

RETIREMENT BENEFIT SELECTION OPTIONS

All retirement benefits provided by the ERS are GUARANTEED FOR THE LIFETIME OF THE MEMBER.

The Standard Form of Payment under the ERS depends upon the Plan in which the member is enrolled. Refer to the Plan Document or the Summary of Plan Description for your Plan. In addition to this standard form, there are optional methods of payment from which members can choose. Optional selections, which guarantee continuation of benefits to beneficiaries or contingent annuitants, may be chosen at the time of retirement.

NAME OF OPTION

EXPLANATION OF GUARANTEE

"LIFE ONLY"

This option provides the MAXIMUM benefit payable, by giving up the Normal Benefit Guarantee (10-years certain in Plan C) in exchange for a larger benefit payable only during the lifetime of the retiree. All benefits STOP when the retiree dies.

"10-YEARS CERTAIN"

(Normal Benefit Guarantee for Plans A, C and D)

Benefits are guaranteed to continue for 10 years from the date of retirement, whether the retiree lives or dies. If the retiree dies in less than 10 years, the listed beneficiary will receive payments until the 10-year period is completed. The designated beneficiary may be changed at any time.

"RETURN OF CONTRIBUTIONS"

(Normal Benefit Guarantee for Plan B)

If the Member dies before receiving benefits EQUAL TO his/her contributions and interest, the difference is payable to the listed beneficiary. The designated beneficiary may be changed at any time.

"100% CONTINGENT ANNUITY OPTION"

Benefits are guaranteed to continue at the same amount so long as the Member, or the Contingent Annuitant (usually your spouse), survives. Your Contingent Annuitant cannot be changed after retirement.

"75% CONTINGENT ANNUITY OPTION OR 50% CONTINGENT ANNUITY OPTION"

Benefits are guaranteed to the Member for his/her lifetime. A percentage of the monthly benefit (75% or 50% depending on the chosen option) will be paid to the surviving Contingent Annuitant after the death of the Member. The Contingent Annuitant cannot be changed after retirement.

"100% CONTINGENT ANNUITY OPTION WITH POP-UP"

Benefits are guaranteed to continue at the same amount so long as the Member, or the Contingent Annuitant (usually your spouse), survives. However, if the designated Contingent Annuitant predeceases the Member, the Member's benefit shall revert to the unreduced amount originally calculated, adjusted for cost-of-living adjustments granted since benefit commencement. The Contingent Annuitant cannot be changed after retirement.

"75% CONTINGENT ANNUITY OPTION WITH POP-UP" OR "50% CONTINGENT ANNUITY OPTION WITH POP-UP"

Benefits are guaranteed to the Member for his/her lifetime. A percentage of the monthly benefit (75% or 50% depending on the chosen option) will be paid to the surviving Contingent Annuitant after the death of the Member. However, if the designated Contingent Annuitant predeceases the Member, the Member's benefit shall revert to the unreduced amount originally calculated, adjusted for cost-of-living adjustments granted since benefit commencement. The Contingent Annuitant cannot be changed after retirement.