

REMEMBER

- *You must elect to receive a deferred retirement annuity by filing an application with DCRB*
- *If you received a refund of your contributions upon separating from DCPS, you are not eligible for a deferred annuity unless you were later reinstated to DCPS and redeposited the amount of your refund (plus interest)*
- *Your deferred retirement annuity eligibility begins when you reach age 62.*
- *If you do not request a deferred annuity or a refund of your contributions, you must be refunded your contributions no later than April 1st following the calendar year in which you reach age 70 ½*
- *You may elect to provide a survivor benefit based on your deferred annuity*

**Contact DCRB Member Services
Center with any questions**



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Retirement Board**
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*District of Columbia Teachers'
Retirement Plan*

*Deferred Retirement
Annuity*

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GENERAL INFORMATION

This brochure contains information about a deferred retirement annuity under the District of Columbia Teachers' Retirement Plan (the "Plan"). A deferred retirement annuity is determined and administered by the District of Columbia Retirement Board ("DCRB").

ELIGIBILITY

You are eligible for a deferred retirement annuity under the Plan beginning at age 62 if:

- You have at least five (5) years of teaching service with the District of Columbia Public Schools (DCPS);
- You did not retire under a disability retirement;
- You separated from DCPS (or transferred to a position not covered under the Plan) before you were eligible for a voluntary or involuntary retirement benefit; *and*
- You did not receive a lump-sum refund (or rollover) of your retirement contributions when you separated, or if you did receive a refund, you were later reinstated to DCPS and redeposited* the amount (with interest)

**See "Reestablishing Right to a Deferred Retirement Annuity" for more information on reposit*

APPLYING FOR A DEFERRED ANNUITY

You must apply to DCRB to elect to receive a deferred retirement annuity; it is not automatic. If eligible, you may begin receiving your deferred retirement annuity when you reach age 62. You should submit your application to DCRB at least 90 days before you turn 62 for timely processing. If you separate from DCPS at age 62 or older and have less than five years of teaching service, you will receive a lump-sum refund of your Plan contributions.

If you separated from DCPS and have not elected a refund of your contributions or a deferred annuity, you will receive a lump-sum refund of your Plan contributions no later than April 1st following the calendar year in which you reach 70 ½.

The application for Deferred Retirement is available on DCRB's website.

CALCULATION

Your deferred retirement annuity is based on your average salary and your years of service at the time you left the DCPS System. You do not receive any service credit for your unused sick leave.

REESTABLISHING RIGHT TO A DEFERRED RETIREMENT ANNUITY

If you received a lump-sum refund of your retirement contributions when you separated from DCPS with at least five (5) years of teaching service, you are not eligible for a deferred annuity unless you were later reinstated to DCPS and redeposited the amount (with interest) to reestablish your annuity rights during your reinstatement. Contact DCRB if you wish to complete a reposit.

SURVIVOR BENEFIT ELECTIONS

You may elect to provide a survivor annuity for your eligible spouse, domestic partner*, or a named beneficiary upon your death. Your options depend on whether you are married, single, or have a registered domestic partner when you elect deferred retirement.

The survivor election options are:

Unreduced annuity: *Available for all retiring members and provides annuity payments to you for your lifetime only. There is no survivor annuity payable to your surviving spouse/domestic partner.*

Reduced annuity with a maximum survivor annuity (equals 55% of your unreduced annuity): *Only available to teachers who are married or in a domestic partnership at the time of retirement. This option provides a reduced annuity to you and the maximum survivor annuity to your spouse/domestic partner beginning the day after your death.*

**District service only.*

Reduced annuity with a partial survivor annuity (equals amount designated by member equal to either between 1% and 55% of your unreduced annuity, or a flat dollar amount not to exceed 55% of your unreduced annuity): *Only available to teachers who are married or in a domestic partnership at the time of retirement. This option provides a reduced annuity to you and a partial survivor annuity to your spouse/domestic partner beginning the day after your death.*

Reduced annuity with a survivor annuity to a person with an insurable interest (equals 55% of your reduced annuity): *Only available to teachers who are unmarried or not in a domestic partnership at the time of retirement. This option provides a reduced annuity to you and a survivor annuity to the person you designate as having an insurable interest beginning the day after your death.*

Reduced annuity with a life insurance benefit to a designated beneficiary (equals amount designated by member): *Available to all teachers. This option provides a reduced annuity to you and a specified lump sum to the person you designate payable upon your death.*

PLEASE NOTE: If you are eligible for a deferred retirement annuity but die **before** you begin receiving your annuity, your survivor(s) will receive a payment consisting of your retirement contributions

HEALTH AND LIFE INSURANCE BENEFITS

Retirees under Federal Benefits - Deferred retirement annuitants are **not** eligible for retiree health or life insurance coverage. However, when you separate, you may purchase up to three (3) years of temporary continuation of health insurance coverage (TCC) and/or convert to an individual policy with your insurer. You may also convert your life insurance coverage to an individual policy.

Retirees under District Benefits - Deferred annuitants are eligible for retiree health coverage only if they have 10 years of District service, and the health coverage was in effect for the five years of service immediately preceding the separation from the District. If the annuitant opts to purchase TCC, this period will count towards the necessary five years of contiguous coverage. Contact DCPS HR if you would like more information.