



# Automotive Member 25-Year/Age 50 Retirement Plan

TIER 4

MARCH 2013

This brochure describes the benefits of the Automotive Member 25-Year and Age 50 Retirement Plan (AUT 25/50 Plan). The AUT 25/50 Plan is available ONLY to members employed in a series of titles performing automotive service work (Automotive Member Titles [AMTs]).

The following AMTs are eligible to participate in the AUT 25/50 Plan: Auto Body Worker, Auto Electrician, Auto Machinist, Auto Mechanic, Auto Mechanic (Diesel), Automotive Service Worker, Senior Automotive Service Worker, Machinist, Machinist Helper, Marine Maintenance Mechanic, Oil Burner Specialist, Stationary Engineer, Senior Stationary Engineer, and Supervisor of Mechanics (Mechanical Equipment).

## PARTICIPATION

Participation in the AUT 25/50 Plan may be optional or mandatory depending on factors such as title and NYCERS membership status. The chart below lists each of the AMTs and the dates the AUT 25/50 Plan first became available for such titles.

Automotive Member Title	Availability Date
Autobody Worker Auto Mechanic Automotive Service Worker Senior Automotive Service Worker Marine Maintenance Mechanic Oil Burner Specialist	12/12/2001
Supervisor of Mechanics (Mechanical Equipment)	08/13/2002
Auto Electrician Auto Machinist Auto Mechanic (Diesel) Machinist Machinist Helper Stationary Engineer Senior Stationary Engineer	10/21/2003  07/18/2007 (Re-opener under Chapter 349 of the Laws of 2007)

Anyone who was a member of NYCERS and employed in an AMT on the availability date (see chart) had an OPTION to participate in the AUT 25/50 Plan by filing an election form with NYCERS by a specified date. THESE OPTIONS HAVE EXPIRED.

Anyone who was a NYCERS member but was not in an AMT on the availability date who subsequently becomes employed in an AMT after such date, has an OPTION to join the AUT 25/50 Plan. An election form to participate must be filed within 270 days of appointment to an AMT.

Participation is MANDATORY for any person who becomes employed in an AMT and becomes a NYCERS member after the AUT 25/50 Plan availability date for such AMT.

Participants who cease to hold an AMT will no longer be able to participate in the AUT 25/50 Plan.

Participants who terminate service from an AMT and return to an AMT at a later date will again be required to participate in the AUT 25/50 Plan.

## CONTRIBUTIONS

As a Tier 4 member you are required to contribute 3% of your gross wages until the earlier of attaining 10 years of Credited Service or reaching your tenth anniversary of membership. These contributions are referred to as Basic Member Contributions (BMCs) and they are held in the Member Contribution Accumulation Fund (MCAF).

As a member of the AUT 25/50 Plan, you are also required to contribute Additional Member Contributions (AMCs) of 4.83% on all gross wages for Credited Service in an AMT (except Supervisor of Mechanics [Mechanical Equipment]) rendered on or after June 15, 2001. Supervisors of Mechanics (Mechanical Equipment) are required to contribute AMCs on all gross wages earned after February 14, 2002.

AMCs are required for the first 30 years of Credited Service rendered in an AMT.

For members who were previously members of the 55/25 or 57/5 Plans (created by Chapter 96 of the Laws of 1995), the

ONCE AN ELECTION TO PARTICIPATE IN THE AUT 25/50 PLAN IS FILED WITH NYCERS IT MAY NOT BE REVOKED

AMCs required under the AUT 25/50 Plan are in lieu of AMCs required under the 55/25 or 57/5 Plans.

AMCs are maintained in the Retirement Reserve Fund, which is an account maintained separately from the MCAF account. Both funds earn interest at a rate of 5%, compounded annually.

All contributions are Federal tax deferred, meaning that you do not pay Federal taxes on the contributions, only New York State and local taxes. Contributions made while on Union leave are not Federal tax deferred.

## DEFICITS

Failure to pay any of the BMCs or AMCs will result in a deficit. If a deficit is identified prior to retirement, steps will be taken to resolve the deficit.

In the event of an unresolved deficit at retirement in the MCAF account (BMCs) or in the RRF account (AMCs), an actuarial reduction will be applied to the pension benefit.

## LOANS

In addition to the ability to borrow up to 75% of the BMCs held in the MCAF account, AUT 25/50 Plan participants may borrow up to 75% of the AMCs held in the RRF account. Any loans taken are subject to the same terms and conditions applicable to Tier 4 members. Please consult the Tier 4 62/5 Summary Plan Description (SPD) booklet or Brochure #911 for additional information.

## REFUNDS

Plan participants who have rendered less than 10 years of Credited Service and who leave City service may apply for a refund of BMCs, plus accrued interest, effectively terminating their membership. Members with between five and ten years of Credited Service must also waive their right to a Vested Retirement Benefit. Refunds of BMCs are not possible for members with 10 or more years of Credited Service.

Participants who cease to hold an AMT for any reason whatsoever and who have rendered less than five years of Credited Service in an AMT have the option of withdrawing their AMCs, plus accrued interest. AMCs also may be withdrawn if a participant with less than five years of Credited Service in an AMT changes titles to a non-AMT and remains in City service. After receiving the refund of AMCs, such participant will no longer be entitled to a benefit under the AUT 25/50 Plan, but will be entitled to a benefit from his or her underlying Tier 4 plan (assuming service requirements have been met). Refunds of AMCs are not possible for members with five or more years of Credited Service rendered in an AMT.

## VESTED RETIREMENT BENEFIT

AUT 25/50 Plan members who separate from service with at least five (but less than 25) years of Credited Service, two of which are Membership Service, are entitled to a Vested Retirement Benefit. This benefit becomes payable on the date you would have completed 25 years of Credited Service or upon reaching age 50, whichever is later. The Vested Retirement Benefit is computed as follows:

$2\% \text{ times Final Average Salary times the number of years of Credited Service}$

## SERVICE RETIREMENT

Participants in the AUT 25/50 Plan are eligible to receive a Service Retirement Benefit upon attaining age 50 with 25 or more years of Credited Service. The Service Retirement Benefit is calculated using the following formula:

50% of Final Average Salary for the first 25 years of Credited Service, **plus**

$2\% \text{ times Final Average Salary for each year of Credited Service in excess of 25, up to a maximum of 30 years of service.}$

Final Average Salary is defined as the greater of:

the average of wages earned during any three consecutive calendar years

**OR**

the average of wages earned during the 36 months immediately preceding your retirement date

**Note:** Wages earned in any year used in the FAS computation cannot exceed more than 10% of the average of the previous two years.

Participants in the AUT 25/50 Plan must file a service retirement application at least 30 days prior to the effective date of retirement, but not more than 90 days prior to the effective date of retirement.

## BASIC TIER 4 BENEFITS

Participants in the AUT 25/50 Plan are entitled to other benefits applicable to Tier 4 members besides the Vested and Service Retirement Benefits conferred by such plan. Such benefits include, but are not limited to, disability and death benefits. Members should refer to the Tier 4 62/5 Summary Plan Description for details on these benefits.

