



PERS Vesting

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Welcome to the Division of Retirement and Benefits presentation on vesting in the Public Employees' Retirement System, commonly referred to as PERS.



Introduction

Understanding the requirements
and benefits of becoming vested

This presentation was designed to help you understand the requirements and the benefits of becoming vested in the Public Employees Retirement System.



Topics of Discussion

- How to become vested
- Benefits while actively working
- Vesting for pension and health benefits when you retire

The topics of discussion will be:

How to become vested

Benefits of being vested while you are actively working

And

Vesting for pension and health benefits when you retire.



How to Become Vested

- 5 years of paid-up PERS service
- Full-time —1 day of service for each calendar day from hire to a break in service
- Part-time — service based on hours worked
(not more credit than full-time for same period)

How to become vested

You must have 5 years of paid up PERS service to become vested.

As a permanent full time employee: you will accrue 1 day of service for each calendar day from your date of hire until a break in service. You will receive credit for weekends and holidays if you are in pay status the day before and the day after the weekend or holiday.

As a permanent part time employee: Your service is credited proportionately based on the number of hours you work. Part time service can not earn more than full time credit.



Please Note

- You will not receive credit for leave without pay (LWOP) for more than 10 days in a calendar year

Please note: leave without pay that exceeds 10 days in a calendar year is not creditable in PERS.



Benefits of Being Vested While Actively Working

- ***Nonoccupational*** death and disability benefits once you are vested and eligible
(Includes health insurance options for member and surviving spouse)
- You may claim qualified service

The benefits of being vested while you are actively working:

If you are vested, you are eligible for non-occupational death and disability benefits. These benefits include health insurance options for members and surviving spouse's.

Being vested also makes you eligible to claim qualified service such as Military or Temporary service that can increase your monthly pension benefit at retirement.



Pension and Health Benefits for the Future

Vesting guarantees pension benefits when eligible to retire:

- For your lifetime
- Can include continuing benefits for your surviving spouse
- Includes retirement health insurance options

Pension and Health Benefits for the Future

Vesting guarantees a pension benefits when you are eligible to retire.

This pension benefit is for your lifetime

The pension can include continuing benefits for your surviving spouse's lifetime in the event of your death.

The pension will include retirement health insurance options for you and all eligible dependents.



Refunding Contributions

- All PERS members can refund contributions when they end employment
- Refunds may mean — no longer vested and no benefits
- Must be re-employed in a PERS or TRS covered position to pay back refunds

Refunding Contributions

All PERS members are eligible to refund member contributions plus any interest earned when they end employment.

If you take a refund, this means that you are no longer vested and therefore not eligible for any benefits.

You must become re-employed in a PERS or TRS covered position to be eligible to pay back refunds plus interest.



To Review

- Vesting — 5 paid-up years of PERS service
- Vesting means pension and health benefits when eligible to retire
- Refunded contributions — service doesn't count towards vesting

To review what has been covered in this presentation:

Vesting is acquired by accruing 5 years of paid up PERS service

Vesting for you means being eligible for lifetime pension and health benefit options when you are eligible to retire.

Refunding of PERS contributions makes the service ineligible to count towards vesting unless the refund plus interest is repaid to PERS.

www.state.ak.us/drb

For more information about PERS vesting, see your *Public Employees' Retirement System Information Handbook* or read the handbook on our web site.



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