

TRSL & Social Security

 **TRSL** Teachers' Retirement
System of Louisiana

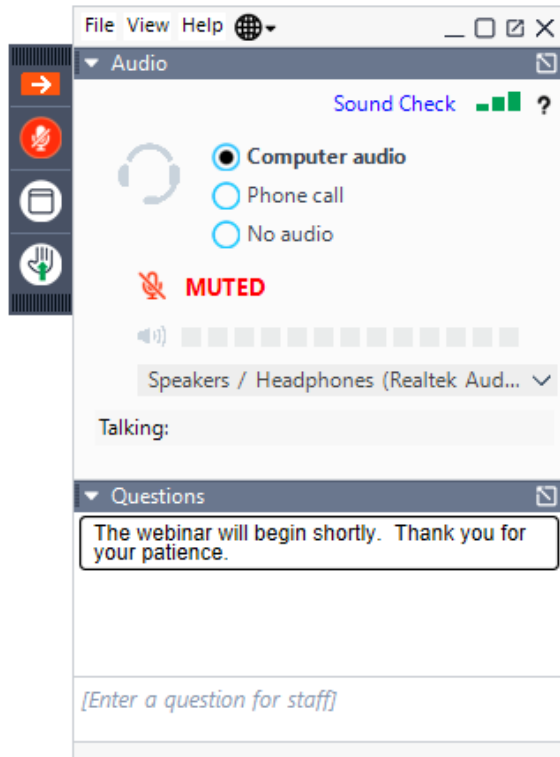
Summer 2020



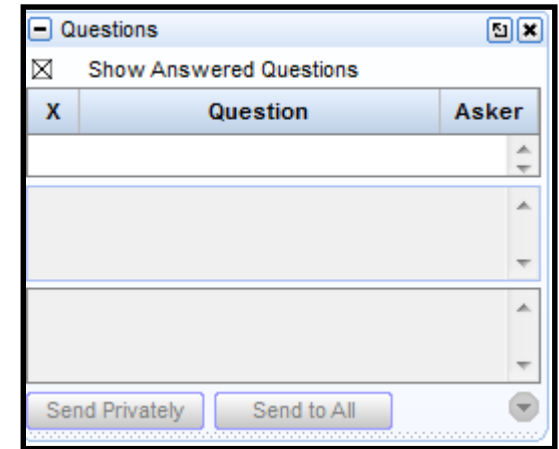
Friendly reminders

- This presentation contains general information.
- It is meant to be used as a guide during the webinar.
- All participants are muted during the webinar.
- Have a question?
 - » Type your question in the **Questions** area during the webinar. There will be question-and-answer periods during the webinar.
- Please maximize your screen size to have full use of the webinar's features.

Go To Webinar features



Type your question here.



If you have any specific questions about your retirement (DROP window, retirement eligibility, FAC questions, etc.) please email us so we can assist you directly at web.master@trsl.org

Agenda

- Types of TRSL retirement plans
- How your retirement is funded
- How your benefit is calculated
- Retirement eligibility
- Retirement options
- Leave credit

Break and Q & A periods will be provided.

TRSL retirement plans

Regular Plan

Most TRSL members, including teachers, administrators, support staff, and university personnel, etc.

Plan B

School food service employees in 20 parishes

How your retirement is funded

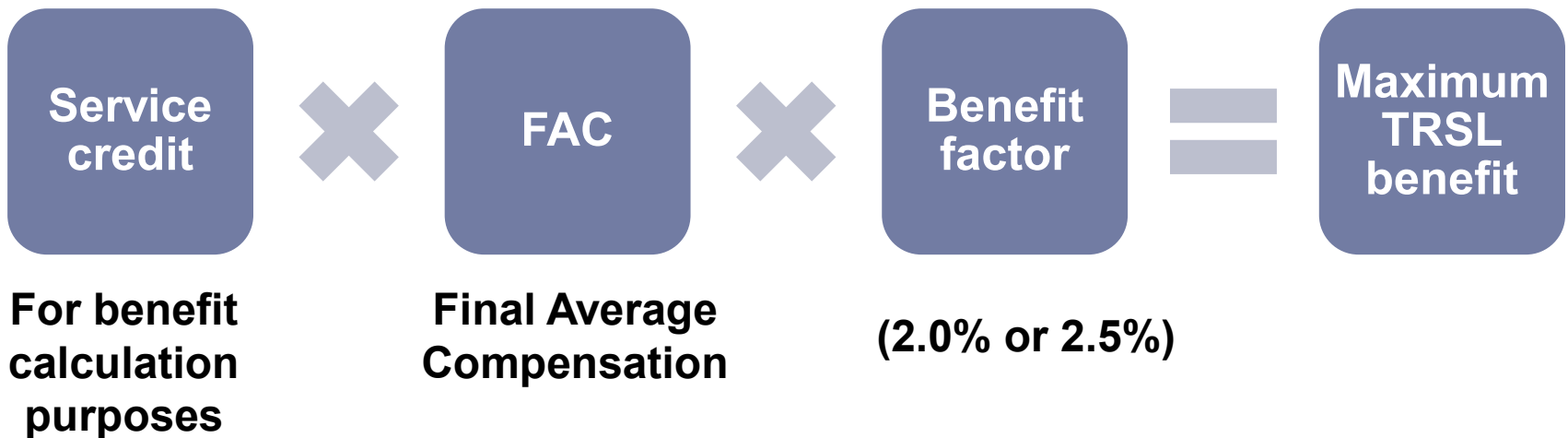
- Members pay a percentage of salary toward retirement:

Regular Plan	8.0%
Plan B (<i>also contributes to SSA</i>)	5.0%

- Employers also pay contributions toward your retirement; the amount is based upon plan type.
- TRSL pools and invests employee and employer contributions.
- Investment earnings fund your lifetime retirement benefits.

How your benefit is calculated

State law defines the benefit formula used to calculate the maximum TRSL benefit for which you are eligible:



When will I be eligible to retire?

The answer depends on which plan you belong to and, in some cases, when you joined one of the four state retirement systems.



Regular Plan: Retirement eligibility

Eligibility requirements	Benefit factor
Regular Plan (prior to 7/1/99):	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• At least age 60 with at least 5 years of service credit, or• Any age with at least 20 years of service credit	2.0%
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• At least age 65 with at least 20 years of service credit, or• At least age 55 with at least 25 years of service credit, or• Any age with at least 30 years of service credit	2.5%

Regular Plan: Retirement eligibility

Eligibility requirements

Benefit factor

Regular Plan (between 7/1/99 and 12/31/10):

- At least age 60 with at least 5 years of service credit, or
- At least age 55 with at least 25 years of service credit, or
- Any age with at least 20 years of service credit (actuarially reduced), or
- Any age with at least 30 years of service credit

2.5%

Regular Plan: Retirement eligibility

Eligibility requirements	Benefit factor
Regular Plan (between 1/1/11 and 6/30/15):	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• At least age 60 with at least 5 years of service credit, or• Any age with at least 20 years of service credit (actuarially reduced)	2.5%
Regular Plan (on or after 7/1/15):	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• At least age 62 with at least 5 years of service credit, or• Any age with at least 20 years of service credit (actuarially reduced)	2.5%

Retirement options

When you retire, you will select one of eight different retirement options.

You will choose your option on an affidavit, which must be notarized.

The option you choose determines how much you and your beneficiary will receive in retirement benefits.

You cannot change your retirement option once you retire or enter DROP.

You can only change your beneficiary under Option 1.

Retirement options

Retirement Option	Member Benefit	Beneficiary Benefit
Maximum Option	Member receives largest monthly benefit possible (maximum benefit).	None
Option 1	Member receives a monthly benefit slightly less than Maximum Option. Age at retirement is one of the factors upon which the reduction is based.	More than one beneficiary can be designated, and can be changed at any time by member/retiree.

Maximum Option conditions: All monthly benefits cease at member's death. Only the amount of member contributions that have not been paid out in monthly benefits or in DROP deposits and interest is due to the member's estate.

Option 1 conditions: Beneficiary receives remaining balance of member's contributions (if any) in one lump-sum payment. Cannot be selected for ILSB.

Retirement options

The following options provide a lifetime benefit for the beneficiary upon the death of the member. Only one beneficiary can be named and that beneficiary can never be changed, even if the beneficiary dies before the member.

Retirement Option	Member Benefit	Beneficiary Benefit
Option 2	Member receives an actuarially reduced monthly benefit.	Beneficiary receives same lifetime benefit member received.
Option 3	Member receives a monthly benefit greater than Option 2 or 2A benefit.	Beneficiary receives lifetime benefit equal to $\frac{1}{2}$ of benefit amount member received.
Option 4	Member receives a reduced monthly benefit based upon amount member designates for beneficiary.	Beneficiary receives lifetime benefit designated by member, not to exceed Option 2 benefit amount.

Retirement options

Retirement Option	Member Benefit	Beneficiary Benefit
Option 2A (Pop Up)	Member receives a monthly benefit slightly less than Option 2.	Beneficiary receives same lifetime benefit member received.
Option 3A (Pop Up)	Member receives a monthly benefit greater than Option 2 or 2A benefit but less than Option 3 benefit.	Beneficiary receives lifetime benefit equal to $\frac{1}{2}$ of benefit amount member received.
Option 4A (Pop Up)	Member receives a reduced monthly benefit based upon amount member designates for beneficiary.	Beneficiary receives lifetime benefit designated by member, but not to exceed Option 2 benefit amount.

Pop Up Option conditions: If beneficiary dies before member, the member's benefit "pops up" to Maximum Option. However, a new beneficiary cannot be named.

Leave credit: Sick leave

- Unused sick leave cannot be used to attain eligibility for retirement.
- However, at the time of retirement, unused sick leave may be converted to service credit.
 - » This can increase your monthly retirement benefit.
 - » TRSL makes this conversion after you have retired.
- School boards pay up to 25 days of unused sick leave at the daily rate of pay, or the number of unused days at the discretion of the employer.



Leave credit: Annual leave

Employees of Louisiana state agencies, colleges, universities, community colleges, and technical colleges may receive credit for unused annual leave at no cost, with certain restrictions.

- Members who earn annual leave are usually paid up to 300 hours or 37.5 days of annual leave by their employers upon termination of employment.
- The number of days for which a member is paid is deducted from the number of days certified as unused by the employer.
- Members who were first eligible to retire after June 30, 1990, can convert unused annual leave earned after that date to service credit by purchasing the leave at actuarial cost.

Questions?



Agenda

- Types of retirement offered
- Deferred Retirement Option Plan (DROP)
- Initial Lump-Sum Benefit (ILSB)
- Other TRSL benefits

Types of retirement offered

- **SERVICE:** You stop working and begin receiving your lifetime monthly retirement benefit.
- **DROP:** You “freeze” your retirement benefit and continue to work for up to 36 months, building a retirement nest egg. You terminate employment (retire) some time after the completion of DROP participation. Upon termination of employment, you are eligible to withdraw from your DROP account plus receive your regular lifetime monthly retirement benefit.
- **ILSB:** You retire, receive a lump-sum payment of up to 36 times your monthly maximum benefit, and receive an actuarially reduced lifetime monthly retirement benefit.

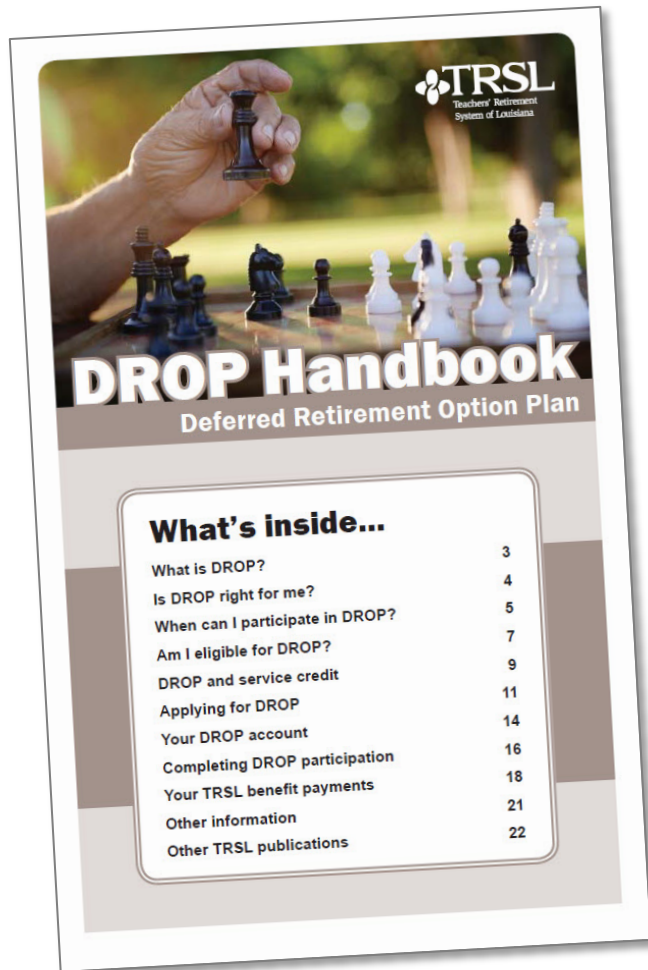
Types of retirement offered

- **DEFERRED:** Members with at least five years of service credit can terminate their positions and leave their contributions with TRSL. Once eligible, inactive members can apply for a TRSL retirement benefit based on their years of service credit.
- **DISABILITY:** If you are no longer able to perform your current job due to a disabling condition, you can apply for a TRSL disability retirement. It must be approved by the State Medical Disability Board.

Deferred Retirement Option Plan (DROP)

- DROP is an optional program that allows you to freeze your retirement benefit. Your monthly benefit is deposited each month into a special account at TRSL while you continue to work and earn a paycheck.
- You can participate in DROP for up to a maximum of three years once your DROP “window” of eligibility opens.
- You can shorten, but not extend your DROP participation time. (Minimum participation time is 1 day.)
- The “frozen” benefit is calculated based upon years of service credit and average compensation upon entering DROP.
- Your decision to participate in DROP is irrevocable.

DROP eligibility – Regular Plan



Membership *prior to* Jan. 1, 2011

Age 60 with 10 years*

Age 55 with 25 years

Any age with 30 years

**2.0% benefit factor*

Membership *between* Jan 1, 2011 & June 30, 2015

Age 60 with 5 years

Membership *on or after* July 1, 2015

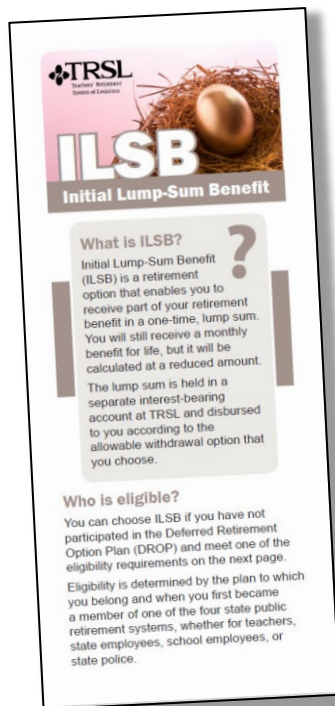
Age 62 with 5 years

While in DROP...

- You continue to work and draw a salary.
 - You continue to earn and use leave.
 - You are still eligible for raises, promotions, etc.
 - You can change jobs or employers.
 - Your DROP deposits will continue as long as there is no break in service.
- **Neither you nor your employer make contributions to TRSL.**
 - » No service credit is earned while you are in DROP.
 - **Your salary is not reported to us while you are in DROP.**
 - » We will not know if you have received a salary increase/decrease.
 - **Your retirement benefit is “frozen.”**
 - » The retirement option you chose determines how much is deposited into your account.

Initial Lump-Sum Benefit (ILSB)

- You can retire and take a portion of your retirement benefit in a one-time, lump-sum payment.
- You will receive a reduced lifetime monthly benefit.

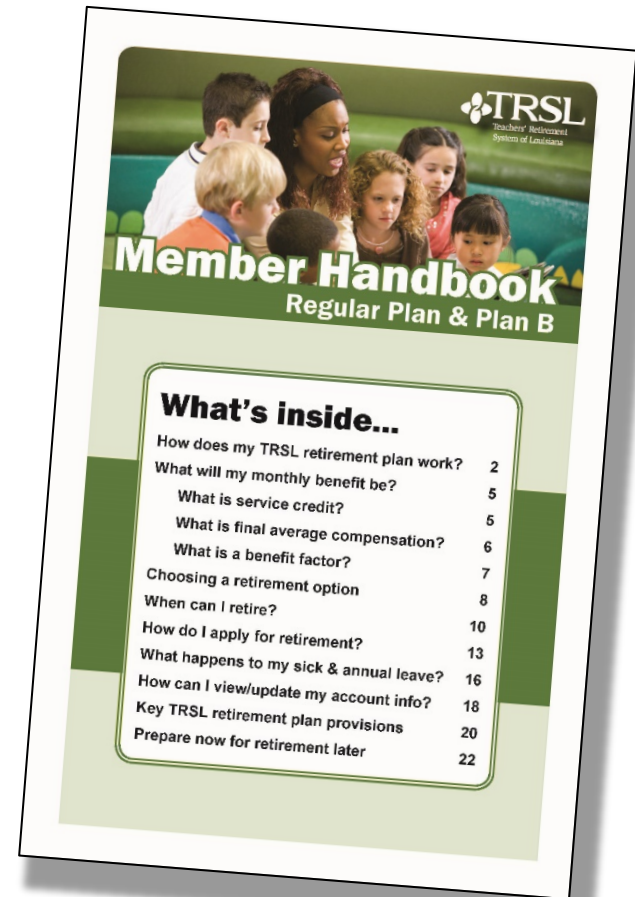


- ILSB is an alternative to DROP.
- The reduction is based on the lump-sum amount chosen and your age at time of retirement.
- The reduction is permanent.
- For more information about ILSB, please review our ILSB brochure at www.TRSL.org.

Other TRSL benefits

- Members who have five years of TRSL service credit are considered “vested.”
- Being vested means you are eligible for valuable benefits and financial protection through TRSL:
 - » Survivor benefits
 - » Deferred retirement
 - » Disability retirement*

**10 years required if hired on or after 1/11/11*



Questions?



Agenda

- The retirement application process
- How TRSL pays your benefits
- Tax liabilities
- Community property
- Returning to work after retirement

Applying for retirement



- You can submit your retirement application as early as six months before your desired date of retirement or DROP beginning date.
- You will need to complete all purchases, transfers, and/or reciprocals of service credit before the effective date of retirement or entering DROP.
- TRSL recommends you coordinate your retirement or DROP beginning date with your employer. Your employer will verify your service credit and sick leave.
- Two weeks after submission of the Form 11 to TRSL, you will receive an acknowledgment letter.

Applying for retirement

There are two ways you can apply for retirement:



Apply online through your **MEMBER ACCESS** account:
www.TRSL.org/memberaccess



Submit *Application for Service Retirement, ILSB, or DROP* (Form 11) **AND** *Direct Deposit of Benefits* (Form 15D)

NOTE: Members applying for DROP do not submit the Form 15D at time of entering DROP.

Apply through *Member Access*

- Select “Apply for Retirement” from the “My Retirement” drop-down menu.



Apply through *Member Access*

Application for Service Retirement, ILSB, or DROP

Applications may be canceled before cashing any benefit check, including estimated benefit payments and direct deposits. Your application may be submitted within six months before your effective retirement/DROP date. It is your responsibility to submit your application before your selected retirement/DROP date.

Your retirement information (Must be completed)

Select one: Service – 06-11A ILSB – 06-11A5 DROP – 06-11F Date of retirement/DROP begin date (mm/dd/yyyy)

Annual COLA Option (ACO) allows a retiring member to receive a guaranteed annual 2.5% cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) by accepting an actuarially REDUCED retirement benefit. Check the box below only if you are considering ACO.
 Yes, I wish to receive an estimate of REDUCED benefits based on the self-funded Annual COLA Option (ACO).

Your member information (All fields must be completed)

Name: Last, first, MI, suffix (Jr., III, etc.) <input type="text"/> **	Your Social Security number <input type="text"/>
Street address/P.O. Box <input type="text"/> **	Your date of birth <input type="text"/>
City <input type="text"/> State <input type="text"/> Zip <input type="text"/> - <input type="text"/>	Name of Employer <input type="text"/>
Home/cell telephone* <input type="text"/>	Work telephone* <input type="text"/>
* include area code	Job title <input type="text"/>
Months of contract <input type="radio"/> 9 <input type="radio"/> 10 <input type="radio"/> 11 <input type="radio"/> 12	

- Information for you and your spouse will automatically load from your account, but you will be able to make changes, if necessary.

Affidavit for Estimated Retirement Benefits

- Closer to your retirement date, you will receive an *Affidavit for Estimated Retirement Benefits* in the mail to choose your retirement option, along with instructions. The affidavit must be notarized and have no alterations.

*Altered forms not accepted ** Completed original only ** No copies, faxes, or scans accepted*

RETIREMENT OPTION ELECTION (Cannot be changed)

1. Are you married? _____ (Yes or No)

2. I _____ am electing the following retirement option:

Initial to the left of the retirement option you are electing. ***Only ONE retirement option can be selected, and your retirement option election is irrevocable.*** If you choose Option 2, 2A, 3, 3A, 4, or 4A, you irrevocably designate as beneficiary the person whose name appears in the beneficiary box above.

_____ Initials	Maximum	_____ Initials	Option 2	_____ Initials	Option 3	_____ Initials	Option 4
_____ Initials	Option 1	_____ Initials	Option 2A	_____ Initials	Option 3A	_____ Initials	Option 4A

3. _____
Retiree's Signature

4. Sworn to and subscribed before me, this _____ day of _____, 20_____

Notary Public ID/Bar Roll #

Notary Public Name, Printed

Notary Public Signature

- **If retiring under Service or ILSB**, return within **30** days of receipt. **If entering DROP**, return within **90** days of receipt.

How TRSL pays your benefits

- **Monthly benefits are paid on the first of the month.**
 - » Your first benefit payment will be a paper check; subsequent payments will be direct deposited.
 - » Your retirement can only be canceled if a benefit payment has not been negotiated (includes direct deposit).
- **For Service and ILSB, there is a 30-day waiting period.**
 - » This period begins on your retirement date. However, we must have your affidavit as well as your direct deposit form to determine your benefit.
- **You will receive estimated benefits as first payments.**
 - » This partial benefit will continue monthly until TRSL finalizes your benefit. (For DROP participants: The estimated benefit is your DROP deposit amount plus your after-DROP estimated benefit, if applicable.)

“What is a retroactive payment?”

A few months after retirement, you will receive a letter regarding a one-time retroactive payment once your final benefit is calculated:

- » **“Retro” payments include the difference between your estimated checks and your final monthly benefit.**
- » **Your final benefit calculation will include any remaining sick leave that converts to service credit.**



Tax liabilities

Your retirement benefit:

- Exempt from Louisiana state income tax (not automatic, must file to receive exemption)
- Subject to federal income tax

DROP withdrawals paid directly by TRSL:

- Exempt from Louisiana state income tax (not automatic, must file to receive exemption)
- May be subject to federal mandatory tax withholding



Community property



Community Property & TRSL benefits

What is community property?
Most payments or benefits that members receive from the Teachers' Retirement System of Louisiana (TRSL) are considered community property in Louisiana and should be accounted for in any community property settlement.

TRSL funds and payments that may be considered community property include the following:

- Regular retirement benefits
- Refunds of contributions
- Deferred Retirement Option Plan (DROP)
- Initial Lump-Sum Benefit (ILSB)
- Death benefits

The court system ultimately determines which of these funds or payments are community property.

If a TRSL member divorces or legally separates, the (ex)spouse may claim a portion of any of the above-mentioned payments and benefits that were earned during the time the member and (ex)spouse were married. This is true even if the benefits are not payable until years after the divorce.

If the question of benefits and payments is not settled in a community property proceeding, it remains pending.

ATTENTION: Those parts of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act (ERISA) and the Internal Revenue Code concerning Qualified Domestic Relations Orders (QDRO) do not apply to TRSL.

Most payments or benefits received from TRSL are considered community property:

- » Regular retirement benefits
- » Refunds or contributions
- » DROP or ILSB withdrawals
- » Death benefits

- The court system ultimately determines which funds or payments are considered community property.
- TRSL will not pay benefits to an ex-spouse without court documentation.

Returning to work after retirement

- If you are rehired in a position **eligible** for TRSL membership, the laws **do specify** what will happen to your TRSL retirement benefits and whether TRSL contributions are due.
 - » Return-to-work laws apply to retirees who become re-employed in a position eligible for TRSL membership, including retirees employed by contract or corporate contract.
- If you are rehired in a position **not eligible** for TRSL membership, you **are not subject** to any TRSL return-to-work laws.
 - » TRSL return-to-work laws do not apply if you become employed in a position not eligible for TRSL membership (private school, non-reporting charter school, private sector, or civil service job that reports to another retirement system).

Questions?



Let's pause for a quick break...

The background of the slide is a collage of financial and government-related items. It includes a close-up of a US one hundred dollar bill, showing the portrait of Benjamin Franklin and the text 'ONE NOTE' and 'RESERVE SYSTEM'. A Social Security card is also visible, with the words 'SOCIAL SECURITY' printed in large, bold, blue letters. The card also features the text 'THIS NOTE IS LEGAL TENDER FOR ALL DEBTS, PUBLIC AND PRIVATE' and a red circular seal with the words 'HEALTH &'.

Social Security Administration (SSA) Offsets

Summer 2020

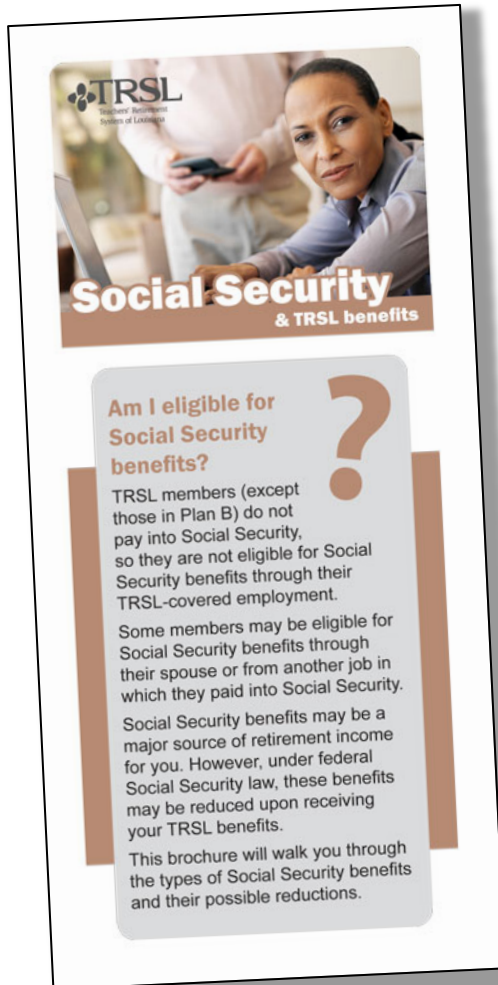
Agenda

- Types of Social Security benefits:
 - » Spouse's or widow(er)'s benefit
 - » Earned benefit
- Types of offsets:
 - » Government Pension Offset (GPO)
 - » Windfall Elimination Provision (WEP)
- SSA website tools and calculators
- Questions to ask Social Security

TRSL and Social Security

- Louisiana does not pay into Social Security for the majority of its public employees.
- However, you may still be eligible for Social Security through other employment or through your spouse's employment.
- The type of Social Security benefit you are eligible for determines which offset provision applies to you.
- Your TRSL benefit will not be reduced by an SSA offset.

Social Security benefits



- **Spouse's or widow(er)'s benefit:**
Paid to spouses or surviving spouses who did not work long enough to earn their own SS benefit or whose earned benefit is less than the pensioner's benefit
- **Earned benefit:**
Paid to individuals who worked a job that paid into SS and earned enough quarters to receive a SS benefit

Offset provisions

• Government Pension Offset (GPO) – 1982



Government Pension Offset

A law that affects spouses and widows or widowers

If you receive a retirement or disability pension from a federal, state, or local government based on your own work for which you didn't pay Social Security taxes, we may reduce your Social Security spouses or widows or widowers benefits. This fact sheet provides answers to questions you may have about the reduction.

For example, if a woman worked and earned her own \$800 monthly Social Security benefit, but was also due a \$500 wife's benefit on her husband's record, we couldn't pay that wife's benefit because her own benefit offset it. But, before enactment of the Government Pension Offset, if that same woman was a government employee who didn't pay into Social Security and earned an \$800 government pension, there was no offset. We had to pay her a full wife's benefit and her full government pension.

How much will my Social Security benefits be reduced?

We'll reduce your Social Security by two-thirds of your government pension. For example, if you get a monthly civil service pension of \$600, two-thirds of that, or \$400, is deducted from your Social Security benefit. If you're eligible for a \$500 widow's or widowers benefit from Social Security, you'll get \$100 a month less (\$500 - \$400 = \$100). If your government pension is more than \$1,000, your Social Security benefit is reduced to zero.

If you take your government pension as a lump sum, Social Security will calculate the reduction as if you chose to get monthly payments from your government pension.

Why will my Social Security benefits be reduced?

Benefits we pay to spouses, widows, widowers are "dependent" benefits. In the 1930s, these benefits were to help spouses who stayed home to raise a child and were financially dependent on their spouse. It's now common for both spouses to work, each earning their own Social Security retirement benefit. The law requires a spouse, widow, or widower benefit to be the dollar amount of their own retirement benefit.

SocialSecurity.gov |



Windfall Elimination Provision

Your Social Security retirement or disability benefits can be reduced

The Windfall Elimination Provision can affect how we calculate your retirement or disability benefit. If you work for an employer who doesn't withhold Social Security taxes from your salary, such as a government agency or an employer in another country, any retirement or disability pension you get from that work can reduce your Social Security benefits.

When your benefits can be affected

This provision can affect you when you earn a retirement or disability pension from an employer who didn't withhold Social Security taxes and you qualify for Social Security retirement or disability benefits from work in other jobs for which you did pay taxes.

The Windfall Elimination Provision can apply if:

- You reached 62 after 1985; or
- You became disabled after 1985; and
- You first became eligible for a monthly pension based on work where you didn't pay Social Security taxes after 1985. This rule applies even if you're still working.

This provision also affects Social Security benefits for people who performed federal service under the Civil Service Retirement System (CSRS) after 1956. We won't reduce your Social Security benefit amounts if you only performed federal service under a system such as the Federal Employees' Retirement System (FERS). Social Security taxes are withheld for workers under FERS.

How it works

Social Security benefits are intended to replace only some of a worker's pre-retirement earnings.

We base your Social Security benefit on your average monthly earnings adjusted for average wage growth. We separate your average earnings into three amounts and multiply the amounts using three factors to compute your full Primary Insurance Amount (PIA). For example, for a worker who turns 62 in 2018, the first \$895 of average monthly earnings is multiplied by 90 percent, earnings between \$895 and \$5,397 by 32 percent, and the balance by 15 percent. The sum of the three amounts equals the PIA which is then decreased

SocialSecurity.gov |

(over)
Windfall Elimination Provision

• Windfall Elimination Provision (WEP) – 1985

or increased depending on whether the worker starts benefits before or after full retirement age (FRA). This formula produces the monthly payment amount.

When we apply this formula, the percentage of career average earnings paid to lower-paid workers is greater than higher-paid workers. For example, workers age 62 in 2018, with average earnings of \$3,000 per month could receive a benefit at FRA of \$1,479 (49 percent) of their pre-retirement earnings, increased by applicable cost of living adjustments (COLAs). For a worker with average earnings of \$8,000 per month, the benefit starting at FRA could be \$2,036 (25 percent) plus COLAs. However, if either of these workers start benefits earlier, we'll reduce their monthly benefit.

Why we use a different formula

Before 1983, people whose primary job wasn't covered by Social Security had their Social Security benefits calculated as if they were long-term, low-wage workers. They had the advantage of receiving a Social Security benefit representing a higher percentage of their earnings, plus a pension from a job for which they didn't pay Social Security taxes. Congress passed the Windfall Elimination Provision to remove that advantage.

Under the provision, we reduce the 90 percent factor in our formula and phase it in for workers who reached age 62 or became disabled between 1986 and 1989. For people who reach 62 or become disabled in 1990 or later, we reduce the 90 percent factor to as little as 40 percent.

Some exceptions

The Windfall Elimination Provision doesn't apply if:

- You're a federal worker first hired after December 31, 1983;
- You were employed on December 31, 1983, by a nonprofit organization that didn't withhold Social Security taxes from your pay at first, but then began withholding Social Security taxes;
- Your only pension is for railroad employment;
- The only work you performed for which you didn't pay Social Security taxes was before 1957; or
- You have 30 or more years of substantial earnings under Social Security.

Social Security offsets

Government Pension Offset (GPO)

- Reduces spousal SS benefit by two-thirds of your TRSL benefit
- Requires that a person's benefit as a spouse or widow(er) be offset dollar for dollar by the amount of his/her own retirement benefit.
- Could completely eliminate SS spousal benefit

Windfall Elimination Provision (WEP)

- Reduces your own SS benefit if you receive a TRSL benefit
- Uses a modified formula to reduce SS benefit, based on average monthly earnings adjusted for inflation
- Does not completely eliminate SS benefit

SSA homepage: www.ssa.gov

The screenshot shows the top navigation bar of the SSA website with the logo, "Social Security" text, and links for "SEARCH", "MENU", "LANGUAGES", and "SIGN IN/UP". Below the navigation are several service tiles: a large tile for "Putting you in control..." with a couple at a laptop; four smaller tiles for "Retirement", "Disability", "Medicare", and "Change of Address"; and a bottom row of four icons with corresponding service names and descriptions: "my Social Security", "Social Security Number", "Retirement Estimator", and "FAQs".

Social Security 🔍 SEARCH ☰ MENU 🌐 LANGUAGES 🔒 SIGN IN/UP

Putting you in control...
Learn what you can do online

Retirement

Disability

Medicare

Change of Address

my Social Security
Check out your *Social Security Statement*, change your address & manage your benefits online today.

Social Security Number
Your Social Security number remains your first and continuous link with Social Security.

Retirement Estimator
Calculate your benefits based on your actual Social Security earnings record.

FAQs
Get answers to frequently asked questions about Social Security.

Create a “my Social Security” account



Social Security

 SEARCH  MENU  LANGUAGES  SIGN IN/UP



Set yourself free.

Open a my Social Security account today and rest easy knowing that you're in control of your future.

[Sign In or Create an Account](#)

[Learn How to Protect Your Social Security Information from Unauthorized Access.](#)

Social Security calculators



Social Security

SEARCH MENU LANGUAGES SIGN IN/UP

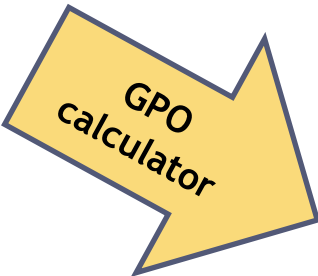
Benefits Planner: Calculators

Home Retirement Disability Survivors Calculators

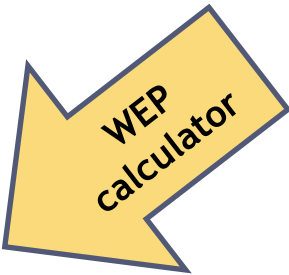
The best way to start planning for your future is by [creating a my Social Security account](#) online. With [my Social Security](#), you can verify your earnings, get your *Social Security Statement*, and much more – all from the comfort of your home or office.

We have a variety of calculators to help you plan for the future and for what you may need now.

Retirement Age Calculator Find your full retirement age and learn how your monthly benefits may be reduced if you retire before your full retirement age.	Retirement Estimator Estimate monthly benefits based on your Social Security earnings record.	Windfall Elimination Provision (WEP) Calculator Estimate if you are eligible for a pension based on work that was not covered by Social Security.
GPO Calculator Estimate of spouse benefits for yourself if you receive a pension from a government job in which you did not pay Social Security taxes. Your benefit may be offset by the Government Pension Offset (GPO).	Detailed Calculator Get the most precise estimate of your retirement, disability, and survivors benefits. The estimate includes WEP reduction. Must be downloaded and installed on your computer.	
Early or Late Retirement Calculator Compute the effect on your benefit amount if you file for early or delayed retirement benefits.	Earnings Test Calculator Learn how your earnings may affect your benefit payments if you are currently working and are eligible for retirement or survivors benefits this year.	



GPO calculator



WEP calculator

Contact Social Security

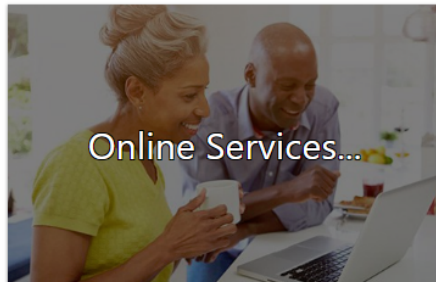


Social Security

SEARCH

Contact Social Security

! Please beware of individuals impersonating Social Security employees over the phone. Reports about fraudulent phone calls from people claiming to be from SSA continue to increase, and recent reports have indicated unknown callers are using increasingly threatening language in these calls. If you suspect you have received a scam call, you should hang up, and then report details of the call to the Office of the Inspector General at 1-800-269-0271 or online at <https://oig.ssa.gov/report> - [Read more...](#)



Call Us

E-mail Us

Find an Office

Write Us

Social Security office locator



Social Security

The Official Website of the U.S. Social Security Administration

Social Security Office Locator

Find the Office for this ZIP Code.

ZIP:

Locate

[Zip Code Look Up](#)

[Services Outside the United States](#)

Using our online services, you can:



- Apply for most types of benefits
- Estimate your future benefits
- Do so much more

To learn more, visit [What You Can Do Online](#).

Phone Number

Toll-Free: 1-800-772-1213

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***To see how GPO/WEP may affect you,
bring your TRSL benefit estimate with you
to your SSA appointment.***

Questions to ask Social Security

- At what age can I receive my full SS benefit, and how much will it be?
- What is the earliest age I can receive SS benefits, and will this amount be reduced?
- Are there earnings limits if I collect SS while I am still working and paying into TRSL?
- Do I qualify for an exception to GPO or WEP?
- If GPO or WEP does apply to me, how much will my SS benefit be?

TRSL & Social Security

- YES, it's possible to draw both TRSL and Social Security in retirement.
- Federal provisions reduce the benefits provided by the Social Security Administration.
- **TRSL benefits are not reduced.**
- For detailed information about your Social Security benefit, please contact the Social Security Administration.
 - **Website:** www.ssa.gov
 - **Toll-free:** 1-800-772-1213 (Mon - Fri, 7 am - 7 pm)
 - Contact your nearest SS office

Questions?



Things to do now

- Register for **Member Access**.
- Submit copies of important documents:
 - » Social Security cards (member and beneficiary)
 - » Birth certificates (member and beneficiary)
 - » Legal documents (divorce decrees, judgment of separation, and/or community property settlements)
- Update address & beneficiary/ies.
- Get a retirement estimate:
 - » Use Member Access or
 - » Submit Form 10



Insurance or SSA questions?

- **Health/life insurance questions?**

- » Please contact your employer or health insurance carrier.

- **SSA/Medicare questions?**

- » Contact the Social Security Administration at 1-800-772-1213 or www.ssa.gov.

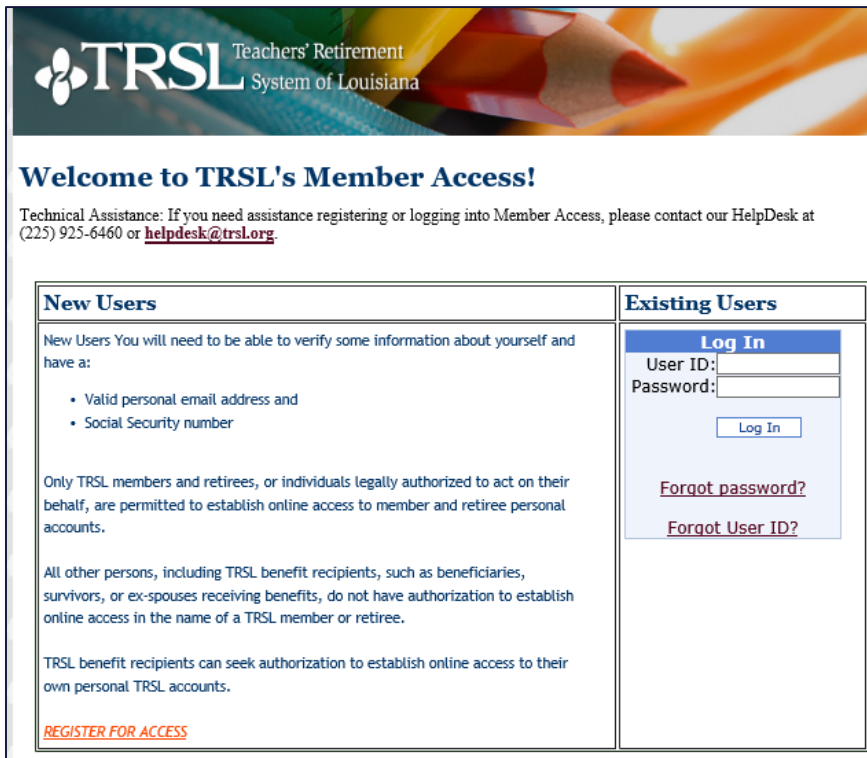
- Need a letter from TRSL to verify your monthly retirement benefit and/or your first eligibility date for SSA purposes?

- » Send a written request with your signature and SSN to TRSL by mail or fax to 225-925-4779.



Member Access

A secure website where you have all the tools you need to plan for retirement!



TRSL Teachers' Retirement System of Louisiana

Welcome to TRSL's Member Access!

Technical Assistance: If you need assistance registering or logging into Member Access, please contact our HelpDesk at (225) 925-6460 or helpdesk@trsl.org.

New Users	Existing Users
<p>New Users You will need to be able to verify some information about yourself and have a:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Valid personal email address and• Social Security number <p>Only TRSL members and retirees, or individuals legally authorized to act on their behalf, are permitted to establish online access to member and retiree personal accounts.</p> <p>All other persons, including TRSL benefit recipients, such as beneficiaries, survivors, or ex-spouses receiving benefits, do not have authorization to establish online access in the name of a TRSL member or retiree.</p> <p>TRSL benefit recipients can seek authorization to establish online access to their own personal TRSL accounts.</p> <p>REGISTER FOR ACCESS</p>	<p>Log In</p> <p>User ID: <input type="text"/></p> <p>Password: <input type="password"/></p> <p><input type="button" value="Log In"/></p> <p>Forgot password?</p> <p>Forgot User ID?</p>

- Preloaded benefit estimate calculator
- Update your name/ mailing address/ email address
- Apply for retirement
- View DROP Account
- View beneficiary designations

Create a benefit estimate

Online calculators loaded with your account information



1. Log on to Member Access.
2. Under “My Retirement” drop-down menu, select “Estimate Your Retirement Benefit.”
3. Enter your desired retirement date and click “Create Estimate!”

Register for MEMBER ACCESS @ www.TRSL.org

For technical assistance with Member Access, contact support@trsl.org.

My TRSL Members Retirees Employers

Forms by Subject

Address or name changes

- [Active Member Change of Address Authorization](#) (Form 2AC)
- [Active Member Name Change Request](#) (Form 2NC)
- [Retiree Change of Address Authorization](#) (Form 15C) - Survivors, beneficiaries, and alternate payees can also use
- [ORP Member Change of Address Authorization](#) (Form 16AC)
- [ORP Member Name Change Request](#) (Form 16NC)

Beneficiary (Designations by member)

- [Beneficiary Designation for Non-Retired Members](#) (Form 3)
- [Change of Beneficiary for Option 1 Retiree](#) (Form 3A)
- [Beneficiary Designation for DROP and ILSB Accounts](#) (Form 3B)
- [Beneficiary Designation for Retiree Return-to-Work Employee Contributions](#) (Form 3C)

Direct deposit

- [Direct Deposit for Refund of Contributions](#) (Form 7D)
- [Direct Deposit of DROP or ILSB Account Withdrawals](#) (Form 11R) - Use 1SD for regular benefits
- [Direct Deposit of Benefits](#) (Form 15D) - Use 11R for DROP or ILSB account withdrawals
- [Addendum to Direct Deposit of Benefits - Nonspousal Joint Signer\(s\)](#) (Form 15JS)

Find it online...

- Forms
- Brochures
- Newsletters & more!

www.TRSL.org

TRSL Teachers' Retirement System of Louisiana

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SHED SOME LIGHT ON
Your Future with Online Member Access

MEMBER ACCESS

My TRSL Members Retirees Employers

SCROLL

225-925-6446 GET DIRECTIONS

LINKS MEMBER NEWSLETTER

APRIL 2018

2018 legislative session

The 2018 regular legislative session began Monday, March 12. We're monitoring a number of bills affecting TRSL, ranging from the creation of a new benefit structure to changes to the return-to-work laws.

You can view a list of all bills impacting the system, along with the positions taken by the TRSL Board of Trustees for each, by visiting the [Legislation](#) page of our website.

Stay informed

You can also receive updates about bills and issues that impact TRSL and its members delivered straight to your inbox through eNews.

Click "manage your preferences" at the bottom of this email, and then select "legislation" as a topic of interest.

Questions?



If you have any specific questions about your retirement (DROP window, retirement eligibility, FAC questions, etc.) please email us so we can assist you directly at web.master@trsl.org

We are here for you!



Local phone: (225) 925-6446

Toll free (outside Baton Rouge):
1-877-ASK-TRSL (1-877-275-8775)

Website: *www.TRSL.org*

Email: *web.master@trsl.org*



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on Twitter!**