

READY. SET. RETIRE.

GROUP 1

Employees hired before September 1, 2009

Ready, Set, Retire!

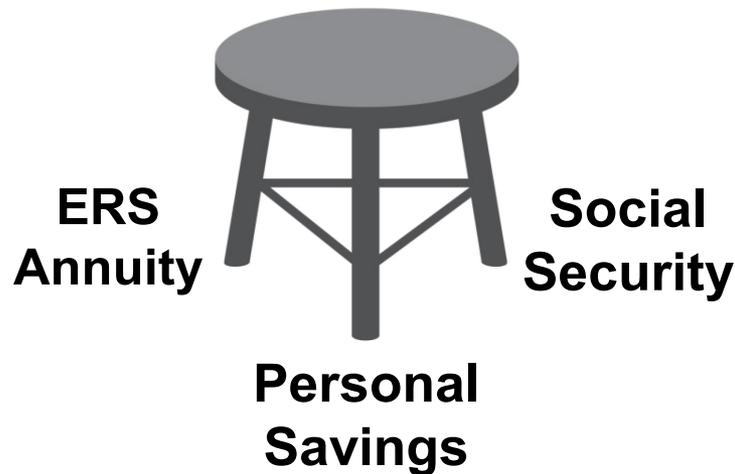
- Your Income at Retirement
- Eligibility
- Service Credit
- ERS Annuity
- Payment Options
- Three Steps to Retirement
- Benefits at Retirement
- Return-to-work Retirees
- Resources

YOUR INCOME AT RETIREMENT



Three-legged Stool

To ensure a financially secure retirement, you're likely to need income from at least three sources.



Can I afford to retire?

ERS Annuity



Lifetime
payment



Current average
monthly annuity
\$1,800



No regular cost-
of-living
adjustments
(COLAs)

Social Security Benefit

- Doesn't reduce your ERS annuity
- Draw SSA benefit early (reduced amount), or wait to draw maximum SSA payment
- Eligibility based on the year you were born

For more info, call the Social Security Administration (800) 772-1213.

Personal Savings

- Texa\$aver 401(k) or 457
- Individual retirement account (IRA)
- Retirement accounts from previous employers
- Personal savings account

TEXA\$AVERSM
401(k) / 457 Program



ERS RETIREMENT GROUPS



Retirement Groups



GROUP 1

Hired before September 1, 2009

GROUP 2

Hired September 1, 2009 through
August 31, 2013

GROUP 3

Hired September 1, 2013 through
August 31, 2022

GROUP 4

Hired September 1, 2022 or after

GROUP 1
ELIGIBILITY



Rule of 80 – **GROUP 1**

- Your age + your service credit = 80
- Minimum 10 years of service for GBP coverage at retirement

Age:	59 years and 9 months
+ Service:	20 years and 3 months
<hr/>	
Total:	79 years + 12 months = 80

Rule of 80 – **GROUP 1**

Employees hired before September 1, 2009

- Elva meets the Rule of 80 with no reduction to her annuity
- She is eligible for retiree insurance.



Elva is 58 years old and has 22 years of service.

Minimum 5 Years of Service

GROUP 1

**Age 60 or older but
not eligible for insurance**



See page 5 of the *Planning Your Retirement (PYR)* booklet for more information.

Minimum 10 Years of Service

GROUP 1

If you do not meet the Rule of 80, but have at least 10 years of service you can retire:

- at age 60 with optional benefits
- with health insurance at age 65



See page 5 of the *Planning Your Retirement (PYR)* booklet for more information.

SERVICE CREDIT



Earned Service Credit

- Monthly service credit
- Teacher Retirement System (TRS)
- Proportionate Retirement Program (PRP)
- Optional Retirement Program (ORP)
- Unused sick and annual leave

See page 7-10 of the *Planning Your Retirement (PYR)* booklet for more information.

Unused Sick and Annual Leave

GROUP 1

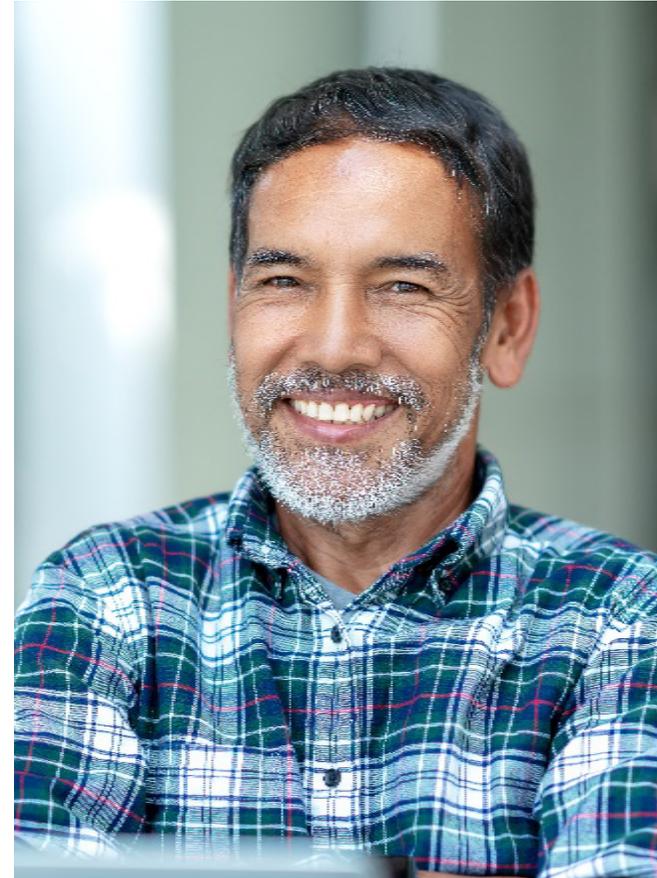
If you retire directly from state service:

- Unused sick leave and annual leave can be used as service credit to help you meet the Rule of 80 sooner and increase your annuity.

Unused sick and annual leave

Seth has **225 hours** of unused sick leave and **75 hours** of unused annual leave

- 225 divided by 160 = 1.406; rounds to 2 months
- 75 hours is not enough for 1 month of service credits



Seth will get 2 months of service credit.

Purchased Service Credit

- Refunded ERS service
- Military service
- Waiting period
- Additional Service Credit

Pay with a check or roll over funds from an eligible pre-tax account.



See details on page 9 – 10 of the PYR booklet.

ERS ANNUITY



Calculating Your Annuity

Your highest average salary is the average of the highest **36 months** of salaries you have on file.

Highest average salary

X

Service percentage

(years and months of service x 2.3%)

=

Gross standard annuity

Highest salaries include: base pay, longevity pay, hazardous duty pay and Benefit Replacement Pay.

Calculating Your Annuity

$$\begin{array}{r} \$3,000 \\ \times \quad .575 \\ \hline \$1,725 \end{array}$$

*Final average salary
(average of highest 36 months)*

*Percentage value of service credit
(25 years x 2.3%)*

Gross standard annuity



Deductions

- Federal income tax
- Health insurance premiums, including Tobacco-user Premium if applicable
- Optional coverage premiums
- No Social Security (FICA) or Medicare taxes deducted

PAYMENT OPTIONS



Standard Annuity Option

- Highest monthly lifetime payment
- No monthly survivor payment
- Any remaining balance is paid to your beneficiary
- One or more beneficiaries



Survivor Options 1, 2 and 5

- Reduced annuity
- Choose one beneficiary
- Option 1 and 5 — possible reduction for non-spouse
- Your payment changes to standard annuity if your beneficiary dies before you

Beneficiary receives:

Option 1
100%

Option 2
50%

Option 5
75%

Survivor Options 3 and 4

- Reduced annuity
- Pays beneficiary only if you die in the first five or 10 years
- You can designate multiple beneficiaries

Beneficiary receives:

Option 3

remainder of
60 monthly payments

Option 4

remainder of
120 monthly payments

Partial Lump-Sum Option (PLSO)

- One to 36 months of your standard annuity payment
- A one-time lump-sum payment
- Annuity permanently reduced
- 20% tax and possible 10% penalty
- Roll over to Texa\$aver or other pre-tax retirement account



STEPS TO RETIREMENT



Three Steps to Retirement



1. Create a retirement estimate.

2. Call ERS to request your retirement.

3. Return your retirement documents on time.

Tell your agency you're retiring. ERS doesn't disclose this information.

BENEFITS AT RETIREMENT



Note: Health and other insurance benefits for employees and retirees are subject to change based on available state funding. The Texas Legislature sets the level of funding for such benefits and has no continuing obligation to provide those benefits beyond each fiscal year.

Retiree Insurance Premiums



Currently, if you're eligible for retiree health insurance, the state pays at least part of your premium. How much the state pays depends on:

- When you started working
- How long you worked
- If you retired from full- or part-time employment

State Premium Contributions for Retirees from Full-time Employment

100% 5 or more years of GBP participation on Sept. 1, 2014
or
20 years of eligible service credit

75% 15 years to 19 years 11 months of eligible service credit

50% 10 years to 14 years 11 months of eligible service credit

Coverage Options



Active Benefits	Retiree benefits
Health + \$5,000 basic term life + prescription benefits	Health + \$2,500 basic term life + prescription benefits
Dental	
Vision	
Optional Term Life: Elections 1 – 4	Optional Term Life: Elections 1-2; \$10,000 Fixed Optional Life
Dependent Term Life - \$5,000	Dependent Term Life - \$2,500
TexFlex – HCRA, DCRA, LFSA	TexFlex - COBRA
Disability benefits (short-term and long-term)	N/A
Accidental Death and Dismemberment (AD&D)	

30-day window to elect or make changes to any benefit that you cannot take into retirement.

Medicare and Your State Health Insurance



- Sign up for Medicare Part A and Part B when you're retired and first eligible.
- Delay enrollment in Part B if you are working past age 65.
- Provide ERS with your Medicare info to enroll in HealthSelect Medicare Advantage and HealthSelect Medicare Rx.



Register for a Medicare Preparation webinar to learn more!
ers.texas.gov/event-calendars

Return-to-work Retirees

- 90-day waiting period to return to state employment, and no prior agreement to return
- Option to elect active employee benefits
- You can't enroll in a Medicare Advantage plan
- Your annuity benefit does not change

Discount Purchase Program

Treat
Yourself
to Cool
Deals



DISCOUNT
Purchase Program
administered by BENEPLACE

Ready to Save?

- Shop online for discounted prices.
- No membership fee.
- Just shop and save!

<https://ers.savings.beneplace.com/>

YOUR
RESOURCES



Resources

Visit **www.ers.texas.gov** to access:
your account | retirement information

or

Call (877) 275-4377

Monday – Friday | 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. CT





THANK YOU!