Fund |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Forest Preserve District Employees' Annuity & Benefit   | <input type="checkbox"/> Municipal Employees' Annuity & Benefit Fund of Chicago  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> General Assembly Retirement System                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Park Employees' Annuity & Benefit Fund of Chicago       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund                      | <input type="checkbox"/> State Universities Retirement System                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Judges' Retirement System                               | <input type="checkbox"/> Teachers' Retirement System                             |

*If I am currently receiving SERS disability benefits, I understand these benefits will be terminated and retirement benefits will begin.*

*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 \_\_\_\_\_

# Address Change

Notify us of any changes:

- Before retirement, contact your agency
- After retirement, contact SERS



# Tier 2 Benefits

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



# Alternative Contributions Non-Coordinated

## Employees who do not pay into Social Security.

Alternative Non-Coordinated	
Retirement	11.5%
Q Survivor	1.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>12.5%</b>



# How Soon? Tier 2

## Alternative Formula

- Age 60 with 20 years of alternative service credit
- Age 55 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.

\*Applies to certain job positions only



# Tier 2 Alternative Formula Employees Non-Coordinated

- State Police\*
- Conservation Police Officers\*
- Secretary of State Investigators\*
- Attorney General Investigators\*
- Commerce Commission Police Officers\*
- Gaming Board Investigators\*
- Department of Revenue Investigators\*
- Arson Investigators\*
- Firefighters

\*These positions are eligible to retire at Age 55 with 20 years of alternative service credit.



# Final Average Comp Calculation Tier 2

Hired after 1/1/2011

- Average 96 highest consecutive months within the last 120 months
- Maximum salary (changes annually)
- This amount increase annually by 3% or  $\frac{1}{2}$  of CPI, whichever is less

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



# Sworn Formula Tier 2

Years of  
Service X 3.0% X FAC = Pension  
Credit





# Sworn Formula Tier 2

## Alternative Formula not met

Years of  
Service X 2.2% X FAC = Pension  
Credit



# Maximum Pension

80%

26 years, 8 months



# If you do not meet eligibility

- Pension will be calculated at lower rate
- Refund at 4.5%
- Must meet regular formula eligibility



# 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.
- **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.



# Salary Limitations | Tier 2

Calendar Year	Prior Year CPI-U	1/2 CPI-U	Tier 2 COLA or Annuity increase	Tier 2 Annual Earnings, Salary or Wages Maximum
2014	1.20%	0.60%	0.60%	\$110,631.26
2015	1.70%	0.85%	0.85%	\$111,571.63
2016	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	\$111,571.63
2017	1.50%	0.75%	0.75%	\$112,408.42
2018	2.20%	1.10%	1.10%	\$113,664.91
2019	2.30%	1.15%	1.15%	\$114,951.83
2020	1.70%	0.85%	0.85%	\$115,928.92
2021	1.40%	0.70%	0.70%	\$116,740.42
2022	5.40%	2.70%	2.70%	\$119,892.41
2023	8.20%	4.10%	3.00%	\$123,489.18
2024	3.70%	1.85%	1.85%	\$125,773.73
2025	2.40%	1.20%	1.20%	\$127,283.01



# Optional Service



# Optional Service Purchases

- Previously Refunded Service
- Military Time
  - Maximum of 48 months of active duty
- Service for Leaves of Absence
  - After 1982 and less than one year
- Sick & Vacation Days



# Permanent Police Transfer Provisions (40 ILCS 5/14-110)

## Eligible Alternative Formula Positions:

1. State Policeman
2. Conservation Police Officer
3. Investigator for the Secretary of State

## May elect to transfer up to 5 years (60 months) from:

1. Article 3 (Downstate Police) – Any Service
2. Article 5 (Chicago Police) – Any Service
3. Article 7 (IMRF) – Sheriff's Law Enforcement Employee (SLEP time only)
4. Article 9 (Cook County) – County Police time only
5. Article 15 (SURS) – Police time only





# Permanent Police Transfer Provisions (40 ILCS 5/14-110)

The member will need to contact their former employer / former retirement system and request the transfer and the payback information (if they had taken a refund). The member should also request the former employer / retirement system to provide to SERS the following information:

1. The amount of employee contributions, employer contributions, and interest (if applicable) that will ultimately be transferred to SERS
2. The period of time that is being transferred (start date – end date of service)
3. A monthly breakdown of your salary during that time frame being transferred
4. The number of months / years being transferred
5. Validation that you were a full-time officer rather than a part-time officer

This information should be reported to SERS.



# Service Purchase Options

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



# Optional Service Purchase

## Post-Tax

- Lump sum
- Post-tax payroll deduction



# Sick & Vacation



# Sick & Vacation Days

- Meet your eligibility date to retire
- Can increase your pension once your eligibility date has been reached
- Counts towards getting your free insurance premium
- Sick time is only worth FREE service credit
- 60 Additional Annual Sick Days\*

\*applies to ISP Sworn Officers Only



# 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



# Sick & Vacation Time

Vacation days = 67

Sick days (unpaid) = 130

Paid	Unpaid
V = 67	S = 130
3.25 Months	6 Months

Pay contributions for payable time  
to receive 3.25 months of credit  
Unpaid time for 6 months is Free

**TOTAL SERVICE CREDIT = 9.25 Months**  
(within 90 days of retiring)



# Non-Coordinated Vacation Lump Sum Check from Agency

12.5% Alternative Formula  
(Sworn Officers, Firefighters)





# Reciprocal Systems



# Reciprocal Time

- 13 Reciprocal 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



# Reciprocal Time

- May **NOT** be used to meet the alternative eligibility
- Not all Reciprocal Systems' time counts towards insurance





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:

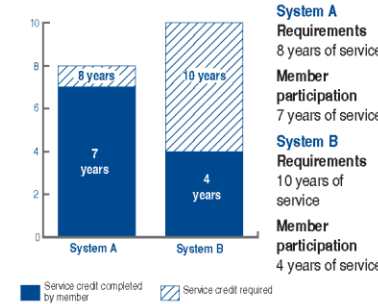
- request an application from each system you participated in a minimum of 60 days before your planned retirement date; and
- return the completed forms to each system, requesting reciprocity provisions.

### 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

# Death Benefits



# Death Benefits – Active members With Qualified Survivors

- Survivor Benefits
  - \$1,000 Lump Sum
  - Monthly Annuity (66 2/3% of pension)
  - Insurance

## **AND**

- Retirement contributions portion to nominated beneficiary plus interest



# Death Benefits – Active members

## No Qualified Survivors

- All contributions plus interest to nominated beneficiaries or estate.

### AND

- One month's salary for each full year service credit up to six years.
  - 6 Months Maximum
  - 1 Month Minimum



# Retiree Death Benefits

- Survivor Benefit:
  - \$1,000 Lump Sum
  - Monthly Annuity if married for 1 year at time of death and survivor contributions are applicable.
  - Insurance (possibly)

**OR**

- No Survivor:
  - Refund of contribution or \$500, whichever is greater to beneficiary.





# Survivor Benefits

## Eligible Survivors

- Spouse/Civil Union Partner
- Minor Children (under age 18)
- Full-Time Students  
(unmarried/fulltime under age 22)
- Disabled Children
- Dependent Parent (rare)



# Survivor Offset

Effective July 1, 2009

Only affects members who contribute to Social Security.

Therefore, your survivor benefits will not be impacted.



# Reversionary



# Reversionary Option

You make this one-time election to reduce your pension to provide lifetime income to your designated dependent(s):

- Spouse
- Any dependent(s) at time of retirement
- 10% increments from 10% to 100% of pension
- No COLA increases on the reversionary amount.



# Example: 100% of Pension

Pension of \$4,000

\$433 per month reduction of pension.

Member's pension is now \$3,567 per month.

\$3,567 per month for survivor to receive the reversionary benefit in addition to regular survivor benefit.

Surviving spouse now receives \$3,567 per month as a reversionary benefit, plus the \$2,378 (66 2/3%) survivor benefit (\$5,495 total).

- Survivor Benefit – Gets increases
- Reversionary – Does NOT get increases



# Example: 50% of Pension

Pension of \$4,000

\$230 per month reduction of pension.

Member's pension is now \$3,770 per month.

\$3,770 per month for survivor to receive the reversionary benefit in addition to regular survivor benefit.

Surviving spouse now receives \$1,885 per month as a reversionary benefit, plus the \$2,513 (66 2/3%) as a survivor benefit (\$4,398 total).

- Survivor Benefit – Gets increases
- Reversionary – Does NOT get increases



# Pension Elections (if applicable)

- Social Security Offset
- Level Income (if you contribute to Social Security)
- Reversionary
- Any combination from above (if applicable)
- COLA increase when you're eligible (with or without offset)



# 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.



# Temporary Disability

## Eligibility

- In order to qualify for temporary disability you must have:
  - Been denied by Workers' Compensation
  - Filed an appeal with the IWCC - Application for Adjustment of Claim
  - SERS finds you disabled from performing your assigned job duties
  - Not received, nor had a right to receive any compensation for at least 30 days
  - 18 months of creditable service with SERS (Teachers' or State Universities Retirement Systems' service credit can also be used to establish 18 months with SERS)



# 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 SERS and TRS reciprocal time can be used for eligibility.
- Must submit the required forms and be found to be disabled by SERS.



# 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 Non-Occ 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.



# 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 & 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.
- Gross income, which also includes self-employment income, that exceeds the “substantial gainful activity” rate as determined by the Social Security Administration during a calendar quarter will result in the suspension and/or termination of your SERS disability benefits. This also impacts your access to group healthcare insurance and other group insurance benefits. The “substantial gainful activity” amount determined by the Social Security Administration can be found on their website.



# 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.



# Insurance



**Today's information is  
based on current policy  
and is subject to change**



# Insurance: Subject to Change

- Legislation
- Contract Negotiations
- Policy/Rule Changes



# Read all Information in Your Pension Packet

- Important insurance information sheet
- Completion of Retiree Insurance Form (3991) required.





# In Order to Qualify for State Insurance

- You must be vested with SERS and collecting a monthly annuity from SERS
- Tier 2 members are vested with a minimum of 10 years SERS service



# MyBenefits Service Center will assist State members with Insurance

- [mybenefits.illinois.gov](https://mybenefits.illinois.gov)
- Or call 844-251-1777



# Changes to Insurance Can be Made During:

- Retirement
- A qualifying event
- Benefit Choice period



# Retirement Dates Coincide with Insurance Eligibility

- Retirement date is always the 1st day of the month following resignations from agency.
- Insurance becomes effective the 1st day of your retirement. Some exceptions may apply
- Best if on agency payroll at least 1 - 2 days in the 2nd pay period for insurance to be effective to the end of the month. If not on agency payroll through the end of the month prior to your retirement date, you should talk to your Agency's HR Department about possible insurance issues.



# State Group Insurance

- Premiums for State insurance will be automatically deducted.
- If your check is not sufficient to deduct premiums, CMS will bill you.



# Opt-Out Financial Incentive

## SERS Retirees Only

- Must be enrolled in state insurance at the time of retirement to qualify for the incentive option.
- Must provide proof of another health insurance plan.
- Must be Non-Medicare.
- Tax withholding will apply, CMS pays for incentive
- \$150 per month less than 20 years
- \$500 per month 20 years or more
- Still eligible for life insurance
- Not eligible for health, dental, vision, or prescription coverage



# Opt-In

- During Benefit Choice
- Loss of other health coverage



# Reciprocal Time

- Vested with SERS before reciprocal time will count toward insurance
- Reciprocal Systems that can count for insurance purposes:
  - TRS – All time
  - SURS – If member carried state insurance while contributing to SURS. SERS will contact SURS to verify if their time can be used with SERS time.
  - GARS – All time
  - JRS – All time
  - IMRF time does not count towards insurance





# Health Insurance for Retirees

Member health insurance premiums will be based upon the following:

20 or more years of service:

- Premium Free

Less than 20 years of service:

- The state will contribute 5% of the cost for health insurance for each full year of service



Please refer to these websites to view current rates and schedule of benefits for each plan.

[srs.illinois.gov](https://srs.illinois.gov) or  
[mybenefits.illinois.gov](https://mybenefits.illinois.gov)



# Dependents

- Can continue, add, or terminate dependents at retirement
- Rates are the same for dependents of retirees and employees (located in current Benefit Choice booklet or online at [mybenefits.illinois.gov](https://mybenefits.illinois.gov))
- If a dependent is Medicare Prime, health insurance rate will reduce if member is retired.



# **Annuitant Waiver**

## **Public Act 97-0668**

In order to be eligible to make such an election, the person must have been enrolled as a dependent under the program of health benefits for no less than one year prior to becoming an annuitant.



# Survivor Insurance

## Basic Information

Survivor Eligibility:

Deceased member must have been vested in SRS

- Tier 2 member: 10 years

Survivor must be eligible to receive a monthly annuity:

- Married at least 1 year prior to death
- Age 50 and over, unless there is a dependent child or children



# What is Medicare?

Medicare\* is a federal health insurance program for individuals 65 and older, individuals under age 65 with certain disabilities and individuals at any age with End Stage Renal Disease.

\*See the Medicare Fact Sheet for more information.



# Please Note

**NOTE:** CMS will mail a letter to the member 90 days prior to turning age 65 that provides important information on both the requirement to enroll in Medicare and the transition to TRAIL Medicare Advantage Prescription Drug Program (MAPD).

If you and/or your dependents receive or have Medicare cards from SSA, please send a copy of the card(s) to the CMS Medicare Coordination of Benefits Unit to ensure your insurance is coded correctly to avoid claim and/or premium errors.



# For More Medicare Information

Central Management Services

Medicare Coordination of Benefits Unit

801 S. 7th St

PO Box 19208

Springfield, IL 62794-9208

Local - (217) 782-7007

Toll-free - (800) 442-1300

Fax - (217) 557-3973

Email: [CMS.Ben.MedicareCOB@illinois.gov](mailto:CMS.Ben.MedicareCOB@illinois.gov)





# Life Insurance

- Administered by MetLife
- 800-880-6394
- [metlife.com/stateofillinois/](https://www.metlife.com/stateofillinois/)



# State Life Insurance Examples

## Working/Retired Age 59

- \$50,000 – Basic Life, annual salary – Free
- \$200,000 – 4X Optional – up to 8x allowed.
- \$250,000 – Combined AD&D – \$/month
- \$10,000 – Child Life – \$/month
- \$10,000 – Spouse Life – \$/month  
(if spouse is age 59 or younger)



# State Life Insurance Examples

## Retired age 60 and above

- \$5,000 – Basic Life – Free
- \$20,000 – 4X Optional – \$/month
- \$25,000 – Combined AD&D – \$/month
- \$10,000 – Child Life – \$/month
- \$5,000 – Spouse Life – \$/month  
(if spouse is age 60 or above)



# Voluntary Group Life Insurance Plan (NCPERS) National Conference on Public Employee Retirement Systems

- For active employees only.  
Retirees are not eligible to apply.
- Decreasing Term Life Policy  
(life, AD&D, spouse, eligible child)



- NCPERS is in addition to your other state life insurance coverage
- Level Premium (\$16.00 per month)
- Payroll Deducted



# NCPERS Online Enrollment for Active Members

- Enrollment for Active Employees  
(to be announced)
- Underwriter: Prudential Life
- Administrator: Member Benefits



# Important Resources

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



**Any Questions?**

