

Types of Creditable Service

Membership Service

Each Supreme Court Justice, Appellate Court Judge, Circuit Court Judge, and District Court Judge must contribute in equal monthly installments six percent; 8.25 percent effective October 1, 2011; and 8.5 percent effective October 1, 2012, of his or her annual earnable compensation paid from the State Treasurer.

Each Probate Judge must contribute in equal monthly installments six percent; 8.25 percent effective October 1, 2011; and 8.5 percent effective October 1, 2012, of his or her base sum or earnable compensation, whichever is applicable. Probate Judges compensated by fee contribute on a base sum equal to 90 percent of the compensation paid by the state to a Circuit Court Judge. The contributions are credited to the Justice's or Judge's account with the JRF.

Military Service

Any Justice or Judge who enters military service and then returns to service as a Justice or Judge is entitled to credit for that military service, subject to certain conditions. Any Justice or Judge wishing to claim military service should contact the JRF immediately upon his or her release from the military and resumption of active judicial service as a Justice or Judge.

Any Appellate Court Judge who has ten years creditable service under the JRF and active, honorable, full-time military service in the U.S. Armed Forces, exclusive of any summer or weekend service in a reserve or national guard component, may purchase and receive creditable service in the JRF for up to four years of active duty military service, subject to certain conditions. Any Appellate Court Judge wishing to claim military service should contact the JRF. The eligibility to purchase the service expires upon the Judge's retirement.

Transferred Service

Any Justice or Judge who has creditable service with the Teachers' or Employees' Retirement System of Alabama (TRS or ERS) may elect to transfer to the JRF his or her creditable service and accumulated contributions, provided notification of the intent to make such a transfer is made to the Board of Control of the ERS within one year after he or she becomes a member of the JRF. In the event a Justice or Judge elects to make such a transfer, this service will count as judicial service in determining eligibility for benefits but not in calculating retirement benefits. Transferred service will count as ERS or TRS service in calculating retirement benefits. For additional information, refer to the ERS or TRS Transfer Service sections.