

Disability Retirement

If the career of an ERS member is cut short because of permanent disability, the member may qualify for monthly disability benefits. To qualify for a disability benefit, the member must meet **all** the following conditions:

1. The member must have at least 10 years of creditable service.
2. The member must be in-service. A member is considered in-service if currently working or on official leave of absence for one year, which may be extended for no more than one additional year. A member will not receive service credit for periods of leave without pay. **A member who terminates employment is not eligible to apply for disability retirement.**
3. The ERS Medical Board must determine the member to be permanently incapacitated for the further performance of duty. The Medical Board bases its determination upon information provided by the member's physician.

Maximum monthly disability retirement benefits are calculated identically to those for service retirement, **except** that additional credit for sick leave cannot be converted to retirement credit.

To apply for disability retirement, request a [REPORT OF DISABILITY PACKET](#) and [RETIREMENT APPLICATION PACKET PART I](#) for state employees or [RETIREMENT APPLICATION PACKET PART I](#) for local employees from the ERS. The STATEMENT BY EXAMINING PHYSICIAN (included in the REPORT OF DISABILITY PACKET) and the retirement application must be received by the ERS office no less than 30 days nor more than 90 days prior to the effective date of retirement, which is the first day of a month. The member is responsible for notifying the ERS regarding disability retirement.

A disability retiree will be reviewed once each year for the first five years and once every three year period thereafter until age 60 (age 52 for State Police) to determine whether the retired member remains disabled.