

Welcome IPERS Members

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Senior Retirement Benefits Officers



What is IPERS?

- Established in July of 1953, IPERS is the largest public retirement system in Iowa
- A qualified 401(a) Defined Benefit plan under the IRS code.
- Members include employees of public schools, cities, counties, and state government.
- Benefits are paid for your lifetime based on a formula not on the amount of your investment

Vesting

- Requires four years for special service and seven years for regular class IPERS covered service or attain age 55 and are making contributions to the plan
- Qualifies you for:
 - Service purchase
 - A monthly retirement or disability benefit
 - A portion of the employer's investment if a refund is taken

Your Investment

- Consists of your contributions plus interest
- interest is compounded quarterly
- 2023 interest rate is 2.38%



Annual Statements

Annual statements are sent every spring and are based on information through December 31st of the previous year and include:

- Total Covered Wages
- Investment-Contributions plus interest
- Number of Service Credits
- Beneficiary designation
- Amount of current death benefit
- Option 2 monthly benefit at age 65 if employment ended as of that date
- Current refund amount

Maximizing Benefits

- You may be eligible for additional service credits at no cost:
 - Leave of absence granted prior to July 1998
 - Verification from employer required
 - Active military duty, leaving an IPERS employer, entering the military, returning to an IPERS employer within one year of discharge
 - DD214 form required

Service Purchase

- You may be eligible to purchase additional service credits for:
 - Buy back an IPERS refund
 - Buy-in credit from another public system and Nonqualified Service (air time)
 - Buy-up service credit conversion for members who are special service occupation types with regular class service time
 - Buy-in active duty military time not eligible for free credit
- **This can only be done at the time of Retirement.**

Direct Rollover/Direct Transfer

- IPERS service credit can be purchased through a direct rollover or direct transfer from an eligible retirement plan 401(a), 401(k), 403(a), 403(b), or 457(b), IRA, SEP, or SIMPLE 401(k)

Distributions

- The following are ways that IPERS pays benefits:
 - Refunds
 - Death Benefits
 - Monthly Benefits
 - Disability Benefits

Refunds

- Must have a bona-fide termination
- Forfeiture of all future rights to retirement benefits based on that period of employment
- Taxable portion may be eligible for rollover otherwise subject to IRS penalty and withholding
- Vested members eligible for a portion of the employer's investment

Pre retirement Death Benefit

- When a member dies before starting monthly benefits, a beneficiary is entitled to receive a death benefit.
- A sole individual named as beneficiary can elect to receive a lifetime annuity or a lump sum payment.
- Multiple beneficiaries are only eligible for a lump sum payment.

Monthly Benefits

- IPERS recommends you request an estimate of benefits at least three years prior to retirement.
- The following is some key information needed when requesting an estimate:
 - Social Security Number or Member ID
 - Spouse's date of birth

Requirements for Monthly Benefits

- Termination of all IPERS employment unless age 70
- Sheriffs – age 50 must have 22 years of special service
- Regular and Protection Class members age 55
- If less than age 55 must be receiving Social Security or Railroad Disability
- Must complete retirement application

First Month of Entitlement

- Your termination date and last paid date are important in determining the date to begin benefits
- You can terminate anytime in the month and be eligible for benefits the following month
- IPERS pays the last business day of every month

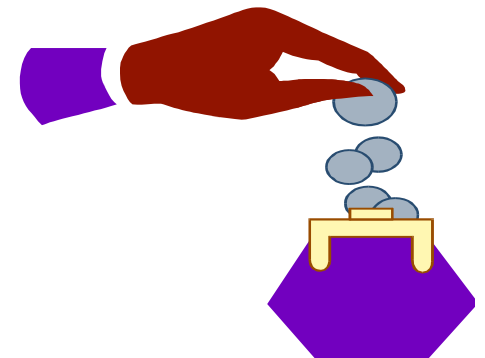
Monthly Benefit Options

- Choosing an option
- All options provide a retiree with a lifetime benefit
 - Monthly amounts vary depending on the death benefit you choose
 - Option choices can **NEVER** be changed once IPERS issues the first benefit payment



Benefit Options

- Option 1 pays a lump sum death benefit to named beneficiary(ies) upon the death of the retiree
 - The amount must be in \$1,000.00 increments
 - The maximum amount cannot exceed your investment



Benefit Options

- Option 2 guarantees the remainder of your investment will be paid out in a lump sum, if any.
- Option 3 provides the highest monthly benefit with NO death benefit

Benefit Options

- Option 4 provides a lifetime benefit to you and your contingent annuitant
 - The payment can be:
 - 100% of your monthly benefit
 - 75% of your monthly benefit
 - 50% of your monthly benefit
 - 25% of your monthly benefit
- Your contingent annuitant cannot be changed once benefits begin

Benefit Options

- Option 5 guarantees a minimum of 120 months (10 years) of payments. If you die before 120 months are paid, the remaining months are paid to your named beneficiary (multiple beneficiaries would receive a commuted lump sum payment). If you live beyond 120 months, no death benefit, however your monthly benefits continue for your lifetime.

Benefit Option

- Option 6 “Pop-up Option”
- Similar to Option 4, provides a lifetime benefit to the member, with payments to a contingent annuitant (ca) after the members death. The difference between Option 4 and 6 is, if the contingent annuitant predeceases the member, the member is “Popped-up” to Option 2, upon notification of the ca death, which provides a higher monthly benefit.

Taxes

- A portion of your monthly benefits will be taxable for federal income tax
- You can elect federal withholding from your monthly benefit payment. State of Iowa is exempt from pension tax.
- For more detailed tax information, contact the IRS for publication 575 or consult a tax advisor

Bona Fide Retirement

- A bona fide retirement requires you to:
 - terminate employment with any IPERS covered employer and receive IPERS payments for four calendar months unless age 70
 - Be safe -Take a 4-month break.



Reemployment Guidelines

- If you are under 65 and return to IPERS covered employment you will be subject to an earnings limitation of \$50,000 in a calendar year.
 - Your benefit will be reduced 50 cents for each dollar earned over the limit
 - After termination of reemployment, contact IPERS for a termination form.

Special Service Members



Special Service Members

- Airport Firefighters
- Airport Safety Officers
- Airport Security Officers
- Conservation Peace Officers
- Dept of Transportation Peace Officers
 - Effective July 1, 2023
 - With 10 or more years of service stays with IPERS
 - Less than 10 years transferred to Peace Officers Retirement System (PORS)

Special Service Members

- Dept of Corrections
 - Correction Officer
 - Registered Nurse, Licensed Practical Nurse
 - Psychologist 1,2,3
 - Nurse Supervisor 1,2/Nurse Service Director/Admin of Nursing/Nursing Unit Coordinator
 - Plant Operations Manager 1,2,3
 - Safety & Health Consultant
 - Corrections Treatment Director
 - Dental Assistant/Dental Hygienist/Dentist

Special Service Members

Fire Prevention Inspector Peace Officers

- Marshals, Police Officers and Firefighters in Cities Not Covered by Iowa Code Chapters 400, 410, 411 (Special Rules Apply to Volunteer Firefighters)
- Sheriffs and Deputy Sheriffs

Special Service Members

Added to the Special Service class 07/01/08

- Emergency Medical Service Providers (EMT)
- County Jailers and Detention Officers working as county jailors
- County Attorney Investigators
- Military Installation Officers

Added to the Special Service class 07/01/17

- State Fair Police

Protection Class Members

	Member	Employer
Rate as of 7/1/22	6.21%	9.31%
Rate as of 7/1/23	6.21%	9.31%

- These group rates are calculated actuarially every year against their funding status.

Sheriff and Deputy Sheriff

- as of 7/1/22 8.76% 8.76%
- *As of 7/1/23* *8.51%* *8.51%*
- These group rates are calculated actuarially every year against their funding status.

Special Service Calculation

- At 22 years of service you get 60% of the highest 3 years
- At 30 years of service you get 72% of the highest 3 years
- After 22 years the multiplier goes up 1.5% for each year of service not to exceed 72% at 30 years

Special Service Disability



Disability Benefits

- IPERS Regular Retirement Disability is for ALL members. In order to be eligible a member must be vested, awarded Social Security Disability and terminate employment in order to begin drawing this benefit.

Disability Benefits

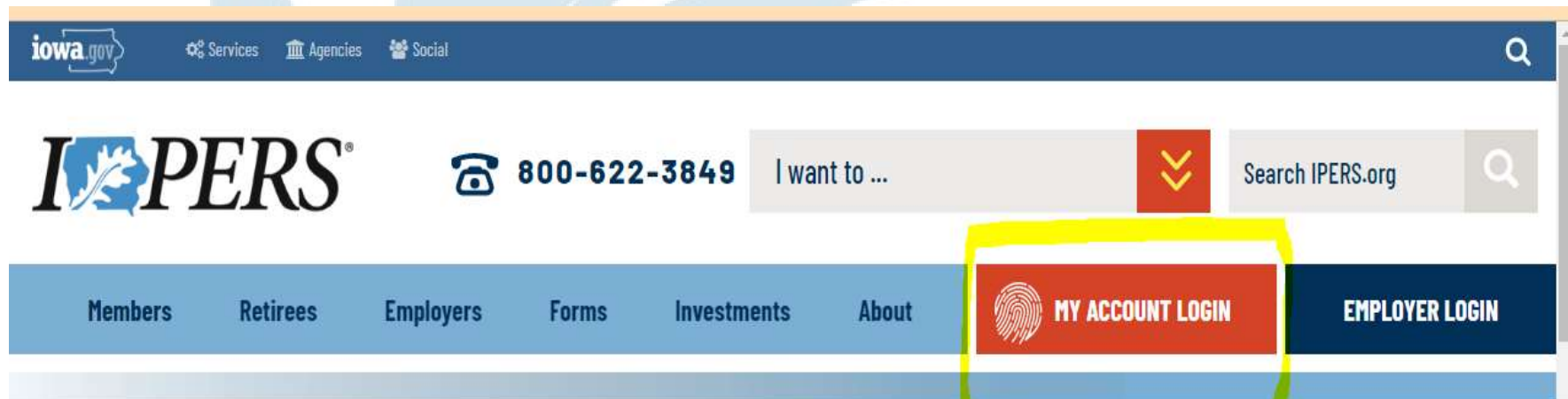
- IPERS Special Service Disability is for Special Service members only.
- In order to be eligible a member must be vested (4 years of service).
- A member must terminate employment to draw a monthly benefit.
- Members should contact IPERS to discuss options if considering disability.

Can a Member receiving Special Service Disability Benefits return to work?

- ITERS Employer
 - Disability benefits will cease
- Non-ITERS Employer
 - Disability benefits maybe offset based on review of your yearly tax returns.

My Account login

Go to IPERS.org
Click on My Account login



IPERS Account Login

An account has already been established
for you at IPERS.org.

A username has already been generated for
all members.

My Account Login

MYACCOUNT
Your IPERS retirement toolkit

Username

Password _____ 

Sign In

[Forgot Username](#) [Reset Password](#)

IPERS **Need Help?**
Call 800-622-3849

How to Contact IPERS

This session is an overview of IPERS benefits.

For detailed information on your account, call IPERS at 1-800-622-3849 or 515-281-0020. Our phones are answered Monday-Friday 7:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. or contact IPERS through the internet at:

Web site: www.ipers.org

E-Mail: disabilityteam@ipers.org



Questions are welcome

Thank you for attending!