

Leaving City Service



**NYC EMPLOYEES'
RETIREMENT SYSTEM**

Tiers 3, 4, 6 and 22-Year Plans

December 2022

This brochure has been prepared to help NYCERS members learn about the rights and options available to them after leaving City service. **PLEASE NOTE:** Many options are time-sensitive, so members are encouraged to read this brochure **prior** to leaving City service.

Attention Non-Members: You may want to consider becoming a NYCERS member before leaving City service. By becoming a member, you preserve your right to membership in the current tier. This may be beneficial if you return to public service in New York State/New York City in the future. To learn all about the benefits of a NYCERS membership, read [Fact Sheet #721 – The Top 10 Reasons to Join NYCERS](#). To join NYCERS, submit an [online membership application](#).

Here are answers to questions commonly asked by members who may be leaving City Service before they are eligible to receive a retirement benefit:

What’s the best way to keep track of my pension account after I leave City service?

Go to www.mynycers.org or download the MyNYCERS mobile app from the [App Store](#) or [Google Play](#) and register for secure online access to your pension account. With MyNYCERS, members can file applications and upload documents online, view account balances, submit a service request, and more. For more information and a complete list of features, see [Fact Sheet #750 – NYCERS Mobile App](#), available at www.nycers.org.

What are the vesting requirements under my tier and title?

Tier 4 Basic Plan & Early Retirement Programs

Plan	Vesting Eligibility	Vested Retirement Benefit
Basic Tier 4 Plan – #946	Five or more years of Credited Service Benefit payable at age 62	Less than 20 years of Credited Service: Benefit = 1.67% x Final Average Salary (FAS) x Years of Credited Service For members with 20 or more years of Credited Service: Benefit = 2% x FAS x Years of Credited Service, up to 30 years Plus 1.5% x FAS x Years of Credited Service over 30
Tier 4, Age 57 Early Retirement Program – #945	Five or more years of Credited Service Benefit payable at age 57, except if in a Physically Taxing Position, then: Benefits payable at age 50 with 25 years of Credited Service in a Physically Taxing Position	Same as Basic Tier 4 Plan
Tier 4, Age 55/25 Year Early Retirement Program – #944	No Vesting Provision. However, members who do not meet the minimum thresholds to retire for service under the 55/25 Program may vest under the Basic Tier 4 Plan.	No Vesting Provision. If eligible, same as benefit calculation under Basic Tier 4 Plan.



Tier 3 and 4 Special Occupational Plans

Plan	Vesting Eligibility & Payability	Vested Retirement Benefit
Tier 3, 25-Year Plan for: Correction Officer (CO-25) – #920	Five or more years of Credited Service Full benefit payable at age 62 or reduced benefit payable as early as age 55	Less than 20 years of Credited Service: 1.67% x FAS x Years of Credited Service. 20 or more years of Credited Service: 2% x FAS x Years of Credited Service.
Tier 3, 20-Year Plan for: Correction Force (CF-20) – #917 Correction Officers (CO-20) – #918 Correction Captain (CC-20) – #919	Five or more years, but less than 20 years of Allowable Correction Service (or Credited Service for certain members). Benefit payable on the earliest date the Participant could have retired for service	2.5% x FAS x Years of Allowable Correction Service (or Credited Service for certain members).
Tier 4 Transit 55/25 Plan – #910	Five or more years of Credited Service, but less than 25 years of Allowable Service in the Transit Authority is eligible to vest under the Basic Tier 4 (62/5) Plan. Benefits payable at age 62.	Same as benefit calculation under Basic Tier 4 Plan
	25 Years of Allowable Service in Transit Authority, but not yet 55, eligible to vest under this plan with benefit payable at age 55.	2% x FAS x years of Allowable Service in Transit Authority (up to 30 years) plus 1.5% x FAS x years of Allowable Service in Transit Authority (for each year in excess of 30).
Tier 4, MTA Bridges and Tunnels 20-Year and Age 50 Plan – #938	At least five, but less than 20 years of Credited Service. The Vested Retirement Benefit becomes payable on the date the Participant could have retired with 20 years of Credited Service, if discontinuance had not occurred, and has reached at least age 50.	2.5% x FAS x Years of Credited Service.
Tier 4 Sanitation 20-Year Plan – #935	At least five but less than 20 years of Allowable Sanitation Service. Benefit payable on the earliest date the member could have retired with 20 years of Allowable Sanitation Service.	2.5% x FAS x Years of Allowable Sanitation Service, plus 1% x Final Compensation x Years of Credited Service other than Allowable Sanitation Service.
Tier 4 Dispatcher 25-Year Plan – #937 Tier 4 Emergency Medical Technician 25-Year Plan – #936 Tier 4 25-Year Special Peace Officer Plan – #934	At least five, but less than 25 years of Allowable Service in the plan. The date the member could have retired with 25 years of Allowable Service, if discontinuance had not occurred.	2% x FAS x Years of Allowable Service
Tier 4 Deputy Sheriff 25-Year Plan – #933	At least five, but less than 25 years of Credited Service. The date the member could have retired with 25 years of Credited Service, if discontinuance had not occurred.	2.2% x FAS x Years of Credited Service
Tier 4 25-Year/Age 50 Automotive Member Plan – #932	At least five, but less than 25 years of Credited Service. The date the member could have retired with 25 years of Credited Service, if discontinuance had not occurred, and has reached age 50.	2% x FAS x Years of Credited Service
Tier 4 Police Communications Technician 25-Year Plan – #941	At least five, but less than 25 years of Credited Service. The date the member could have retired with 25 years of Credited Service, if discontinuance had not occurred.	2% x FAS x Years of Credited Service



22-Year Plans and Tier 6 Basic and Special Occupational Plans

Plan	Vesting Eligibility and Payability	Vested Retirement Benefit
Uniformed Correction Force 22-Year Plan (CF-22) – #994 Uniformed Sanitation Force 22-Year Plan (SA-22) – #995 DA Investigators 22-Year Plan (DA-22) – #996	<p>At least five, but less than 20 years of Credited Service.</p> <p>Benefit payable on the date the member could have attained 20 years of Credited Service, but not earlier than age 55.</p> <p>Benefit reduced at age 62 when member becomes eligible for Social Security.</p> <p>A vested member will not receive escalation if payment is received at the 20th year.</p> <p>If the vested benefit commences after normal retirement age (22 service years), the benefit will be computed and subject to a reduced escalation at 22 years plus one month in the same manner as an early retirement benefit deferred until normal retirement. Vestees may receive full escalation if they defer until what would have been the 25th year of Credited Service.</p>	<p>2.1% x Final Average Salary x Years of Credited Service; minus</p> <p>50% of Primary Social Security Benefit commencing at age 62, which is determined by a formula based on wages earned from a public employer from which Social Security deductions were taken.</p> <p>If member elects to receive the benefit before the date they could have attained 20 years of Credited Service, the following reductions apply:</p> <p>Benefit reduced by 6.6% for each year, if any, that the member's early retirement age is greater than age 60; and</p> <p>Benefit reduced by 3.3% for each additional year the vested benefit commences prior to early retirement age.</p>
Tier 6 Basic Plan (63/5) – #993	<p>Five or more years of Credited Service</p> <p>Full benefit payable at age 63 or reduced benefit payable as early as age 55</p>	<p>Less than 20 years of Credited Service: 1.67% x FAS x Years of Credited Service</p> <p>20 or more years of Credited Service: 35% of FAS for the first 20 Years of Credited Service, plus 2% x FAS x each Year of Credited Service in excess of 20</p>
Tier 6 Transit Operating Force 55/25 Plan (6TR-25) – #986	<p>At least five years of Credited Service but less than 25 years of Allowable Service in Transit Operating Force. Eligible to vest in Tier 6 Basic Plan. Benefit payable at age 63.</p> <p>25 years of Allowable Service in Transit Operating Force, but not yet age 55. Eligible to vest under this plan; benefit payable at age 63.</p>	<p>Same as Tier 6 Basic Plan</p> <p>2% x FAS x Years of Allowable Service, up to 30 Years, plus 1.5% x FAS x Years of Allowable Service in excess of 30 Years</p>
Tier 6 Triborough Bridge and Tunnel Authority 20-Year/Age 50 Plan (6TB-20) – #985	<p>At least five but less than 20 years of Credited Service. Benefit payable at age 63.</p>	<p>2.5% x FAS x Years of Credited Service</p>
Tier 6 Dispatcher 25-Year Plan (6DI-25) – #988 Tier 6 Emergency Medical Technician 25-Year Plan (6EM-25) – #987 Tier 6 Special Peace Officer 25-Year Plan (6SO-25) – #990	<p>At least five but less than 25 years of Allowable Service. Benefit payable at age 63.</p> <p>Less than five years of Allowable Service but at least five years of Credited Service. Eligible to vest under Tier 6 Basic Plan.</p>	<p>2% x FAS x Years of Allowable Service</p> <p>Same as Tier 6 Basic Plan</p>
Tier 6 Deputy Sheriff 25-Year Plan (6DS-25) – #989	<p>At least five but less than 25 years of Credited Service. Benefit payable at age 63.</p>	<p>2.2% x FAS x Years of Credited Service</p>
Tier 6 Automotive Member 25-Year/Age 50 Plan (6AU-25) – #991 Tier 6 Police Communications Technician 25-Year Plan (6PC-25) – #992	<p>At least five but less than 25 years of Credited Service. Benefit payable at age 63.</p>	<p>2% x FAS x Years of Credited Service</p>



Can I collect a benefit before I reach retirement age?

Tier Equity (Tier 4 62/5 Members Only)

Tier Equity allows Tier 4 62/5 Plan members to retire as early as age 55; however, there is a lifetime reduction to your retirement benefit if you retire prior to age 62. You must be at least age 55 and file for retirement while still on active payroll in order to take advantage of Tier Equity. The following table shows the percentage reduction for various ages:

Age Payment Begins	61	60	59	58	57	56	55
Percent of Benefit Reduction (Tier 4 62/5)	6%	12%	15%	18%	21%	24%	27%

Early Service Retirement (Tier 6 63/5 Members Only)

Participants in the Tier 6 63/5 Plan with at least five years of Credited Service may retire as early as age 55; however, there is a lifetime reduction to your retirement benefit if you retire prior to age 63. You must be at least age 55 and file for retirement while still on active payroll in order to be eligible for Early Service Retirement. The following table shows the percentage reduction for various ages:

Age Payment Begins	62	61	60	59	58	57	56	55
Percent of Benefit Reduction (Tier 6 63/5)	6.5%	13%	19.5%	26%	32.5%	39%	45.5%	52%

What if I am vested in my retirement plan?

Many retirement plans contain vesting provisions, which allow you to receive a retirement benefit in the future even if you leave City service before you are eligible to retire. You are vested when you have accumulated the minimum service requirements specified in your retirement plan. For most plans you must have at least five years of service to vest; Tier 6 Basic and Special Plans require at least five years to vest. However, there are two types of service credit – Credited Service and Allowable Service – and the type you need to vest in your plan depends on the provisions of that plan. Please see the charts on pages 1-3 for the vesting requirements under each plan.

If you are eligible to vest, you should file a [Notice of Intention to File for a Tier 3, 4, 6 or 22-Year Plan Vested Retirement Benefit \(Form #254\)](#) upon leaving City service. This will enable NYCERS to communicate with you after you have left City service and provide you with your Vested Member Annual Disclosure Statement.

NOTE: Members of the Tier 3 Uniformed Correction Force 20-Year Plan (CO-20); Tier 4 Sanitation 20-Year Plan (SA-20); Tier 4 and Tier 6 Triborough Bridge and Tunnel Authority 20-Year/Age 50 Retirement Plans (TBTA-20/50 and 6TB-20) are not eligible to retire with a deficit in Additional Member Contributions (AMCs).

Members in Correction, Sanitation, and DA Investigator 22-Year plans (CF-22 and CF-22E, SA-22 and SA-22E, and DA-22) cannot retire with a deficit in either their Basic or, where applicable, their Additional Member Contribution accounts.

What if I am not vested?

If you have left City service before you attained the minimum service requirement to vest in your plan (or underlying plan for plans that do not have a vesting provision), you may:

- Purchase **only** enough previous service needed to reach the minimum service requirement to vest under your plan (or underlying plan for plans that do not have a vesting provision). Please refer to the **What if I want to Buy Back Service** Section on page 5 for more information; or
- Leave your contributions on deposit. If you do not return to public service in a NYCERS-eligible position within five years from the date of your separation from City service, your membership will be terminated by operation of law. At that time, you may apply for a refund of your contributions, plus 5% interest, that accrued up to the date your membership was terminated; or
- Submit an [Application for a Refund of Member's Accumulated Salary Deductions \(Form #331\)](#) or apply online with [MyNYCERS](#), with the full understanding that doing so will effectively terminate your membership and you will not be entitled to any future benefits from NYCERS. Please refer to the **What if I want a Refund** Section on page 7 for more information on applying for a refund of your pension contributions.

What if I transfer to another agency?

What if I transfer to an agency covered by NYCERS?

Tell your new employer that you are a NYCERS member and have the employer provide NYCERS with an [Agency's Employee Status Change Notification \(Form #234\)](#) or contact NYCERS' Call Center after you have received your first paycheck from your new City agency. This will ensure that any payroll deductions such as required pension contributions, loan payments or buy-back deductions continue to be taken from your paycheck.

What if I transfer to a New York City or New York State Agency not covered by NYCERS?

You may be able to transfer your membership from NYCERS to one of the other New York City or New York State public employee retirement systems. In addition to NYCERS, there are seven retirement systems in New York City and New York State. They are:

- | | |
|--|--|
| New York City Police Pension Fund | New York State Teachers' Retirement System |
| New York City Teachers' Retirement System | New York State and Local Employees' Retirement System |
| New York City Fire Department Pension Fund | New York State and Local Police and Fire Retirement System |
| New York City Board of Education Retirement System | |



NYCERS cannot advise you whether or not such a transfer will be beneficial to you. We strongly recommend that you contact your new retirement system before you initiate any transfer to verify eligibility to transfer your NYCERS membership, and to find out how it may impact any future retirement benefits.

What if I want to buy back service?

You may purchase (buy back) and be credited with full-time or part-time public service previously rendered in the employ of a public entity anywhere in New York City or New York State.

Filing an Application

Generally, only active members (on active payroll or on an approved leave of absence) may apply to purchase previous service by submitting an [Application to Purchase Credit for Service Rendered Prior to Membership Date in NYCERS \(Form #241\)](#) or by applying online through [MyNYCERS](#).

Exceptions to this general rule are as follows:

Members who have left City service with at least two years of membership service may apply for buyback after leaving City service but may purchase **only** enough credit to reach the minimum service required to vest or apply for ordinary disability.

Members who are laid off for economic reasons will be deemed to be on payroll for an additional 90 days from the date of layoff in order to purchase service. If you file a buyback application within 90 days of being laid off, you may purchase as much previous service as you wish. If you file after the 90-day period, you may buy back only enough service to vest or to apply for ordinary disability. This must be accomplished before your membership is terminated, which will occur five years after you have left City service if you are not vested. A layoff letter from your employer must accompany your application.

NOTE: In all tiers, purchasing previous service will generally increase your retirement benefit. However, purchased service will NOT increase your retirement benefit under your current plan if:

- You are in a special plan that requires “Allowable Service” and the service you wish to buy back is not creditable, such as in the Tier 4 and Tier 6 Transit 25/55 Plan (see your plan brochure to find out if your service is Allowable or Credited). Note, however, that if you cannot meet the service requirements under your current plan, you may purchase service in order to retire under your underlying plan.
- You are in a plan that limits your retirement benefit calculation to a maximum number of years and you have already attained that number of years, or the amount of previous service you wish to buy back will bring your total Credited Service to more than the maximum number of years.

Payment Methods

If you are on active payroll, you can make buyback payments through payroll deductions. If you are not receiving a paycheck, you will need to make a lump-sum payment for your buyback using personal funds or a rollover from the NYC Deferred Compensation Plan or an Individual Retirement Account. If you did not complete full payment of a buyback claim you initiated while on active payroll, you can pay off the balance in a lump sum and receive credit for the service as long as you have completed the purchase prior to making a final option selection at retirement which occurs after the date you would have been eligible for a vested retirement benefit (Payability Date). Similarly, members applying for buyback under the general exceptions listed above can pay off the balance in a lump sum by the same payment methods.

It is important to bear in mind that interest continues to accrue on any unpaid balance. Therefore, the longer you wait, the higher the payoff amount.

If you return to active service without completing full payment, payroll deductions should automatically resume. Please contact NYCERS' Call Center if this does not occur. Since it is likely that additional interest accrued on your unpaid balance, your total outstanding balance will be higher and will need to be revised.

Military Leave

If you have left City service for active duty in the U.S. military, that time may be purchasable under State law or Federal law, provided you meet certain criteria. For example, under Federal law (the Uniformed Services Employment and Re-employment Rights Act, or USERRA), members/employees must apply to return to a City position within 14 days after termination of military duty if their military service lasted between 31 and 180 days, or must apply within 90 days after termination if their military service lasted more than 180 days. Note: Some agencies allow employees to return for reemployment in a timeframe greater than that allowed under USERRA.

State law (Article 20 of the New York State Retirement and Social Security Law) does not contain the same requirement, but requires that members have at least five years of Credited Service to apply for Military Buy-Back. An additional requirement under State law is that members must apply to purchase military service while on active payroll or on an approved leave of absence.

Each law has different provisions for granting service, and you are entitled to receive credit under the law that provides you with the greatest benefit. Under all provisions, military service must have been satisfactorily completed and an honorable discharge must have been granted.

For additional information, please refer to [Military Buy-Back \(Brochure #902\)](#) and/or Tier 4 62/5 and Tier 6 63/5 Summary Plan Description booklets or your plan brochure, available at www.nycers.org. If you are eligible to purchase credit for your military service, submit NYCERS' [Application to Purchase Credit for Military Service \(Form #244\)](#).



Authorized Child Care Leave

Only members of the uniformed force of the New York City Department of Correction may apply to purchase service credit for an authorized child care leave. Members must file [Form #246](#) within 90 days of termination of the child care leave. If eligible, you will be required to pay an amount equal to the contributions that would have otherwise been required if not for the child care leave, plus interest at a rate of 5%. Purchase of up to one year of service credit for each period of child care leave is permitted.

Note: Uniformed Correction Force members in the 22-Year Plan (CF-22) are not eligible to purchase credit for periods of child care leave without pay.

What if I have an outstanding loan?

Default

Failure to make a payment on an outstanding loan for more than 90 days will result in your loan being placed in default — it will be a Non-Performing Loan. This means that:

- If you return to active service, you will not be eligible to take out another loan until you have paid the outstanding balance of your Non-Performing Loan in full.
- Your Non-Performing Loan will be taxable for Federal income tax purposes as a taxable distribution. There is an additional 10% early distribution tax penalty for members who are under the age of 59½.
- Your Non-Performing Loan will no longer be insured against your death. If a beneficiary is due to receive a benefit, the amount of that benefit will be reduced by the amount of the outstanding loan.
- Any future retirement benefit you are entitled to will be reduced because of the unpaid loan balance and interest that continues to accrue on such balance.

Avoiding Default

Whether you have left active City service or you are on an approved leave of absence, you can avoid the consequences of default by:

- Paying the entire outstanding balance of your loan; or
- Continuing to make payments on a monthly basis.

If you leave City service with an outstanding loan, NYCERS will send you a loan payment coupon offering these two payment methods. If you choose to make monthly payments, you will receive a loan payment coupon each month until your balance is paid in full, provided that you continue making payments. Submit your check or money order made payable to NYCERS with the loan payment coupon.

If you are on an approved leave of absence, the obligation to repay your loan may be suspended for up to one year. However, your loan repayment schedule cannot exceed the maximum five-year repayment schedule specified by IRS regulations. Contact NYCERS' Call Center to take advantage of this special consideration.

If you are called to Active Military Duty, the obligation to repay your loan will be suspended while you are on Military Duty. If you chose a repayment schedule of less than five years, the repayment schedule will be extended for the same amount of time you were on Active Military Duty. However, your loan repayment schedule cannot exceed the five-year limitation specified by IRS regulations. During the suspension of your obligation to repay your loan, interest continues to accrue at a rate of 6%.

Reduction of Retirement/Death Benefit

An unpaid outstanding loan balance at retirement will reduce your retirement benefit. The amount of the reduction is based on loan reduction factors released at the beginning of each calendar year, which take into account one's age at retirement. The amount of the outstanding loan is also a primary determinant in the amount of reduction to apply – the higher the amount, the greater the reduction.

An unpaid outstanding loan may also reduce any death benefit payable to your beneficiary/beneficiaries. The death benefit may be reduced by the outstanding loan amount. Suppose your beneficiary is entitled to receive a death benefit of \$100,000 and you have an outstanding loan amount of \$20,000 at the time of your death. The death benefit would be reduced to \$80,000.

For more information, please see NYCERS' [Loan Default Fact Sheet #710](#), available at www.nycers.org.

What if I want a refund?

Basic Member Contributions (BMCs)

Members may become eligible for a refund of their BMCs upon leaving City service. In addition to the eligibility requirements explained below, members must no longer be employed by the City for at least 30 days to be eligible for a refund.

If you have less than five years of Credited Service, you may apply for a refund of your BMCs, which effectively terminates your membership. This means you will not be eligible for any future benefits from NYCERS.

If you have between 5 and 10 years of Credited Service, you may apply for a refund of your BMCs, which also terminates your membership and makes you ineligible for any future benefits from NYCERS. Because you have attained the minimum service requirement to vest, you must submit [Waiver of Right to a Vested Retirement Benefit \(Form #341\)](#).



If you have 10 or more years of Credited Service, you are not eligible for a refund of your BMCs. You are encouraged to file a [Notice of Intention to File for a Tier 3, 4, 6 or 22-Year Plan Vested Retirement Benefit \(Form #254\)](#), which enables NYCERS to maintain communications with you after you have left City service.

Additional Member Contributions (AMCs)

Members in special retirement plans that require participants to make AMCs may become eligible for a refund of all of (or a portion of) their AMCs upon leaving City service. Members contemplating this refund should meet with a NYCERS Customer Service representative to understand the ramifications.

Taxability

Your refund will be wholly or partially subject to Federal income taxes. In addition, if you are under the age of 59½ you will also be subject to the 10% early distribution penalty tax assessed by the IRS. Exceptions to this penalty may apply, especially if you leave City service during or after the year in which you attain age 55. You may also avoid taxation and this penalty by rolling over your refund into a Traditional IRA or Employer Plan, for example, a 401(k) Plan. NYCERS cannot advise you on these matters. Please consult your personal tax advisor.

What if I pass away?

In the event of your death after you have left active City service, your beneficiary/beneficiaries may be entitled to a death benefit. The type of death benefit and the amount depends on when your death occurs and the amount of service with which you have been credited.

Ordinary Death Benefit (ODB)

Tier 3, 4 and 6 members **except** Uniformed Correction Force, Uniformed Sanitation Force and 22-Year Plan Members:

An ODB is payable to your beneficiary/beneficiaries if you die while on active payroll. You can also be considered on active payroll if you were:

- 1: Paid within 12 months prior to your death; OR
- 2: On payroll at the time you were ordered to active duty and died in active duty or service in the uniformed services on or after June 14, 2005; AND
- A) Had not been otherwise gainfully employed since you ceased being on payroll; AND
- B) Had credit for one or more years of continuous service since you entered or reentered with your employer.

In addition, you are deemed to have died on the payroll if the death occurs while you are on an authorized leave of absence without pay for medical reasons and the leave has continuously been in effect since the member was last paid on the payroll in such service and was last paid by your employer for such service within the four-year period prior to your death. The ODB is based on a multiplication of your salary as indicated in the table below:

Years of Service	A Lump-Sum Benefit Equal to
At least one year, but less than two years	One year's Current Salary*
At least two years, but less than three years	Two times Current Salary
At least three years	Three times Current Salary

*Current Salary: The regular compensation earned during a member's last 12 months of service, plus overtime, night differentials, longevity payments and any other type of pensionable earnings where applicable.

A refund of your Basic Member Contributions (BMCs) and, for special plan participants, possibly a refund of your Additional Member Contributions (AMCs), including interest, will also be payable to your beneficiary/beneficiaries.

Uniformed Correction Force, Uniformed Sanitation Force and 22-Year Plan Members

An ODB is payable to the beneficiary/beneficiaries of members who die in active service. To be eligible, members must have been in service for at least 90 days. The ODB is equal to three times the member's salary (raised to the nearest \$1,000). A refund of BMCs and AMCs, including interest, is also payable.

Death Benefit for ALL Tier 3, 4 and 6 Vested Members with 10 or more years of Credited Service

In the event of your death prior to the date you would have been eligible for a vested retirement benefit (Payability Date), a lump-sum death benefit will be paid to your beneficiary/beneficiaries (or Estate) if you have 10 or more years of Credited Service. The death benefit amount is based on 50% of the ODB that would have been payable had you died on your last day in active service.

A refund of your BMCs and, for special plan participants, possibly a refund of your AMCs, including interest, will also be payable to your beneficiary/beneficiaries. If you did not render 10 or more years of Credited Service, only a refund of your BMCs and, for special plan participants, possibly a refund of your AMCs, including interest, will also be payable to your beneficiary/beneficiaries.



What if I want to change my beneficiaries?

Although you have left City service, your last designation of beneficiary/beneficiaries remains on file with NYCERS and will govern who is eligible to receive a death benefit, if any. If you wish to change your last designated beneficiary/beneficiaries on file, you may do so at any time prior to your Payability Date. Members with a registered [MyNYCERS](#) account can manage their beneficiaries online. For a paper application, visit www.nycers.org/beneficiary-designation and download the appropriate beneficiary designation forms. When completing such forms, be sure to properly allocate percentages for each category under which you are designating a beneficiary – Primary and/or Contingent. The sum of each category must total 100%.

What if I move to a new address?

Maintaining a current address is essential to receiving important communications from NYCERS. Regardless of your payroll or employment status, be sure to file [Form #290](#) in the event that you have moved to a new address. MyNYCERS accountholders can also log in to their account and submit an address change online at www.mynycers.org.

Can I work while collecting a Vested Retirement Benefit?

If you begin collecting a Vested Retirement Benefit and subsequently return to public service in New York State or New York City, you should be aware that there is a limit on how much salary you can earn while also collecting a retirement benefit from NYCERS. Section 212 of the Retirement and Social Security Law (RSSL) sets the amount a retired person may earn in public employment without loss, suspension or diminution of his or her retirement allowance during a calendar year. The current Section 212 limit is \$35,000. Pensioners who are under 65 and return to public service within New York State or New York City are subject to this limit.

Am I eligible to receive Health Benefits after leaving City Service?

NYCERS does not administer health benefits for employees of NYC mayoral agencies or for employees of any participating employers of NYCERS. For most New York City employees, your health care coverage is administered by the Office of Labor Relations. NYCERS provides OLR with a daily report of new retirees. OLR no longer requires members to include a retirement receipt with their [Health Benefit Enrollment Form](#). If you require further information about how OLR will process health insurance enrollments, please contact OLR at 212-513-0470 or visit their website, www.nyc.gov/html/olr, for information about health benefits.

Transit Authority employees should contact their employee benefits department at 646-376-0123 for additional information on health care coverage. MTA Bridges and Tunnels employees should contact their employee benefits department at 646-252-7935 for additional information on health care coverage.

How do I contact NYCERS?

Call Center

Monday – Friday, 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. except holidays
(347) 643-3000 – Call Center
(877) 669-2377 (If calling from outside the NYC area)
(347) 643-3501 TTY (hearing impaired)

MyNYCERS Member Portal

www.mynycers.org

Log in to your MyNYCERS account and submit a Service Request.

Your MyNYCERS account contains lots of self-service tools including a personalized chatbot that can answer basic question regarding your pension account, a retirement benefit calculator, and knowledge articles covering topics like disability and service retirement, loans, buybacks, and more. If you have an issue that cannot be resolved using MyNYCERS' self-help tools, open a case by clicking the Service Request link in the menu. Your case will be reviewed and answered by NYCERS' staff.

Forms and Correspondence Mailing Address*

30-30 47th Avenue, Suite 1010
Long Island City, NY 11101

*Documents can also be uploaded through your secure MyNYCERS account; log in or register at www.mynycers.org.

Walk-in Center

Mezzanine level at 340 Jay Street in downtown Brooklyn.
Monday - Friday, 8AM - 5PM

