



District of Columbia Retirement Board (DCRB)
Benefits Department

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District of Columbia Teachers' Retirement Plan
Surviving Spouse/Domestic Partner Change of Status

Surviving Spouse/Domestic Partner* _____

In accordance with D.C. Code §38-2021.09(b)(1), to remain eligible to receive a surviving spouse/domestic partner* benefit, you cannot remarry/enter into a new domestic partnership prior to age 55 (see back page).

*The Federal government does not recognize domestic partners for retirement benefits.

Surviving Spouse Under a Qualified Domestic Relations Order (QDRO) _____

In accordance with the District of Columbia Spouse Equity Act of 1988, D.C. Code §§1.529.01 et seq., to remain eligible to receive a surviving spouse benefit as a former spouse under a QDRO, you cannot remarry prior to age 55 (see back page).

Section I: Surviving/Former Spouse/Domestic Partner Information

Deceased Member's Full Name: _____

Surviving/Former Spouse's/Domestic Partner's Full Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____
Street City State Zip Code

Social Security Number: _____ - _____ - _____ Primary Phone Number: _____ - _____ - _____

Were you a party to a QDRO (surviving spouse only)? [] Yes [] No

Section II: Marriage/Remarriage Information

Have you been remarried/in a registered Domestic Partnership since the time of the member's death? [] Yes [] No

If you answered "Yes" above, what was the date of remarriage/Domestic Partnership registration? _____
(Attach a copy of your Marriage Certificate/Domestic Partnership registration.)

Section III: Oath of Affirmation

I certify under penalty of perjury that the information indicated above is true and correct. I understand that I am responsible for any repayment to the Plan of any benefit overpayment I receive resulting from my ineligibility to receive this annuity. I further understand that fines, penalties, and forfeitures may be imposed by Federal or District of Columbia laws for making false or fraudulent claims against the Federal government or District of Columbia or making false statements in connection therewith.

Signature of Surviving/Former Spouse/Domestic Partner: _____ Date: _____

Printed Name of Surviving/Former Spouse/Domestic Partner: _____



Surviving Spouse/Domestic Partner

D.C. Code §38-2021.09(b)(1)*:

“...Such annuity and any right thereto shall terminate on the last day of the month before: (A) the surviving spouse or domestic partner dies; or (B) the surviving spouse or domestic partner remarries or enters a new domestic partnership before becoming 55 years of age. In the case of a surviving spouse or domestic partner whose annuity under this paragraph is terminated because of remarriage or entry into a new domestic partnership before becoming 55 years of age, annuity at the same rate shall be restored commencing on the day the remarriage is dissolved by death, annulment, or divorce, or the new domestic partnership is terminated in accordance with §32-702(d)...”

***Note:** Age 55 applies to survivors who remarry/enter into new domestic partnerships effective May 1, 2013 and thereafter. For survivors who remarried/entered into a new domestic partnership prior to May 1, 2013, age 60 applies. The change from age 60 to 55, effective May 1, 2013, only applies to the portion of the survivor benefit which is based on the deceased member’s service performed after June 30, 1997. There is no comparable Federal law to cover survivor benefits based on service performed on or before June 30, 1997. See the “Equity in Survivor Benefits Amendment Act of 2012,” D.C. Law 19-301.

Surviving Spouse Under a Qualified Domestic Relations Order (QDRO)

District of Columbia Spouse Equity Act of 1988, D.C. Code §1-529.03(e)(2):

“Payment of a survivor annuity to a former spouse pursuant to a court order shall cease upon the remarriage of the former spouse if the remarriage occurs before age 55.”

NOTE: The word “spouse” refers to both same and opposite-sex spouses and the word “marriage” refers to both same and opposite-sex marriages. If there is a need to differentiate between same and opposite-sex spouses and their marriages, DCRB will do so explicitly.