ERSGA
Employees' Retirement System of Georgia
Serving those who serve Georgia

ERS or TRS Vested Members Election Form

Instructions

Election must be made within 60 days of hire.*

GSEPS members must make election within one week of hire.**

Any vested member (10 or more years of creditable service excluding forfeited leave) of the Employees' Retirement System (ERS) or the Teachers Retirement System (TRS) who becomes an employee in an agency covered by the other System may elect to remain a member of their vested System.

This election must be made in writing to the Boards of Trustees no later than 60 days of first becoming employed in a position covered by the other System. The election is irrevocable.
[O.C.G.A 47-2-181(c)(1-4), O.C.G.A 47-3-81(b)(1- 5)]

Employer Requirements

- Include the ERS or TRS Vested Election Form as part of the Employer new hire packet.
- Only vested ERS and TRS members (at least 10 years of creditable service) are eligible to make the ERS/TRS Vested Membership election. They may only elect continuation of membership in either ERS or TRS.
- Direct the eligible employee to review the ERS-TRS Decision Guide on page 4. The ERS-TRS Decision Guide compares the contributions, calculations and benefits of each retirement plan.
- A new ERS/TRS Vested Membership Election form must be completed each time an eligible employee is hired.
- Contact the respective Retirement System immediately when an employee is enrolled in the incorrect plan. These errors will require reversal of posted contributions.

*Failure to make an election in the vested Retirement System within 60 days of employment will result in a default enrollment to the other Retirement System.

**Enrollment for ERS GSEPS members is time critical. Failure to quickly make an election to continue ERS membership as a GSEPS member will impact the member's earnings and may result in an undesired distribution of 401(k) funds.

ERSGA
Employees' Retirement System of Georgia
Serving those who serve Georgia

Instructions

Section 1: Employee Information, Election, and Signature

1. Review ERS-TRS Decision Guide on page 4.
2. Complete name and SSN
3. Elect to remain in vested retirement system or become a member of new retirement system
4. Sign and date
5. Submit completed form to your HR or Payroll Department

Section 2: Employer Information

1. Ensure all sections of the form are completed
2. Complete employer information in Section 2
3. Return page 3 to ERSGA and TRSGA

Mail, Fax, or scan and email completed form to:

ERSGA
Two Northside 75, Suite 300
Atlanta, GA 30318
Fax: 404.350.6308
Email: ERS.ES@ers.ga.gov

TRSGA
Two Northside 75, Suite 100
Atlanta, GA 30318
Fax: 404.352.4885

ERSGA
Employees' Retirement System of Georgia
Serving those who serve Georgia

G 1 $ E R S

ERS-TRS Vested Membership Election

Section 1: Employee Information and Election

Election must be made within **one week** of hire for GSEPS Members and within 60 days for all others. Submit new ERS/TRS Membership Election form each time you are hired.

Last Name: _____

First Name: _____ MI: _____ SSN: _____

Election

To the Boards of Trustees of ERS and TRS, being vested I elect to:

◯ **Remain a member:** I elect to remain a member of (choose one)

- ◯ Employees' Retirement System of Georgia
- ◯ Teachers Retirement System of Georgia

I understand that by electing to retain my membership in my vested Retirement System, I am forfeiting any rights I could accrue under the other System.

OR

◯ **Become a member:** I elect to become a member of (choose one)

- ◯ Employees' Retirement System of Georgia
- ◯ Teachers Retirement System of Georgia

I understand my decision is final and cannot be changed in the future unless my employer changes.

Employee Signature: _____ Date: _____

Section 2: Employer Information

Employee Date of Employment: _____ Standard Weekly Hours: _____

Employer Name: _____ Employer Code: _____

Phone: _____

Authorizing Signature: _____

Mail, fax, or scan this completed form (signed by both employee and employer) to ERSGA and TRSGA (return information on page 2 of Instructions).

Form must be submitted within 60 days of hire, or within one week of hire for new GSEPS members.

ERSGA
Employees' Retirement System of Georgia
Serving those who serve Georgia

Employees' Retirement System or Teachers Retirement System
Vested Member Decision Guide

As a Vested member of the Employees' Retirement System (ERS), if you accept employment covered by the Teachers Retirement System (TRS), you have the choice of continuing your ERS membership or becoming a TRS member. The election to continue ERS membership must be made in writing within **60 days of hire**.

Please note: Membership in the ERS New Plan is now closed. If you are a New Plan member and decide to transfer your membership to TRS, you waive all rights to future benefits under the New Plan. If you subsequently return to ERS, you will join based on the rules at that time, currently GSEPS.

Plans	ERS (New Plan)	ERS (GSEPS)	TRS
Employee Contribution	1.5%	1.25%	6%
Group Term Life Insurance[1] (not Flex)	Yes	No	No
Formula Salary	Highest 24 Consecutive Months Salary	Highest 24 Consecutive Months Salary	2 Highest Consecutive Years of Membership Service
Benefit Formula	(Years of Service) x (Formula Salary) x 2%	(Years of Service) x (Formula Salary) x 1%	(Years of Service) x (Formula Salary) x 2%
Post-Retirement Benefit Adjustments (COLA)	At the discretion of the Board of Trustees For more information on current and past Post Retirement Benefit Adjustments, see: ers.ga.gov/prba_history	Membership on or after July 1, 2009 are not eligible for COLAs -	Generally 1.5% every Jul 1 and Jan 1. Verify with TRS.
Employer 401(k) Contribution	No	Dollar for dollar up to 5%. At 6 years of service, 0.5% increase each year until year 13, at a max of 9% for members saving at least 5%.	No
Transfer Provisions **Please note:** This is a summary only, and more details wyill be available upon transfer.	Transfer to TRS To receive your full ERS service, you must pay the difference in your ERS contribution amount transferred to TRS and what your contributions would have been under TRS. Otherwise, pro-rata service will be credited.	Transfer to TRS ERS will calculate your Accrued Benefit in GSEPS. Upon transfer to TRS, your GSEPS service will count fully toward benefit eligibility. Your TRS benefit will be based on your TRS service only plus your GSEPS Accrued Benefit.	Transfer to GSEPS TRS will calculate your Accrued Benefit in TRS. Upon transfer to GSEPS, your TRS service will count fully toward benefit eligibility. Your GSEPS benefit will be based on your GSEPS service only plus your TRS Accrued Benefit.

[1]Active New Plan members, and terminated New Plan members with at least 18 years of service, are covered by Group Term Life Insurance (GTLI). Members eligible for GTLI immediately prior to retirement will continue GTLI coverage after retirement with no further premiums. If you transfer your service to TRS, GTLI coverage will stop and you will not be covered by GTLI at retirement.