

Continued Service after the DROP Participation Period

If the member does not withdraw from service after completing his or her DROP participation, the member will resume active contributing membership in the ERS for the purpose of earning creditable service. No time spent participating in DROP will be counted as creditable service.

Example:

If a member had 26 years of creditable service upon entering DROP and participated in DROP for five years; then worked two more years after completing his or her contractual obligation in DROP, the member would only have 28 years of total creditable service. There would be two separate retirement allowance calculations; one based on 26 years and the other based on two years of service.

Upon withdrawal from service, the member may elect to receive the following contributions in either a lump-sum distribution or make a direct rollover to a qualified plan:

1. The accumulated monthly retirement allowance contributions plus interest (4% while participating in DROP and at the lesser of either 4% or what the RSA earned on its investments post DROP). These contributions are based on the retirement option elected upon entering the DROP participation period.
2. Member contributions made to the ERS during the DROP participation period plus applicable interest.

The monthly retirement allowance may be recalculated to include accrued sick leave. However, the number of days converted cannot exceed the number of days the participant had on the date he or she entered DROP. The member is **not** allowed to change the option for the monthly retirement allowance chosen at the beginning of the DROP participation period.

An additional monthly retirement allowance based on his or her additional service since the end of the DROP participation period will be calculated using the retirement formula (Average Final Salary x Additional Years and Months of Service x 2.0125%^{*}). The Average Final Salary will be calculated only on the additional service since the end of DROP participation. **This additional service can in no way be combined with service prior to participation in DROP.** The retirement option will be the same option used in the original retirement allowance.

If the member dies or becomes disabled during the period of additional service, he or she will be considered as having retired on the date of death or commencement of disability. No death before retirement benefits will be made.

****2.875% for a State Policeman***