

DELAWARE COUNTY AND MUNICIPAL POLICE/FIREFIGHTER PENSION PLAN RETIREMENT OVERVIEW

The Delaware County and Municipal Police/Firefighter Pension Plan is provided under 11 Del. C. c. 88, as amended.

The following are some highlights of the plan and general information:

PENSION ELIGIBILITY

Service

- Five (5) years of consecutive pension credited service and attained age 62; or
- Age plus years of pension credited service (at least ten (10) years pension credited service) equals 75; or
- Twenty (20) years of pension credited service regardless of age; or
- Five (5) years of consecutive pension credited service and per employers' mandatory retirement date.

Disability Pension

To be eligible for a disability pension, the medical condition must be expected to last for at least twelve (12) months. Cases are subject to medical review and approval by the Executive Secretary of the Board of Pension Trustees.

- Duty Connected Disability - A partial or total disability resulting from an individual and specific act, the type of which would normally occur only while employed as a police officer/firefighter. Member is eligible upon date of hire.
- Non-Duty Connected Disability – A partial or total disability that is not considered a duty-connected disability shall be a non-duty connected disability pension. Member must have five (5) consecutive years of pension credited service to be eligible.

Survivor

- If an employee dies in active service, the eligible survivor(s) will be paid a monthly pension benefit equal to three-fourths (75%) service pension the employee would have been eligible to receive.
- If an employee dies in the line of duty, the eligible survivor(s) will be paid a monthly pension equal to three-fourths (75%) of the employee's compensation (base pay).

- Upon the death of an individual receiving a service or disability pension, a monthly survivor's pension shall be payable to the eligible survivor(s) based on the Joint and Survivor benefit option elected at the time of retirement.
- The eligible survivor is determined at the time of the member's death. An eligible survivor's order of priority** as established by law, determines who may be entitled to a survivor's benefit:
 - Spouse (must be married prior to your retirement or at least one year before date of death, unless death is a result of an accident)
 - Child/children under age 18 (including and resulting from a pregnancy prior to the member's death), unmarried, and if between the ages of 18 and 22, a full-time student
 - Child permanently disabled as a result of a disability that began before the child attained age 18
 - Dependent parent(s)

**** Priority may be changed by filing a notarized Survivor Order of Priority (SOP-1) form.**

Vested (with at least five (5) years of consecutive pension credited service)

- Payable at age 62.

ADDITIONAL SERVICE

Unified Service

Credited service with the County and Municipal Police/Firefighters Pension Plan may be used to determine pension eligibility for the State Employees', New State Police and County and Municipal General Employees' Pension Plans, if pension credited service in these plans exists.

Buy-In Options

Buy-In Options allow pension applicants to purchase additional service based on specifically allowed prior employment classifications.

- Actuarial – Full-time Uniformed Police Service
- Can be used to establish eligibility

***Buy-in option must be approved and/or verified by the Office of Pensions prior to retirement**

PREPARING FOR RETIREMENT

The Office of Pensions may be contacted at any time for information, advice and/or pension estimates. Please call (302) 739-4208 or (800) 722-7300 or visit our website, www.delawarepensions.com.

The most recent employing organization is responsible for the preparation of the pension application and related forms, having the Application for Pension and other forms signed and notarized and for submitting the paperwork to the Office of Pensions. We suggest the applicant contact their Human Resources Office at least four (4) months before the effective date of retirement to begin the application process.

REQUIRED PERSONAL DOCUMENTS

The member is responsible for obtaining and submitting the following personal documents to his/her most recent employing organization:

- Birth Verification(s), Marriage Verification(s), Death Certificate(s) and Divorce Decree(s), as applicable
- A federally compliant driver's license or a federally compliant identification card may be used in lieu of the birth verification or name change document.
- Social Security Card (signed) of member, spouse and eligible dependent(s).
- Medicare Card showing Parts A and B coverage for member, spouse and dependent(s). Medicare card must be signed.

Additional documents may be required depending on individual cases.

PENSIONER BENEFITS AND REQUIRED FORMS

Joint and Survivor Benefit (JSB)

No reduction to member's pension = 50% survivor's pension
2% reduction to member's pension = 66.67% survivor's pension
3% reduction to member's pension = 75% survivor's pension
6% reduction to member's pension = 100% survivor's pension

*This election is irrevocable and must be made prior to the issuance of the first pension direct deposit.

Direct Deposit (DA)

Direct deposit of the monthly benefit to a checking, savings or other account is required. Submit a Pensioner's DA form to provide account information.

Credit Union

Pensioners may retain Credit Union membership acquired while still employed. Contact your Credit Union for more detailed information.

Tax Withholding Election Form (TWE)

Generally, pension benefits are taxable. Year-end tax forms are mailed prior to January 31 and report the total amount of pension benefit paid, taxes withheld and other items. Tax withholding options may be changed by filling out a TWE form.

Health Insurance (including prescription coverage)

Pensioners are eligible to participate in the group health insurance plans offered by the State of Delaware. For retirements effective on or after 7/1/2015, there is an offset to the member's cost of healthcare.

- Medicare eligible pensioners, spouses and/or eligible dependent(s) are required to enroll in Medicare Parts A and B as primary. (Part B may not be required if coverage with active employment is available. Contact the Office of Pensions if you have questions regarding Part B required enrollment.) The Office of Pensions offers Special Medicfill coverage as secondary, which is the supplement to Medicare.

Dental Insurance

Dental insurance is available upon retirement. The pensioner is responsible for the full cost of the monthly premium. The pensioner may select Individual, Individual and Spouse, Individual and Child(ren) or Family coverage.

DISCLAIMER: IN THE CASE OF CONFLICT BETWEEN THIS SUMMARY AND THE PLAN, THE PLAN PREVAILS.