

Retirement System—Questions and Answers

1. Q. Who of the State employees will become members of the Retirement System?
 - A. Membership is compulsory for any employee in the State service on July 1, 1946 or who enters the State service thereafter except the following who are excluded:
 - (a) An employee whose position normally requires less than 600 hours of service per year;
 - (b) An employee enrolled as full time student; also inmates of state institutions;
 - (c) An employee who is an independent contractor;
 - (d) An employee holding an elective office or an appointive office with a fixed term. (Such an employee may become a member by giving the Retirement Board written notice of his desire to become a member.)

Membership is *not* compulsory for the following:

An employee who has already commenced to purchase a retirement annuity and its adequacy and acceptability are determined by the employer and the Retirement Board. Agreements for employer contributions may be made.
 - 1.A. Q. It seems to me as unfair to be compelled to contribute to the Retirement Fund?
 - A. Yes, that is one way to look at it. However, if a bank or other savings institution promised to match every dollar you deposited with them would you refuse such an offer?
 2. Q. Are temporary employees eligible for membership?
 - A. Yes, if their position normally requires over 600 hours of service per year.
 3. Q. Is a person who receives a pension from another governmental agency for service previously rendered, but who is now employed by the State, eligible for membership?
 - A. Yes, the pension he receives from another governmental agency is for service before becoming a State employee. Any retirement allowance he may receive from the State will be for service rendered to the State.
 4. Q. When do the present State employees become members?
 - A. July 1, 1946.
 5. Q. Are persons who will not hold civil service status eligible for membership?
 - A. Yes, the retirement law does not differentiate between the classified or unclassified service, regular or conditional employees, or any other civil service or non-civil service status.
 6. Q. From what source will the Retirement System receive its income?
 - A. The income is made up of contributions from members of the System, from the employers, and from revenue from invested funds.
 7. Q. What contributions will be made by the members and how are they made?
 - A. The members will contribute on the rates recently published and adopted by the Retirement Board. Employees rates contain no loading for disability benefits, as this cost is provided in employers rate. Rates are designed to provide the disability retirement allowance or a total service retirement allowance as provided in the law. The contributions will be deducted on Departmental payrolls and sent by Departmental Accounting officers to the Retirement Board together with the amount of each employee's contribution and the employer's contribution.
 8. Q. Why are the rates higher for women than for men at the same age?
 - A. Life insurance statistics gathered over more than 100 years prove that