

Total contributions and service credits among state retirement systems; total retirement allowance.

Sec. 145.37 (486-63a). For the purpose of further co-ordinating and integrating membership in the teachers retirement system and the school employees retirement system with membership in the public employees retirement system for the purposes of retirement, the following provisions shall apply:

State retirement systems are the public employees retirement system, state teachers retirement system, and the school employees retirement system, all of which are established under the laws of the state.

At the option of a member or of a beneficiary as provided in sections 145.43 and 145.45 of the Revised Code, total contributions and service credit in all state retirement systems shall be used in determining the eligibility and total retirement allowance for the purpose of superannuation, commuted superannuation, disability retirement, and other benefits. Where total contributions and service credit are so combined, the following provisions apply:

(A) Superannuation and commuted superannuation retirement shall be effective at the end of the quarter of the calendar year then current.

(B) "Total service credit" includes the total credit in all state retirement systems. Such credit shall not exceed one year for any period of twelve months.

(C) The cost of the "basic annual pension" and the minimum allowance shall be shared by each of the systems involved but such basic annual

pension shall not exceed one hundred eighty dollars. The portion payable by the public employees retirement system shall be equal to the ratio that total service credit in such system bears to the total service credit in all the state retirement systems.

(D) The member's accumulated contributions in all state retirement systems, based upon total salaries received from employment covered by all such systems, shall not exceed an amount which would have accumulated had contributions been made to one system. The accumulated contributions in each system for each year shall be in the ratio that the service credit bears to the total service credit in all systems for such year and any excess contributions shall be refunded to the member.

(E) For the purpose of this section only, "final average salary" means the average annual compensation or earnings of a member, not exceeding two thousand dollars, during the last ten fiscal years or fractions thereof as a member, prior to date of retirement. The annual compensation or earnings is the total compensation or earnings on which contributions were made in all systems for the fiscal year.

(F) In determining eligibility for disability retirement, the medical examiner's report to the retirement board of any state retirement system, showing that the member's disability incapacitates him for the performance of duty and that he ought to be retired, may be accepted as sufficient for granting disability retirement.

(G) The portion of the total allowance payable by the public employees retirement system, and that portion only, shall be paid directly by such system to the annuitant.

When a member or beneficiary elects to combine total contributions and service credit in all state retirement systems, the public employees retirement board, together with the other retirement boards, shall decide all problems arising in connection therewith and their decisions are final.

Effective October 26, 1953