



LOUISIANA SCHOOL EMPLOYEES'
RETIREMENT SYSTEM

Membership

Membership in the Louisiana School Employees' Retirement System (LSERS) is comprised of employees of parish or city school boards within the state of Louisiana who are in the following positions: school bus operator, school janitor, school custodian, school maintenance employee, and other regular school employees who are bus aides, monitors, or assistants.

Benefit structures, [contribution rates](#), and retirement eligibility requirements may differ and are determined by the first employment making public employees eligible for membership in LSERS.

Eligibility

If you are qualified to be a member of LSERS, you must join. However, not everyone qualifies to be a member.

- If you are a full-time employee or work more than 20 hours per week in one of the above listed positions, membership is mandatory in LSERS.
- If you are a part-time employee (work 20 hours or less per week) in one of the above listed positions, and have at least 10 years of creditable service, membership is mandatory in LSERS.
- If you are a part-time employee (work 20 hours or less per week) in one of the above listed positions, and have less than 10 years of service, you are not eligible to join or remain in LSERS.

If you are a member of LSERS and due to a change in employment become eligible for either Teachers' Retirement System of Louisiana (TRSL) or Louisiana State Employees' Retirement System (LASERS):

- If you have less than five years of creditable service with LSERS, you are required to join the other retirement system.
- If you have at least five years of service with LSERS, you may choose to remain a member of LSERS. You must notify LSERS, in writing, within thirty days, and your decision is irrevocable.

Dual Employment

You must be a member of each retirement system for which you are eligible if you are employed by the school board and another public agency. Effective July 1, 1992, this law also applies if the member was employed in two or more jobs with the school board. For example, if you are employed as a bus operator and a secretary, and if otherwise eligible, then you must be a member of LSERS and also a member of TRSL.

Member Contributions

Employers withhold retirement contributions from members' salaries and remit the contributions to LSERS, and in return the members receive credit towards future retirement benefits.

- If you joined LSERS, LASERS, TRSL, or LSPRS (La. State Police Retirement System) prior to July 1, 2010 AND have not retired or refunded from the other system, your contribution rate is 7.50% of your gross earnings.
- If you joined LSERS, LASERS, TRSL, or LSPRS on or after July 1, 2010, your contribution rate is 8.00% of your gross earnings.