



HELPS Retirees Act Premium Deduction Program

Retirement Systems of Alabama
PO Box 302150, Montgomery, Alabama 36130-2150
877.517.0020 • 334.517.7000 • www.rsa-al.gov



Your SSN

Check One: TRS ERS

Please return completed form to above address.

Your Information

To be completed by retiree

Name _____
First Middle/Maiden Last

Mailing Address _____
Street or P.O. Box Apt.# City State ZIP Code

Telephone _____
Cell Phone Home Phone Work Phone

Date of Birth _____ Email Address _____

At time of retirement _____
Age Position Title Employer Name

Insurance Provider

Check One:

- PEEHIP (No further information is necessary)
- SEIB (No further information is necessary)
- Other (Please complete Insurance Provider Information section below)

Insurance Provider Information

Check One:

- I have included a statement or payment coupon indicating amount of monthly premium and address to remit payment.
- I have not included a statement or payment coupon. **I understand my insurance company must complete the remainder of this form.**

Check One: Add deduction Change deduction Stop deduction

Insurance Provider Name _____
Please Print

Payment Mailing Address _____
Street or P.O. Box City State ZIP Code

Member/Policy/Subscriber Number _____ Group Number _____

Billing Contact _____
Name Email Address Telephone

Insurance Type (check one) Medical Vision Dental Long-Term Care

Requested monthly deduction \$ _____

Signature _____ **Date** _____
Insurance Company Representative

Name and Title _____
Please Print

Signature Certification

I certify by signing below that I elect to participate and am eligible to participate in the HELPS Retirees Act Premium Deduction Program.

Federal law determines eligibility for this deduction program. The Retirement Systems of Alabama does not determine eligibility. "Public safety officer" is defined in 26 USC 402 (l) (4) (C). Information about the public safety officer tax exclusion and eligibility to participate is available on the Internal Revenue Service's (IRS) website.

I understand the RSA is not responsible for late fees, lapsed premiums, lapsed insurance policy coverage, overpayments to my insurance provider, an unexpected tax liability, including interests and penalties, or any other issues that may arise between my provider and myself.

I understand that my insurance provider is to promptly return any deductions made on my behalf from retirement benefit payments to which I am not entitled, such as payments made after my death. I further acknowledge that I, my heirs, and/or my estate are responsible for repaying any such deductions that are not returned promptly to the RSA by my insurance provider.

I agree that I will not make any claim against the RSA for my participation in this program.

Sign Here →
Retiree

Signature _____ **Date** _____



PURPOSE

The Pension Protection Act (PPA) of 2006 allows retired or permanently disabled public safety officers (defined below) to elect an amount to be deducted from their RSA benefit payment to pay for health or long-term care insurance premiums in order to reduce their taxable income. The health insurance or long-term care insurance coverage can include the retiree, spouse, and dependents. You may deduct any amount that does not exceed your net monthly retirement benefit. However, the amount that may be excluded from your taxable income on your individual tax return cannot exceed \$3,000 in one year. You can designate more than one eligible insurance company for payment. You may wish to consult with your tax advisor or the IRS to determine your eligibility for this benefit.

DEFINITION OF A PUBLIC SAFETY OFFICER

Under Section 845 (Healthcare Enhancement for Local Public Safety, or HELPS Provision) of the Pension Protection Act, the term "eligible public safety officer" means an individual who, by reason of disability or attainment of normal retirement age, is separated from service as a public safety officer. The PPA uses the definition in Section 1204(8)(A) of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 3796b(9)(A)). That definition includes the following individuals serving a public agency in an official capacity:

- An individual involved in a crime and juvenile delinquency control or reduction, or enforcement of the criminal laws (including juvenile delinquency), including, but not limited to police, corrections, probation, parole, and judicial officers.
- Professional firefighters
- Officially recognized or designated:
 - Public employee members of a rescue squad or ambulance crew
 - Chaplains of fire departments and police departments
- A public safety officer must have separated from service as a public safety officer by reason of disability or attainment of normal retirement age with the employer who maintains the retirement plan from which the benefit payments are made and premium deductions are taken. Eligible members may claim the tax exclusion on their income tax returns.

DEDUCTIONS WILL BE PAID DIRECTLY TO THE INSURER OR FORMER EMPLOYER

The RSA must pay the insurance premium directly to the insurance provider or your former employer in order for you to be eligible to exclude up to \$3,000 in any tax year from your taxable income. The RSA will issue insurance payments once a month on the last business day of each month until notified in writing by the retiree. The changes in the monthly benefit payment will take effect the month after the RSA receives this form.

COMPLETION OF INSURANCE PROVIDER INFORMATION

In this section you designate the entity to receive your insurance premium. To designate this entity, please provide with this form a statement or payment coupon indicating the amount of the monthly premium **OR** provide the information required in this section and have your insurance company representative sign this form. The RSA is not responsible for any lapsed insurance coverage. Therefore, you must make arrangements for premium payments that become due before this change takes effect. If the form is received by the 5th day of the month, then it will be deducted from the retirement check that same month.

WHAT IF THE INSURANCE CARRIER OR PREMIUM AMOUNT CHANGES?

You must complete a new RSA_HELPSPRA form to change the insurance carrier or change the amount being deducted for insurance premiums. You must pay your insurance provider directly for the difference (if any) between the premium due and the amount deducted from your pension. The RSA is not responsible for lapsed insurance coverage or any other coverage or benefit issues that arise because of payment of premiums through this deduction arrangement.

IS THIS DEDUCTION AVAILABLE TO PAYEES OTHER THAN THE RETIREE?

No, this deduction is available only to retired members. No other payee is eligible to make this election.