

Table 3.13
STATE LEGISLATIVE RETIREMENT BENEFITS
(As of March 24, 1999)

State or other jurisdiction	Participation	Requirements for regular retirement	Contribution rate	Monthly benefit estimates			Benefit formula	Same as state employee
				4 yrs.	12 yrs.	20 yrs.		
Alaska	Optional	Age 60	Employee 6.75%; employer 14.92%	Not yet vested	\$500	\$900	2% (first 10 yrs.); 2.25% (second 10 yrs.); or 2.5% (third 10 yrs.) x monthly salary avg. over highest consecutive yrs. x yrs. of service	Yes
Arizona	Optional	Age 65, 5+ yrs. service; age 62, 10+ yrs. service; age 60, 25+ yrs. service	7%	\$333.33	\$1,000	\$1,667	4%/yr. of credited service x 3 yr. avg; maximum 80% of member's avg. yearly salary	No
Arkansas	Optional	Age 65, 10 yrs. service; age 55, 12 yrs. service; or 30 yrs. service	Non-contributory	Not eligible	\$420(a)	\$700(b)	\$35/mo. x yrs. service (c)	No
California	N.A.							
Colorado	Mandatory	Age 60, 5 yrs. service	8% of gross salary	Not yet vested	\$350	\$729	2.5% x HAS x creditable service through 20 yrs. plus 1.5% x HAS for 21 through 40 yrs. Maximum benefit = 80% of employees HAS (e)	No
Connecticut	Mandatory	Age 55 with 10 yrs. service	Members prior to 7/1/97-0 after 1/1/97 -2%	Not yet vested	\$276	\$460	(.0133 x avg. annual salary) + (.005 x avg. annual salary in excess of breakpoint [specified dollar amount for each yr.]) x yrs. credited service	Yes
Delaware	Mandatory	Age 62, 5 yrs. service	3% of total monthly compensation in excess of \$500	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	Years of service x highest rate of payment being paid to any retired member of the General Assembly	No
Florida	Optional	Age 62, 30 yrs. service; or vested with 8 yrs. and age 62	23.27%	(e)	(e)	(e)	Yrs. creditable service x percent value x average final compensation = annual option 1 benefit	No
Georgia	Optional	Age 60, 8 yrs. service	Employee pays 4% + \$7; employer 5% + \$7	0	\$336 (f)	\$336 (f)	\$28 x yrs. service x yrs. of service = monthly benefit; employee is penalized 5% for each yr. below age 62	No
Hawaii	Optional	55 yrs. if less than 10 yrs. of service	7.80%	0	Varies	Varies	3.5 x years of service as legislator x highest average salary plus annuity based on contributions as an elected official	No
Idaho	Mandatory	5 yrs. service minimum; age 65 unreduced; age 55 reduced	6.97%	\$77	\$236	\$383	Avg. monthly salary for highest 42 consecutive months x .01917 x months of service divided by 12	Yes
Illinois	Optional	Age 55, 8 yrs. service; age 62, 4 yrs. service	8.5% for retirement; 2% for survivors; 1% for automatic increases for 11.5% total	12% of final salary	45% of final salary	85% of final salary	3% of each of 1st 4 yrs.; 3.5% for each of next 2 yrs.; 4% for each of next 2 yrs.; 4.5% for each of the next 4 yrs.; 5% for each yr. above 12	No
Indiana	Mandatory	None	Employee 5% of taxable income; employer 20%	Varies	Varies	Varies	Years of service x 1.1% x highest one-year salary	No

See footnotes at end of table.

STATE LEGISLATIVE RETIREMENT BENEFITS — Continued

State or other jurisdiction	Participation	Requirements for regular retirement	Contribution rate	Monthly benefit estimates			Benefit formula	Same as state employee
				4 yrs.	12 yrs.	20 yrs.		
Iowa	Optional	Age 55; 4 yrs. service	3.7%	\$140	\$337.50	\$700	60% x avg of highest 3 yrs. x yrs. of service divided by 30 (maximum no. of yrs.)	Yes
Kansas	Optional	Age 65, age 62; 10 yrs. of service or age plus yrs. of service equals 85 pts.	4%	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	3 highest yrs. x 1.75% x yrs. service divided by 12	No
Kentucky	Mandatory	N.A.	\$114.58/month	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	Yes
Louisiana	N.A.							
Maine	Mandatory (g)	Age 60 (if 10 yrs of service on 7/1/93) and age 62 (if less than 10 yrs of service on 7/1/93)	Employee 7.65%; legislative retirement system 14.08% ME State Retirement system 22.03%	Varies	Varies	Varies	1/50 average final compensation x number of years of creditable service	No
Maryland	Optional	Age 60, with 8 yrs; Age 50, 8+ yrs creditable services (early reduced retirement)	5% of annual salary	0	\$891	\$1,485	3% of legislative salary for each yr of creditable service up to a max of 22 yrs. 3 months	No
Massachusetts	Mandatory	Age 65, 32 yrs. Service	Depending on yr. entered 5%, 7% or 9%	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	Yes (j)
Michigan	Optional	Age 55 with 5 yrs. or age plus service equals 70	7%-13%	Varies	Varies	Varies	Depends on when service started	No
Minnesota	Mandatory	Age 62 (reduced amount available at age 60), 6 yrs. service	9%	0	\$759	\$1,645	2.5% x 5 yr. avg. salary/yr. service, except yrs. served before 1979 earn 5% up to 8 yrs.	No
Mississippi	Mandatory	55 yrs. or 25 yrs. of service	Regular: 7.25% Legislator: 9.75%; State: supplemental 3%/6.33%	Varies	Varies	Varies	N.A.	Yes
Missouri	Mandatory	Age 55, & 3 full biennial assemblies	Non-contributory (i)	\$300	\$900	\$1,500	\$150/mo. per biennial assembly served plus average monthly compensation	No
Montana	Optional	Age 60, 5 yrs. service; age 65 regardless of yrs of service; or 30 yrs of service regardless of age	6.8%	\$87	\$263	\$439	1/56 x yrs. service x final avg. salary	Yes
Nevada	Mandatory	10 yrs. service	15% of session salary	0	\$300	\$500	Minimum service = 10 years; number of years x \$24 = monthly allowance	No
New Jersey	Mandatory	Age 60, 8 yrs. service; age 55 (early retirement with 25 yrs.)	5%/yr.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	Effective 1/74 all legislators received 3% per yr pension allowance; before 1974, members received 1/60th	No

See footnotes at end of table.

STATE LEGISLATIVE RETIREMENT BENEFITS — Continued

State or other jurisdiction	Participation	Requirements for regular retirement	Contribution rate	Monthly benefit estimates			Benefit formula	Same as state employee
				4 yrs.	12 yrs.	20 yrs.		
New Mexico	Optional	Age 65, 5+ yrs.; 64, 8+ yrs., 63, 11+ yrs., 60, 12+ yrs. or any age with 14+ yrs. of credited service	\$100 per year	\$83.33	\$250	\$416.66	\$250 x yrs. of service (after 1959)	No
New York	Mandatory	Depends on tier set by date Minimum 10 yrs. service	Varies (0-3%);	0	Varies	Varies	Depends on tier set by date of initial membership	Yes
North Carolina	Mandatory	Age 65, 5 yrs. service	24.58%	0	48.2% of annual compensation	75% of annual compensation	Final compensation x 4.02% x yrs. service	No
Ohio	Optional	Age 60, 5 yrs. service; age 55, 25 yrs. service; any age, 30 yrs. service	Legislator 8.5%; state 13.31%	No benefits	Varies	Varies	2.1% of final avg. salary x years of service	Yes
Oklahoma	Optional	Age 60, 6 yrs. service	4.5%-10%	\$426.68 at 10%	\$1,280.04 at 10%	\$2,133.40 at 10%	Avg. participating salary x yrs. service x computation factor depending on optional contributions ranging from .019 x .040	No
Oregon	Optional	Age 55, 30 yrs. service	14.97% of subject wages	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	1.67% x yrs. service and final avg. monthly salary	Yes
Pennsylvania	Optional	Age 50, 3 yrs. service 8 continuous years as a member of the senate	5% of gross salary	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	2% x final avg. salary x credited yrs. service x withdrawal factor if under regular retirement age (50 for legislators)	Yes
Rhode Island (j)	No							No
South Carolina	Mandatory	Age 60, 8 yrs. service; 30 yrs of service regardless of age	10%	0	\$1,079	\$1,800	4.82% of annual compensation x yrs. Service	
Tennessee	Optional	Age 55, 4 yrs. service	5.43%	\$280	\$840	\$1,375	\$70 x yrs. service with a \$1,375 monthly	No
Texas	Optional	Age 60, 8 yrs. service; age 50, 12 yrs. service	8%	Not eligible	\$2,288.25	\$3,813.75	2.25% x district judges salary x length of service	No
Utah	Mandatory	Age 65, 4 yrs. service	Non-contributory	Varies	Varies	Varies	\$10/mo. x yrs. service; adjusted semi annually according to consumer price index, ltd. to max of 4%	No
Virginia	Mandatory	Age 50 with 30 yrs. of service	10.78% of monthly salary	Varies	Varies	Varies	1.7% of average final compensation x yrs. of service	Yes
Washington	Optional	Several plans are offered; requirements vary depend- ing on plan chosen	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	No
West Virginia	Optional	Age 60, with 5 plus yrs. service.	4.5%	Not eligible	\$300	\$500	2% of final avg. salary x yrs. service	Yes
Wisconsin	Mandatory	Age 55, 5 yrs. service	0.463%	\$3,200	\$12,800	\$16,400	2% for each yr. of service x last salary	Yes

See footnotes at end of table.

STATE LEGISLATIVE RETIREMENT BENEFITS — Continued

State or other jurisdiction	Participation	Requirements for regular retirement	Contribution rate	Monthly benefit estimates			Benefit formula	Same as state employee
				4 yrs.	12 yrs.	20 yrs.		
Dist. of Columbia	Mandatory	Age 62, 5 yrs. service; age 55, 30 yrs service; age 60, 20 yrs service	Before 10/1/87, 7%; after 10/1/87, 5%	0	Varies	Varies	Multiply high 3 yrs. average pay by indicator under applicable yrs. and mon months of service.	Yes
Puerto Rico	Optional	Age 55 with 30 yrs. service	Approxiamately 9%	0	18% of average 3 salaries	30% of average 3 salaries	Less than 10 yrs. 0%; 1.5% per yr.	Yes
Guam	Optional	Age 60 with 30 yrs.; age 55 with 15 yrs. service	5% or 8.5%	Varies	Varies	Varies	An amount equal to 2% of avg. annual salary for each of first 10 yrs. of service and 2.5% of avg. annual salary for each yr. of service over 10 yrs.	Yes
U.S. Virgin Islands	Optional	Age 60 with 10 yrs. Service	8%	N.A.	Varies	Varies	At age 60 with at least 10 yrs. of service, at 2.5% for each year of service or at any time with at least 30 yrs. service	Yes

Source: National Conference of State Legislatures.

Note: The following states do not have legislative retirement benefits: Alabama, Nebraska, New Hampshire, North Dakota, South Dakota, Vermont and Wyoming.

Key:

N.A. — Not available

(a) \$480 for leadership.

(b) \$800 for leadership.

(c) House Speaker or Senate President Pro Tem is \$40/mo. x yrs. service.

(d) HAS = $1/12 \times \text{avg. 3 highest annual salaries earned during calendar yr. periods on which PERA contributions were paid}$; 15% limit applies to annual salary increases during 3 yrs. prior to retirement. Partial yr. salaries can be combined.

(e) Based on highest 5 yrs of salary.

(f) Member is 62 with maximum benefit option.

(g) Members may request a waiver if they can document that participation would increase their total tax liability

(h) Employee vested after 10 yrs.

(i) If evaluated separately from general employee plan, contribution rate is 27.94%. The current contribution rate, which includes employees is 10.3%.

(j) Constitution has been amended effective 1/95. Any legislator elected after this date is not eligible to join the State Retirement System, but will be compensated for \$10,000/yr. with cost of living increases to be adjusted annually.