

Frequently Asked Questions: Service Retirement

What is the contact information for my retirement system?

- State Employees Retirement System (SERS)- 1-866-280-7377 or www.ohsers.org
- State Teachers Retirement System (STRS)- 1-888-227-7877 or www.strsoh.org

When I am eligible to retire?

State Employee Retirement System (SERS)		State Teachers Retirement System (STRS)	
	Members with at least 25 years of service as of August 1, 2017 (Grandfathered)	Members with less than 25 years of service as of August 1, 2017	Members with Retirement Date Through August 1, 2019 - July 1, 2021
Eligibility Requirements for Unreduced Service Retirement	Age 65 with 5 years; or any age with 30 years	Age 67 with 10 years; or age 57 with 30 years	Eligibility Requirements for Unreduced Benefits Any age and 33 years; or age 65 and 5 years.*
Eligibility Requirements for Early Service Retirement with Reduced Benefits	Age 60 with 5 years; or age 55 with 25 years	Age 62 with 10 years; or age 60 with 25 years	Eligibility Requirements for Actuarially Reduced Benefit Any age and 30 years; or age 55 and 28 years*; or age 60 and 5 years.*

*Must have 5.00 years of qualifying service credit

How do I apply for service retirement?

1. In order to apply for retirement, you must complete and return a Service Retirement Application to your retirement system. This can be done online or a packet can be requested by contacting the retirement system directly.
2. Once all the information has been submitted to the retirement system, and you have received confirmation, you will need to go into *Workday* and elect to retire from the District. Directions notify the District of your retirement are attached.

What should the effective date of my retirement be?

The earliest your effective date of retirement can be is the first day of the month following the latter of:

- Your last day of paid school employment; or
- The date you reach an age and service credit combination (identified above).

It is recommended that you reach out to the retirement system to verify an effective date.

What if I contributed to SERS and STRS?

Service credit will be combined at the time you retire. The benefit is calculated and paid by the system in which the greatest amount of service credit is established.

What happens to my remaining leave balances?

See the appropriate District notice of retirement form for your union or employee group for information. Forms can be found on the *Leaving the District* tab of the Human Resources page on the CMSD website.

How do I estimate my pension amount?

Contact your retirement system at the phone number above, with the following information:

- Projected date of retirement
- Present contract salary (plus any supplemental earnings)
- Assumed last day of work (or last paid day of sick leave)
- Birth date of your beneficiary, or beneficiaries, and each beneficiaries' relationship to you

Does my public employment impact my social security?

Your Social Security benefit may be reduced by either the Government Pension Offset (GPO) or the Windfall Elimination Provision (WEP). These laws do not affect your retirement system pension.

For more detailed information, contact the Social Security Administration (SSA) local office, visit the SSA website at www.ssa.gov, or call SSA at 1-800-772-1213.

For any additional questions or concerns, please contact the appropriate retirement system above or visit the following links for the *2019-2020 Service Retirement Guides*.

STRS <https://www.strsoh.org/pdfs/brochures/15-126.pdf>

SERS <https://www.ohsers.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/04/Service-Retirement-Guide.pdf>

