

IYF



Investing in Your Future





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

217-785-7444  
Email: [sers@srs.illinois.gov](mailto:sers@srs.illinois.gov)

Thank you for taking time away from your work schedule to attend the Investing In Your Future (IYF) workshop. The IYF workshop and workbook are designed to help you identify what is missing in the current management of your finances, savings, investments, estate planning and health. We hope you will use this information to establish a firm foundation towards your future.

10-15 years from now, you should sign up for our second workshop, Education for Tomorrow's Choices (ETC). The ETC personalizes your preretirement planning efforts in finances, Social Security, health & leisure and housing. Our third workshop, Countdown to Retirement, reviews the retirement process and examines life in retirement.

We are here to assist you with any benefit questions, both now and in the future. If you have questions, contact our SERS Call Center at 217-785-7444.



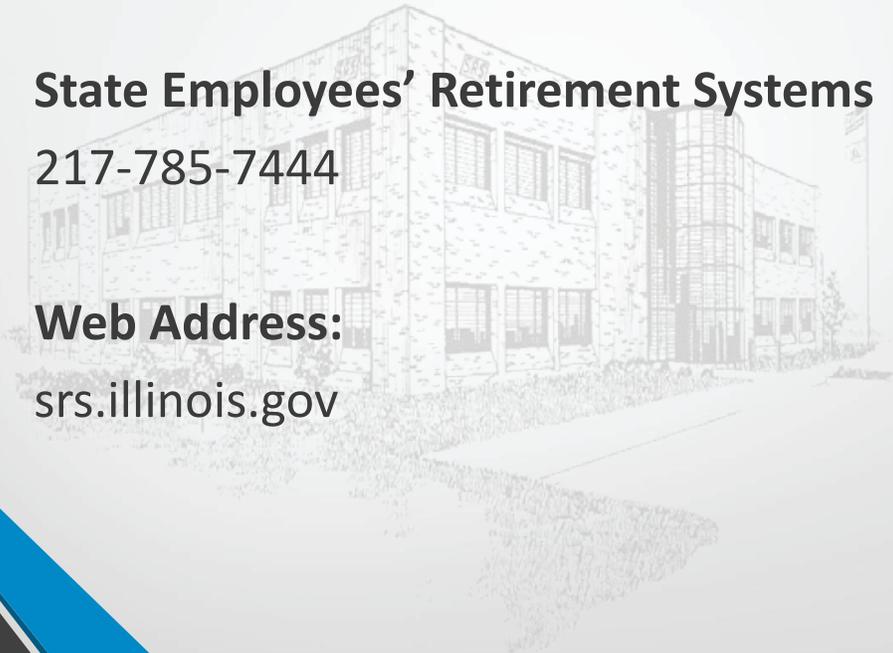


# **Welcome to Investing in Your Future Tier 2**

## **General Contact Resources**

**State Employees' Retirement Systems**  
217-785-7444

**Web Address:**  
[srs.illinois.gov](http://srs.illinois.gov)



## Important

- **Make sure that you sign in.**
- **Sign in sheet will be passed around before the last speaker of the day**

## Workshops

- **Investing in Your Future** – New employees under 45 yrs. of age & less than 10 yrs. service. Stresses money management, consumer debt, and investing for the future.
- **Education for Tomorrow's Choices** – 2-day classes at the mid-point in your career. 10-15 years of service. Medium range preretirement planning.
- **Countdown to Retirement** – 3-5 years from retirement. Explains transitions to retirement.

## SERS Terminology

- **FAC**: Final Average Compensation is the average of the highest consecutive 96 months over the last 120 months of service.
- **Annuity**: Monthly pension payment paid for the member's lifetime.
- **COLA**: Cost of Living Adjustment.
- **CPI**: Consumer Price Index (Tier 2).

## SERS Terminology (Cont'd)

- **Tier 1**: Individuals who became a member of SERS or a reciprocal system before December 31, 2010.
- **Tier 2**: Individuals who became a member of SERS or a reciprocal system after January 1, 2011.
- **Coordinated**: Employees who pay into Social Security.
- **Non-Coordinated**: Employees who do not pay into Social Security.

## SERS Terminology (Cont'd)

- **Contribution Rates**: Percentage of retirement contributions deducted from a member's paycheck based on the members formula.
  - Regular formula rates:
    - Coordinated 4%
    - Non-Coordinated 8%
  - Alternate formula rates:
    - Coordinated 8.5%
    - Non-Coordinated 12.5%
- **Vested**:
  - 10 years service credit required for Tier 2

## Valuable Resources

- **SRS website** – [srs.illinois.gov](http://srs.illinois.gov)
- **SERS O GRAM** – mailed twice a year
- **HANDBOOK** – no longer being printed, online access.
- **MEMBER SERVICES web site** – [memberservices.srs.illinois.gov](http://memberservices.srs.illinois.gov)
- **ANNUAL BENEFIT STATEMENT** – effective on 6/30 each year.

Annual **Retiree** Benefit Statement is mailed early in the year.

The “Informer” retiree newsletter is mailed a couple times a year

The “Sers-O-Gram” member newsletter is mailed a couple times a year

**SERS** The **SERS-O-GRAM**  
The newsletter for Tier 1 members of the State Employees' Retirement System of Illinois  
3101 S. Veterans Parkway  
P.O. Box 1905  
Springfield, IL 62764-9055  
217-785-7444  
srs.illinois.gov  
AUGUST 2019

Keep your Member Services contact information up to date to receive the latest news, announcements or deadlines by email, letter or call.

**Accelerated Pension Benefit Payment for Retiring Tier 1 Members**  
Public Act 100-0567 created a **voluntary** program for members who qualify for a retirement annuity to elect a reduced and delayed automatic annual increase (AAI) in exchange for a lump-sum payment at retirement. The program is available for members retiring before the statutory expiration date of June 1, 2024.  
At retirement, Tier 1 members can elect to forfeit the 3% compounded AAI and instead receive 1.5% non-compounded AAIs, beginning the January 1 following the first anniversary of retirement or the member's 67th birthday, whichever is later. Survivors of members who choose this option will also receive the reduced 1.5% non-compounded AAIs, beginning the January 1 following the anniversary of the start of the survivor annuity. The election to participate cannot be changed after retirement.  
Members who forfeit the Tier 1 AAIs will receive a lump-sum payment equal to 70% of the difference in the value of the Tier 1 3% compounded AAI and the value of the 1.5% non-compounded AAI. This current value will be calculated by SERS and will be based on current actuarial assumptions and all relevant member information. These payments **must** be transferred to a qualified retirement plan authorized by the IRS.

**Your benefit statement**  
Enclosed with this SERS-O-GRAM is your current benefit statement. This statement contains detailed information about your SERS benefits as of June 30, 2019.  
**If you would like to change or update your beneficiaries, visit [srs.illinois.gov](http://srs.illinois.gov) and click the Forms link to find the Death Benefit Beneficiary Designation Form.**  
**If you have questions about beneficiaries, call us at 217-785-7444.**

**Who do you want to protect with life insurance?**

**NCPERS open enrollment: Oct. 1 – Nov. 30, 2019**  
The State Employees' Retirement System (SERS) offers a voluntary life insurance plan to its members through the National Conference of Public Employees Retirement Systems (NCPERS). Coverage is guaranteed with no medical questions asked. It provides important financial protection for you and your family with a low premium of \$16 per month.  
SERS is offering an open enrollment period for the voluntary group life insurance coverage to our actively working members. The enrollment period will be held Oct. 1, 2019 – Nov. 30, 2019.  
There is no guarantee that another open enrollment period will be offered in the future, and you can only enroll while actively working. Please mark your calendars.  
You can access an enrollment/beneficiary form on Oct. 1, 2019 by going to [www.ncpersvoluntarylife.com/srs](http://www.ncpersvoluntarylife.com/srs).

**You can now opt out of paper statements**  
On the Member Services website, you now have the option to opt out of receiving your SERS Annual Benefit Statement in the mail. You will still have access to your current and prior year statements through the secure website and you will continue to receive other SERS correspondence in the mail.  
Did you know that mail theft is one of the most common ways identity theft or fraud can happen to you? The elimination of hardcopy statements decreases the risk of your personal information falling into the wrong hands. Paperless statements help the retirement system to reduce its carbon footprint and save money in printing and postage costs which can be used to pay your future retirement benefits!

**Check out our Member Services website**  
[memberservices.srs.illinois.gov](http://memberservices.srs.illinois.gov)



**STATE EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM**  
 2101 S. Veterans Parkway, P. O. Box 19255 160 N. LaSalle St. Suite S200  
 Springfield, IL 62794-9255 Chicago, IL 60601  
 217-785-7444 TDD 217-785-7218 312-814-5853

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

Statement of Account as of 6/1/2016 Active Member

10-000  
 JOHN T DOE  
 1123 WEST WASHINGTON STREET  
 SPRINGFIELD, IL 62704

Social Security: XXX-XX-9999  
 Member ID: 12-3456789  
 Tier: Tier 1  
 Membership Date: 07/01/2000  
 Service Credit: 15.9167 yrs. (191.00 mos.)  
 Total Contributions: \$28,120.93  
 Final Average Compensation: \$2,917.28  
 Monthly Rate of Pay: \$2,917.28  
 Date of Birth: 03/12/1974  
 Phone Number: (217) 777-4444  
 Email: John@gmail.com  
 Gender: Male

**Estimated Retirement Benefits**

(217) 785-7366

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

<b>Regular Retirement - Monthly Benefit</b>	<b>12/01/2029</b>	<b>\$1,433.14</b>
Rule of 85 Your age and service must be equal to or greater than 85.		
<b>Reduced Retirement - Monthly Benefit</b>	<b>04/01/2029</b>	<b>\$980.46</b>
You must be age 55 with 25 years of service. Your benefit is reduced by 1/3 of one percent for each month under the age of 60.		

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 \$4.06.  
 You have currently earned a benefit of \$775.44 that is payable on 04/01/2034. This amount is based on what you have earned in retirement benefits up to the present date. If you left state employment on 06/01/2016, this is the amount you can receive in retirement benefits on 04/01/2034.

Go to [www.srs.illinois.gov/SERS/optservice\\_sers.htm](http://www.srs.illinois.gov/SERS/optservice_sers.htm) for information on purchasing optional service.

**Estimated Disability Benefits**

(217) 785-7270

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

<b>Non-Occupational - Monthly Benefit</b> (These benefits will be reduced by any Social Security Disability benefits received.)	<b>\$1,458.54</b>
<b>Occupational - Monthly Benefit</b> (These benefits will be reduced by Workers' Compensation benefits received.)	<b>\$2,187.96</b>

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**

(217) 785-7366

<b>Non-Occupational Death - Survivor Monthly Benefit</b> 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).	<b>\$400.00</b>
<b>Non-Occupational Death - Family Maximum Monthly Benefit</b>	<b>\$600.00</b>
<b>Occupational Death - Survivor Monthly Benefit</b> 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. <i>Occupational benefits may have additional amounts payable if you have children under 18 or under 22 if a full time student.</i>	<b>\$1,458.54</b>
<b>Lump Sum Death Benefit without Eligible Survivors</b>	<b>\$45,771.84</b>
<b>Lump Sum Death Benefit with Eligible Survivors</b>	<b>\$24,418.56</b>

**Retirement Beneficiary Information**

(217) 785-6973

Your death benefits will be paid equally to your primary beneficiaries (those listed as #1). If some of your #1 beneficiary(s) predecease you, your death benefits will be divided among the #1's still living. Beneficiaries listed as #2's will only be paid if NO primary beneficiaries survive you. The same process applies to remaining beneficiaries listed as #3 or greater.

- 1 - Jane Doe
- 2 - William Doe
- 2 - Sarah Doe
- 3 - Thomas Doe

If you would like to change or update your beneficiaries, you may obtain the form by logging into the [memberservices.srs.illinois.gov](http://memberservices.srs.illinois.gov) website and clicking on the Member Services tab located on the left side.

Remember, you may have death benefits through other state-sponsored programs such as State of Illinois life insurance or Deferred Compensation that have separate beneficiary forms.

**Reciprocal Service**

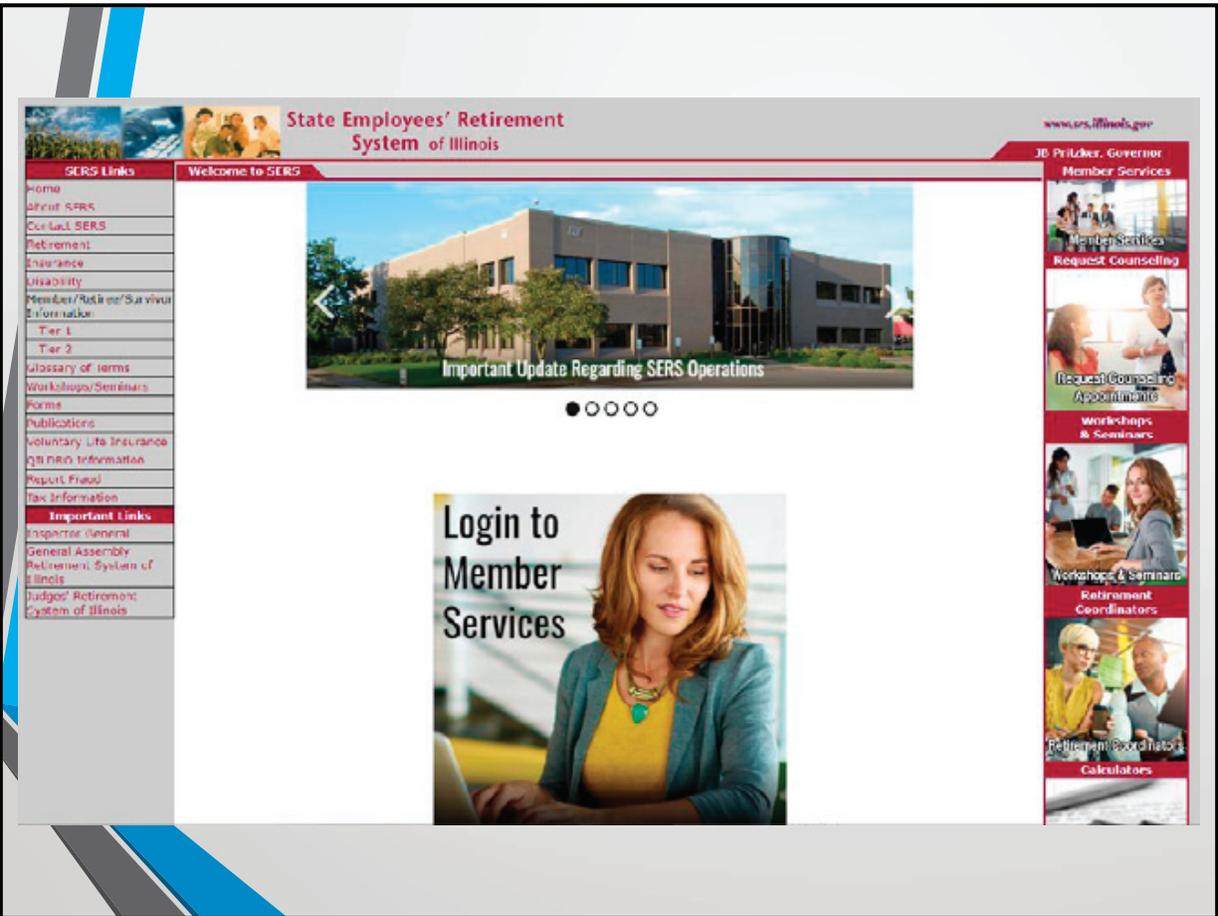
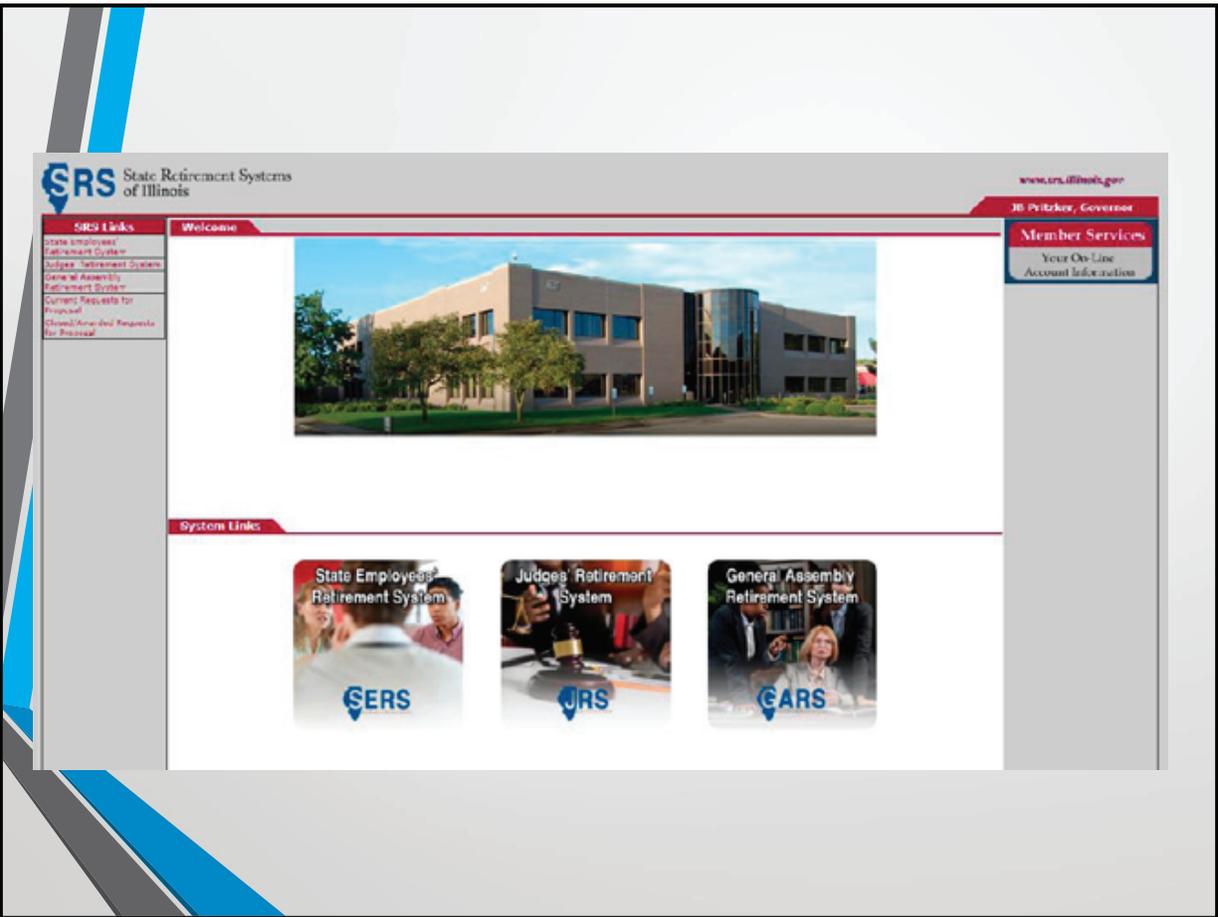
(217) 785-7379

**No reciprocal service**

Please visit [www.srs.illinois.gov](http://www.srs.illinois.gov) for a complete list of all reciprocal systems.

**Agency Contacts**

**Retirement Coordinator**  
 Sally Smith  
 (217) 777-5555



**State Employees' Retirement System of Illinois**

www.srs.illinois.gov  
JB Pritzker, Governor

**SERS Links**

- Home
- Calculators
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- History
- Board of Trustees
- Member/Retiree/Survivor Information
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  - Tier 2 Information
- Benefit Packets
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- Workshops/Seminars
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- QILDRO Information
- Financial & Actuarial
- Tier 2 Annual Salary Limitations
- Legislation
- Tax Information
- Mission Statement
- Site Map

**External Links**

- Join us on Facebook
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**SERS Pension Calculators**

## SERS Pension Calculators

[Federal Tax Withholding Calculator](#)

[Tier 1 SERS Pension Calculator](#)

Tier 2 SERS Pension Calculator (coming soon)

[Tier 2 Annuity Cola & Increase in the Annual Salary Maximum](#)

[Social Security Benefit Estimate Calculator](#)

[Service Credit Calculator](#)

[Sick Leave and Vacation Conversion Chart](#)

**Overview Links**

- Tax Information
- SERS Members Handbook
- Retirement Checklist

**State Employees' Retirement System of Illinois**

www.srs.illinois.gov  
JB Pritzker, Governor

**SERS Links**

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- Forms
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- Voluntary Life Insurance
- QILDRO Information
- Report Fraud
- Tax Information

**Important Links**

- Inspector General
- General Assembly
- Retirement System of Illinois
- Judges' Retirement System of Illinois

**SERS Publications**

## SERS Publications

All SERS publications are available in Adobe Acrobat Portable Document Format (pdf). Before viewing these documents, you may need to download the latest version of Adobe Acrobat Reader at [www.adobe.com](http://www.adobe.com).

**Fact Sheets**



Fact Sheets

**Newsletters**



Newsletters providing members, annuitants and beneficiaries with information and policy changes.

**Annual Reports**



**Biennial Reports**



**SERS Links**

- FAQ's
- SERS Annual Reports
- SERS Social Security Manual Reports
- SERS Annual Actuarial
- Publications

State Employees' Retirement System of Illinois www.srs.illinois.gov  
JD Pritzker, Governor

**SERS Links** | **Tier 2 Member/Retiree/Survivor Information**

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- Tier 2
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- Workshops/Seminars
- Forms
- Publications
- Voluntary Life Insurance
- QILDRO Information
- Report Fraud
- Tax Information

**Important Links**

- Inspector General
- General Assembly Retirement System of Illinois
- Judges' Retirement System of Illinois

### Tier 2 | General Information

- Publications
- Active Member
- Retiree & Survivor
- Salary Limitations/Cola Increase

### Tier 2 | FAQs

- Retirement
- Non-Occupational Disability Benefits
- Occupational Disability Benefits
- Death Benefits
- Optional Service
- Refunds

State Employees' Retirement System of Illinois www.srs.illinois.gov  
JD Pritzker, Governor

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- Workshops/Seminars
- Forms
- Publications
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- QILDRO Information
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- Tax Information

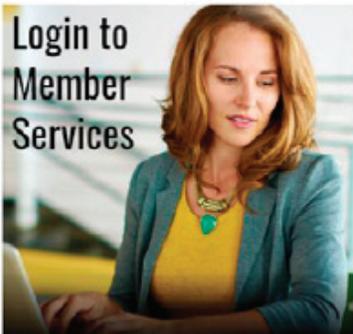
**Important Links**

- Inspector General
- General Assembly Retirement System of Illinois
- Judges' Retirement System of Illinois



Important Update Regarding SERS Operations

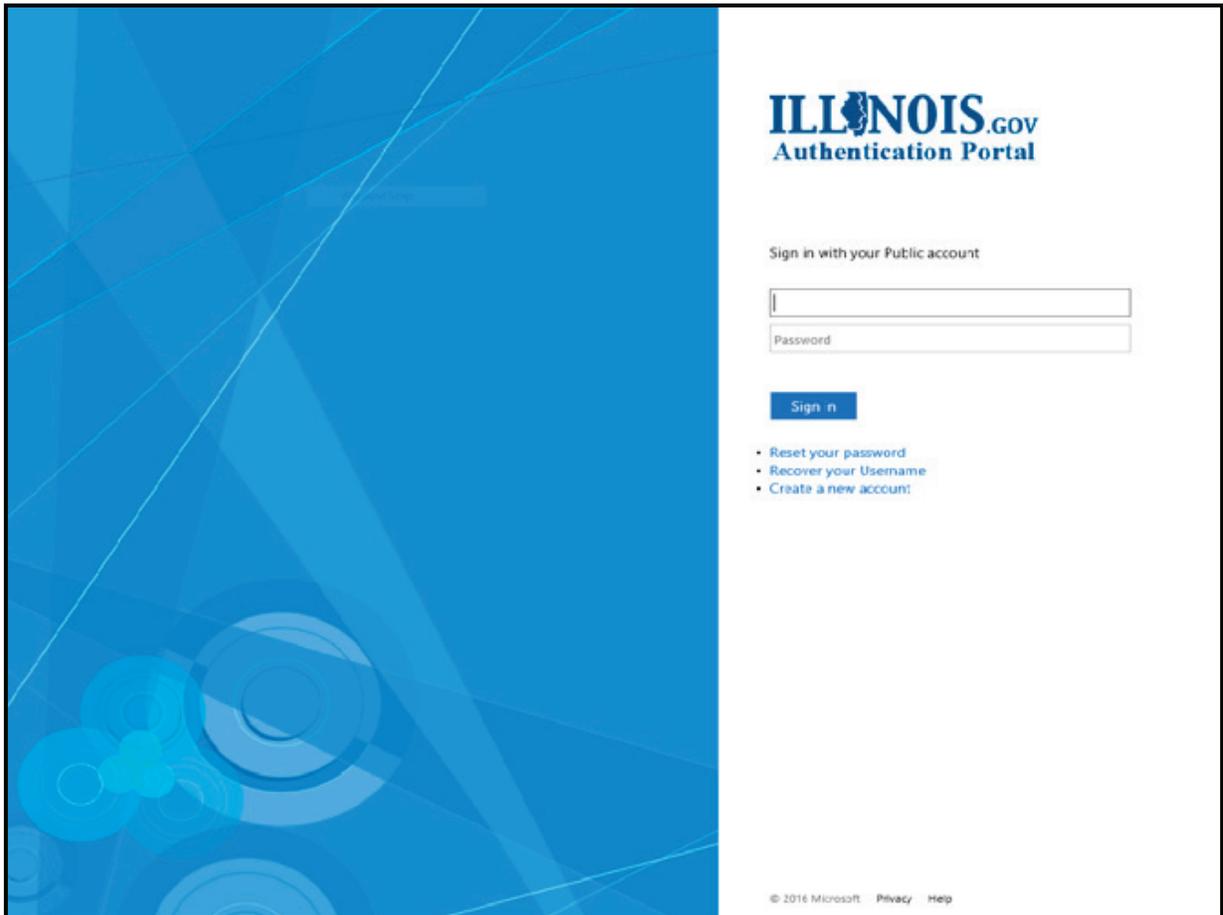
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Login to Member Services

**Member Services**

- Member Services
- Request Counseling
- Request Counseling Appointments
- Workshops & Seminars
- Workshops & Seminars
- Retirement Coordinators
- Retirement Record History
- Calculators



**ILLINOIS.GOV**  
Authentication Portal

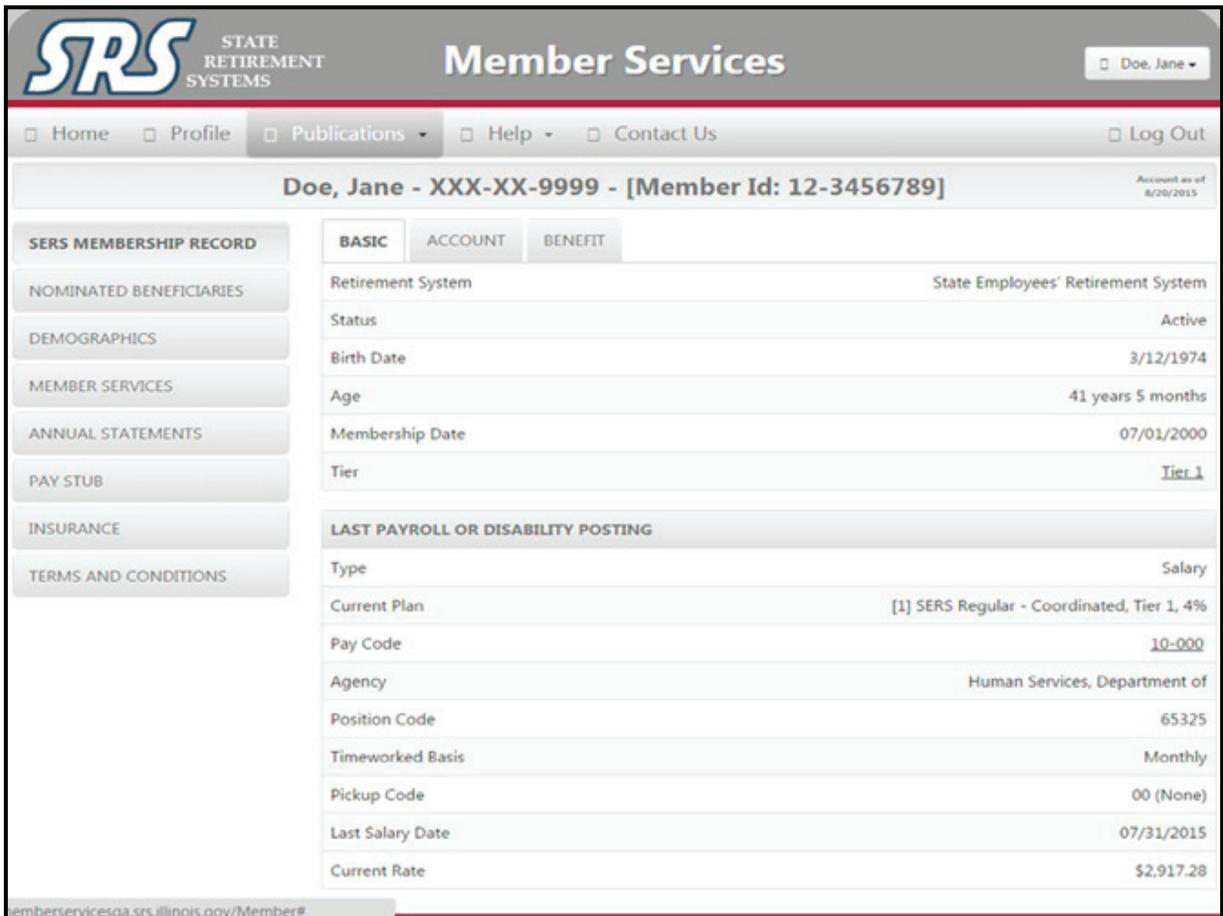
Sign in with your Public account

Password

[Sign in](#)

- [Reset your password](#)
- [Recover your Username](#)
- [Create a new account](#)

© 2016 Microsoft [Privacy](#) [Help](#)



**SRS** STATE RETIREMENT SYSTEMS **Member Services** □ Doe, Jane ▾

□ Home □ Profile □ Publications ▾ □ Help ▾ □ Contact Us □ Log Out

**Doe, Jane - XXX-XX-9999 - [Member Id: 12-3456789]** Account as of 8/26/2015

SERS MEMBERSHIP RECORD	BASIC	ACCOUNT	BENEFIT
NOMINATED BENEFICIARIES	Retirement System	State Employees' Retirement System	
DEMOGRAPHICS	Status	Active	
MEMBER SERVICES	Birth Date	3/12/1974	
ANNUAL STATEMENTS	Age	41 years 5 months	
PAY STUB	Membership Date	07/01/2000	
INSURANCE	Tier	<a href="#">Tier 1</a>	
TERMS AND CONDITIONS	<b>LAST PAYROLL OR DISABILITY POSTING</b>		
	Type	Salary	
	Current Plan	[1] SERS Regular - Coordinated, Tier 1, 4%	
	Pay Code	<a href="#">10-000</a>	
	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	

[memberservicesqa.srs.illinois.gov/Member#](#)

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

Account as of 8/26/2015

**SERS MEMBERSHIP RECORD**

NOMINATED BENEFICIARIES

DEMOGRAPHICS

MEMBER SERVICES

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PAY STUB

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TERMS AND CONDITIONS

BASIC **ACCOUNT** BENEFIT

Total Service Credit □	15 years 1 month
Total Contributions	<b>\$26,795.86</b>
Final Average Compensation (FAC) □	<b>\$2,917.28</b>

**EARNINGS AND SERVICE CREDIT**

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

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

**SERS MEMBERSHIP RECORD**

NOMINATED BENEFICIARIES

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**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 8/26/2015

15 years 1 month

**\$26,795.86**

**\$2,917.28**

Earnings and Service Credit

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

**SERS FAC SUMMARY**

Calculated Date	08/20/2015
Calculated FAC	\$2,917.28
Earnings for FAC	\$140,029.44
Months	48.00
Used Start Date	09/2011
Used End Date	08/2015

Close

Legend: Earnings **1** Service Credit Service Credit Adjustment **2** 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
2018	\$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>
2017	\$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>
2016	\$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>
2015	\$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>
2014	\$6,466.78	\$6,466.78	\$6,466.78	\$6,219.16	\$6,296.36	\$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>
2013	\$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>
2012	\$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>

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**Doe, Jane - XXX-XX-9999 - [Member Id: 12-3456789]** Account as of 12/3/2019

**SERS MEMBERSHIP RECORD**

NOMINATED BENEFICIARIES

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**Paperless Statements**

Retirees and Survivors may now choose to go paperless for your Annual Statements from SRS. To do so, go to your Profile and edit your Opt Out of Paper Annual Statements preference. [Do Not Show Again](#)

BASIC ACCOUNT **BENEFIT**

Your estimated benefits have been calculated as of 12/3/2019. The estimate is based on the most recent payroll data that we have received and posted to your account (11/15/2019). 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.

<b>Regular Retirement - Monthly Benefit</b>	<b>2/1/2062</b>	<b>\$2,252.24</b>
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Age 67 with 10 Years of Service: You must be at least age 67 with 10 years of service.

<b>Reduced Retirement - Monthly Benefit</b>	<b>2/1/2057</b>	<b>\$1,399.76</b>
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You must be age 62 with 10 years of service. Your benefit is reduced by 1/2 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 \$4.21.

You are currently impersonating Doe, Jane

Home Profile Inbox Publications Help Contact Log Out

**Doe, Jane - XXX-XX-9999 - [Member Id: 12-3456789]** Account as of 12/3/2019

**SERS ESTIMATED REGULAR RETIREMENT - MONTHLY BENEFIT**

Plan	Service Credit (Years)	Formula	% of FAC
SERS Regular - Tier 2	44.5833	X 1.67 % =	74.4541 %
Total Percentage of FAC =			74.4541 %
Projected FAC X			\$3,025.00
<b>Estimated Benefit</b>			<b>\$2,252.24</b>
<b>Projected Retirement Date</b>			<b>2/1/2062</b>

**Notes:**

- The benefit was calculated as of 11/15/2019 instead of 12/03/2019, because of the Member's latest posted earnings date.
- Eligibility rule met: Tier 2: 67 and 10 yrs.
- Additional projected service: 42.1667 years.
- Receiving Regular formula (40 ILCS 5/14-108).
- Projected monthly gross increase for unused benefit time: \$4.21.

Close

**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:

<b>Non-Occupational - Monthly Benefit</b>	<b>\$1,458.64</b>
(These benefits will be reduced by any Social Security Disability benefits received.)	
<b>Occupational - Monthly Benefit</b>	<b>\$2,187.96</b>
(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**

<b>Non-Occupational Death - Survivor Monthly Benefit</b>	<b>\$400.00</b>
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).	
<b>Non-Occupational Death - Family Maximum Monthly Benefit</b>	<b>\$600.00</b>
<b>Occupational Death - Survivor Monthly Benefit*</b>	<b>\$1,458.64</b>
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.	
<b>Lump Sum Death Benefit without Eligible Survivors</b>	<b>\$44,299.54</b>
<b>Lump Sum Death Benefit with Eligible Survivors</b>	<b>\$23,146.76</b>

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



# Member Services

□ Doe, Jane ▾

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

Account as of 8/20/2015

SERS MEMBERSHIP RECORD

**NOMINATED BENEFICIARIES**

DEMOGRAPHICS

MEMBER SERVICES

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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

The beneficiaries listed above are your nominated beneficiaries to whom a lump sum death benefit will be payable at your death. Your death benefits will be paid equally to your primary beneficiaries (those listed as #1). If some of your #1 beneficiary(s) predecease you, your death benefits will be divided among the #1's still living. Beneficiaries listed as #2's will only be paid if NO primary beneficiaries survive you. The same process applies to remaining beneficiaries listed as #3 or greater.

**You may have other nominated beneficiary forms to update for benefits through state-sponsored programs such as Minnesota Life Insurance 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.

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All aspects of the administration of the State Retirement Systems of Illinois (SRS), including but not limited to benefit calculation and payment, must comply with state and federal law (40 ILCS 5/2, 5/14, and 5/18). No employee of SRS has the authority to bind the System to take action contrary to the law, even in the event of a misstatement of law. Furthermore, while this statement describes SRS' current understanding of the law, this could change as a result of court opinions, statutory changes or other matters (e.g. Attorney General's opinions). Accordingly, SRS is required under law to correct any mistake in benefit amount, even after payments have begun. Use of any information from this website, form or any other document provided by SRS is for general information only.



# Member Services

Doe, Jane ▾

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**Doe, Jane - XXX-XX-9999 - [Member Id: 12-3456789]**
Account as of 8/26/2015

SERS MEMBERSHIP RECORD	<b>PROFILE</b>
NOMINATED BENEFICIARIES	Full Name <span style="float: right;">Jane Doe</span>
<b>DEMOGRAPHICS</b>	SSN <span style="float: right;">XXX-XX-9999</span>
MEMBER SERVICES	Gender <span style="float: right;">Female</span>
ANNUAL STATEMENTS	Birth Date <span style="float: right;">3/12/1974</span>
PAY STUB	<b>ADDRESSES</b>
INSURANCE	Home <span style="float: right;">1123 West Washington Street, Springfield, IL 62704</span>
TERMS AND CONDITIONS	Work <span style="float: right;">7854 Taylor Avenue, Springfield, IL 62712</span>
	The only way to change your home address is to submit two (2) <b>W4 forms</b> (C-25 Employee's Withholding Exemption Certificate) to your <u>Agency's Payroll Office</u> that indicate your correct address.
	<b>PHONE NUMBERS</b> ⇄
	Cell <span style="float: right;">(217) 444-2222</span>
	Fax <span style="float: right;">(217) 888-9999</span>
	Home <input type="checkbox"/> <span style="float: right;">(217) 777-4444</span>
	Work <span style="float: right;">(217) 888-3333</span>
	<b>EMAIL ADDRESSES</b> ⇄
	Home <input type="checkbox"/> <span style="float: right;">Jane@gmail.com</span>
	Work <span style="float: right;">Jane@illinois.gov</span>



# Member Services

Doe, Jane ▾

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**Doe, Jane - XXX-XX-9999 - [Member Id: 12-3456789]**
Account as of 8/26/2015

SERS MEMBERSHIP RECORD	<b>SERS MEMBER SERVICES</b>
NOMINATED BENEFICIARIES	<a href="#">BENEFICIARY NOMINATION</a> <input type="checkbox"/> <span style="float: right;">Form 101</span>
DEMOGRAPHICS	<a href="#">MEMBER DEMOGRAPHIC CONFIRMATION</a> <input type="checkbox"/> <span style="float: right;">Form 1006</span>
<b>MEMBER SERVICES</b>	<a href="#">POWER OF ATTORNEY</a> <input type="checkbox"/> <span style="float: right;">Form POA</span>
ANNUAL STATEMENTS	
PAY STUB	
INSURANCE	
TERMS AND CONDITIONS	

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

Account as of  
8/20/2015

SERS MEMBERSHIP RECORD

NOMINATED BENEFICIARIES

DEMOGRAPHICS

MEMBER SERVICES

**ANNUAL STATEMENTS**

PAY STUB

INSURANCE

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

## SERS ANNUAL STATEMENTS

SERS Active Member Statement [6/30/2015 SERS Active Member Statement](#) □

SERS Active Member Statement [6/30/2014 SERS Active Member Statement](#) □

## Address Changes

Make sure SRS has your current address by changing your address with your agency by filling out two W-4 cards.

## 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 Securian Financial/Minnesota life insurance or Deferred Compensation

## Important Dates

- **26** – Dependents can no longer be covered under State insurance plans
- **62** – Reduced benefit from Social Security & Tier 2 eligible to retire with reduced pension
- **67** – Tier 2 age of retirement eligibility

# **SERS & Financial Planning**

**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**

**How much is a state worker's  
alternative formula  
contribution rate?**

## **Alternative Formula**

**8.5% Coordinated  
12.5% 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**

**Benefits**

## Tier 2 Contributions

	Coordinated	
	Regular	Alternative
Retirement	3.5	8.0
Widow/Survivor	0.5	0.5
Total	4.0%	8.5%

## Tier 2 Contributions

	Non-Coordinated	
	Regular	Alternative
Retirement	7.0	11.5
Widow/Survivor	1.0	1.0
Total	8.0%	12.5%

## TIER 2

### Regular Formula

Eligible at age 67 with 10 years of service credit

### Tier 2 – Early Option Reduced/Regular

**Age** 62 thru 66yrs,11mo

---

**Service Credit** 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

Years of  
Service X 1.67% X FAC = Pension  
Credit

↑  
Highest consecutive  
96/120 Months

## Tier 2 Regular Formula Non-Coordinated

Years of  
Service X 2.2% X FAC = Pension  
Credit

↑  
Highest consecutive  
96/120 Months

## TIER 2 COLA Increase Regular Formula

COLA pension increase is 3% or one-half of the Consumer Price Index, whichever is less, every January 1 following one full year of retirement after age 67.

## Tier 2 Alternative Formula

### Non-Coordinated

- State Police
- Firefighters
- Secretary of State Investigators
- Commerce Commission Police Officers
- Gaming Board Investigators
- Department of Revenue Investigators
- Arson Investigators

### Coordinated Security Employees

- Dept. of Corrections
- Juvenile Justice

## **TIER 2**

### **Alternative Formula**

Eligible at age 60 with 20 years of service credit

## **TIER 2**

### **Final Average Compensation**

Monthly salary during the 96 highest consecutive months of service within the last 120 months. The retirement benefit is calculated on a maximum salary of \$115,928.92.\* This amount increases annually by 3% or one-half of the Consumer Price Index, whichever is less.

\*Figure as of 2020

## Tier 2 Alternative Formula Coordinated

Years of  
Service X 2.5% X FAC = Pension  
Credit

↑  
Highest consecutive  
96/120 Months

## Tier 2 Alternative Formula Non-Coordinated

Years of  
Service X 3.0% X FAC = Pension  
Credit

↑  
Highest consecutive  
96/120 Months

## TIER 2 COLA Increase Alternative Formula

COLA pension increase is 3% or one-half of the Consumer Price Index, whichever is less, every January 1 following one full year of retirement after age 60.

This is not limited by the 80% maximum pension.

**Any Questions?**

# Optional Service

## Optional Service Purchases

- Short periods:
  - Does not allow for temporary contractual time
  - Example: 1-1-84 to 12-1-10
- 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

## Public Act 101-0610 Purchases

### State Police Purchases (Tier 2)

- May purchase up to 5 years of service if employed by federal, state or local government located outside of Illinois.
- Must pay employee contributions of the rate of salary received upon entering service as an IL State Police Officer.
- Must pay employers' rate and interest at the regular rate on the total amounts from first day through the date of full purchase.
- Must apply within 3 years of 1/1/2020.

# Public Act 101-0610 Purchases

## Alternative Formula Purchases (Tier 2)

- Can convert prior regular formula service to Alternative formula service up to 8 years.
- Must pay difference between employee contributions plus interest from date of service through date of full purchase.
- Must apply within 12 months of 1/1/2020.

## Is it worth it to buy service credit?

### EXAMPLE:

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

For 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

# 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	=	.25	131 – 135	=	6.25
6 – 10	=	.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

## Unpaid Time

Sick days earned after 1997

88 = 4.25 Months

**Lump Sum Checks for paid sick & 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

## Reciprocal Time

- Thirteen systems are in the reciprocal act
- Repay the contributions to the reciprocal system that you took a refund from

## Reciprocal Time

- Must have at least one year (12 months), of credit with the other reciprocal system.
- Minimum vesting of ten years = Tier 2

## 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.



**Any Questions?**



**Disability**

## Occupational Disability Job-Related

### Requirements:

- Member of SERS.
- File a claim with and receive benefits from Workers' Compensation.
- File the required forms with SERS.
- Members DO NOT have to use any benefit time for OCC or a TEMP disability benefit.

## Occupational Disability

- 75% of your Final Average Compensation for Tier 2.
- Workers' Compensation pays  $66\frac{2}{3}$ , SERS pays  $8\frac{1}{3}$ .

# Occupational Disability Ends

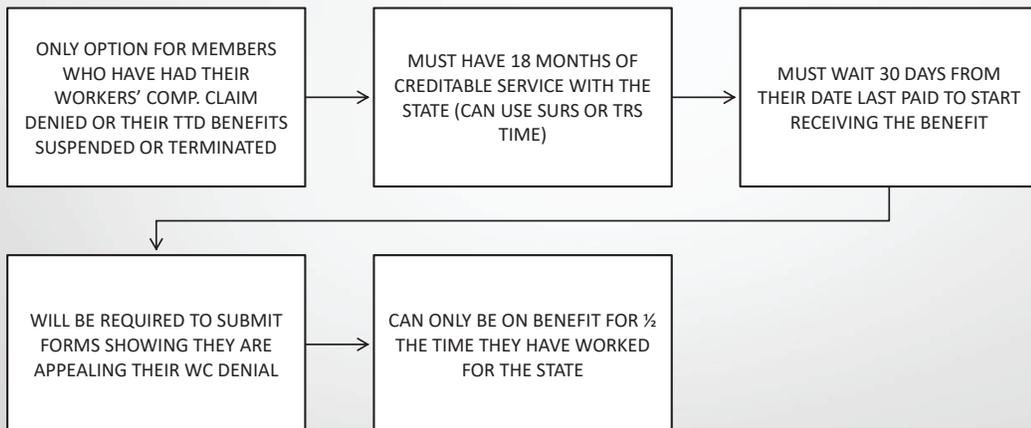
- You reach age 65
- Your disability ends, when Doctor releases you.
- You resume employment
- If your disability begins after age 60, benefits are payable up to:
  - 5 years: Tier 2

- If their WC claim was denied they 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 Tristar. Employees of the Toll Highway are handled by CorVel.
- Once WC start 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.
- Temporary benefits members have a 30-day waiting period from their date last paid.
- Not required to use sick days.

# Temporary Disability Benefits



## 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 non-occupational benefit.
- If they want a non-occupational benefit and have had their WC claim denied, 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.

## Non-Occupational Disability

- Disability resulting from causes not related to your occupation.
- 18 months credited service. Only SERS and TRS reciprocal time can be used for eligibility.
- Off payroll for more than 30 days.
- Granted a medical leave of absence approved from your agency.
- MUST use all your accumulated sick leave.
- Have submitted the required forms.

## Non-Occupational Disability

- How Long Can I Stay on Non-Occupational Disability?
  - Eligible for 1/2 of your active service credit.

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

## Non-Occupational Disability

- You exhaust one-half of your credited service
- Your disability ends, your Doctor releases you
- You resume employment
- If your disability begins after age 60, benefits are payable up to:
  - 5 years: Tier 2

## NON-OCC Terminated After ½ Time Ceasing

If a non-occ benefit is terminated because of ½ time ceasing, but the member is still disabled, they become eligible for an unreduced pension if:

- Member is 60 and has 8 years of credited service
- Member is 55 and has 15 years of credited service
- Member is 50 and has 20 years of credited service
- Member would not receive a COLA until age 60.

## NON-Occupational Disability

How Much Money?

- **Tier 2** – 50% of your FAC

## **Pregnancy and Non-Occ Disability**

Members now receive 10 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 & Non-Occupational Disability

While on disability with SERS your service credit continues to be applied to your account.

## My Agency wants me to resign?

- Members may resign from their agency and remain on SERS benefit as long as they continue to meet the eligibility and medical disability requirements.
- Members must be established on SERS disability benefit BEFORE they resign from their agency.
- This allows the agency to post and fill the 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

## Retiree Death Benefits

- Survivor Benefit:
  - \$1,000 Lump Sum
  - Monthly Annuity
  - Insurance (possibly)

**OR**

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

## Survivor Annuity

**MEMBERS SPOUSE:** If you are survived by your spouse age 50 or over, and you were married at least one year prior to your death, your spouse will receive \$1,000 lump sum, plus a monthly annuity until their death.

## Social Security Offsets for Survivors

- Survivor benefits of active employees are not offset by Social Security.
- All monthly annuity survivor benefits payable on your behalf to QS-(CUP) will be reduced by  $\frac{1}{2}$  of any survivor benefits payable through the Social Security Administration
- Your SRS survivor benefit will not be reduced by more than 50%

# Important Resources

- State Employees' Retirement System  
217-785-7444  
[srs.illinois.gov](http://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)

**Any Questions?**