



**Original
IMRF
Elected
County Official
Plan**

Under Public Act 90-0032

Member and Employer information

Eligibility, costs, and benefits

*under the **original** IMRF Elected County Official plan*

Inside front cover

IMRF Original Elected County Official Plan

Public Act 90-0032 was signed into law on June 27, 1997. This legislation provided for an alternative benefit plan for Elected County Officials (ECO).

On January 26, 2000, Public Act 91-0685 revised the original ECO program.

This publication explains participation requirements, costs, and benefits under the original ECO plan.

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What is “Original ECO?”

On June 27, 1997, Public Act 90-0032 created an alternative plan for elected county officials. That plan is referred to as the Original Elected County Official plan.

Members who joined ECO from June 27, 1997 until January 25, 2000, participate in the Original ECO plan.

What is “Revised ECO?”

On January 26, 2000, P.A. 91-0685 revised the ECO plan. That plan is referred to as the Revised Elected County Official plan.

Members who joined ECO on or after January 26, 2000, participate in Revised ECO, regardless of when their county adopted the ECO program (see the IMRF publication “*Revised Elected County Official Plan Under Public Act 91-0685*”).

Who is this booklet for?

This booklet explains the costs and benefits under the original ECO plan, and is for:

- All IMRF members who were already participating in the original ECO plan at the time Public Act 91-0685 was passed (January 26, 2000),
and
- All IMRF employers who adopted the ECO plan prior to January 26, 2000,
and
- All IMRF employers who have any members who came to their employment with original ECO service earned with another employer.

Who is this booklet NOT for?

If you are an Elected County Official and:

- Currently do not participate in the ECO plan but wish to do so,
or
- Joined the ECO plan on or after January 26, 2000,

please see the IMRF publication “*Revised Elected County Official Plan Under Public Act 91-0685.*”

If you are an Employer and:

- Adopted the ECO plan on or after January 26, 2000,
or
- Currently have not adopted the ECO plan but are considering doing so,
or
- Do not have any members who came to your employment with original ECO service earned from a previous employer, but do have employees who participate in the revised ECO plan,

please see the IMRF publication “*Revised Elected County Official Plan Under Public Act 91-0685.*”

What is the IMRF Elected County Official Plan?

- The IMRF Elected County Official plan (ECO) is an alternative benefit plan for elected county officials providing enhanced disability, retirement, and death benefits.
- The ECO plan is an employer option; the county must first adopt the plan in order for the elected county official to participate in it.
- If an elected county official participates in the Original ECO plan, the official remains in the ECO plan as long as he or she works in any position qualifying for IMRF participation.
(See page 4.)
- ECO plan members contribute 7.50% of earnings toward an enhanced pension formula.
(See page 6.)
- A member's Final Rate of Earnings (FRE) under the Original ECO plan is the annual salary payable on the last day of participation as a member of the ECO plan divided by 12. (See page 9.)
- ECO service credit is earned on the same basis and under the same conditions as service credit under the Regular and SLEP plans.
- Eligibility for disability benefits under the ECO plan differs from eligibility for disability benefits under the Regular or SLEP plans. (See page 11.)
- Upon the death of an ECO member, survivor benefits may be payable to the spouse and/or to minor children. (See page 18.)

Elected officials participation in IMRF

- Elected officials have the option to participate in the Regular plan if the position held qualifies for IMRF coverage (the position held requires the elected official to work a number of hours per year that meets or exceeds the IMRF hourly standard, which is either 600 or 1000 hours as chosen by the governing body). If an elected official wishes to participate in IMRF, he or she completes Form 6.21, “Election to Participate for Qualifying Position.” The election to participate is irrevocable for that office.
- Elected county officials have the option to participate in the IMRF Elected County Official (ECO) plan.
- If an elected county official participates in the Original ECO plan, but then leaves office (e.g., completes the term of office and is not reelected), he or she may remain in the Original ECO plan* (continue to make ECO member contributions and earn ECO service credit) if
 - He or she continues working in any other position qualifying for IMRF participation, or
 - At a later date he or she is again enrolled in IMRF in a position qualifying for IMRF participation
- An ECO member may stop participating in the ECO plan at any time and return to Regular IMRF (or SLEP) coverage by completing IMRF Form 6.28, “Revocation of Election to Participate in Elected County Official Plan”. However, if the ECO plan member chooses to stop participating in the ECO plan, the decision is irrevocable. The elected county official may not re-enroll in the plan at a later date.

Trap for the unwary

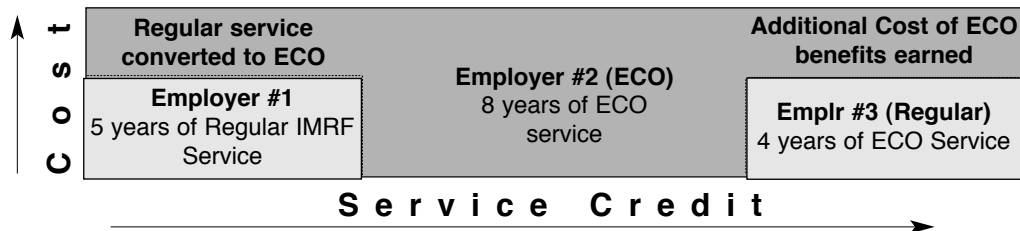
If a member chooses to stop participating in the ECO plan, his/her ECO final rate of earnings will be “frozen.” Even if he/she continues to participate in the Regular plan or in SLEP, any ECO benefit will be calculated using the “frozen” earnings.



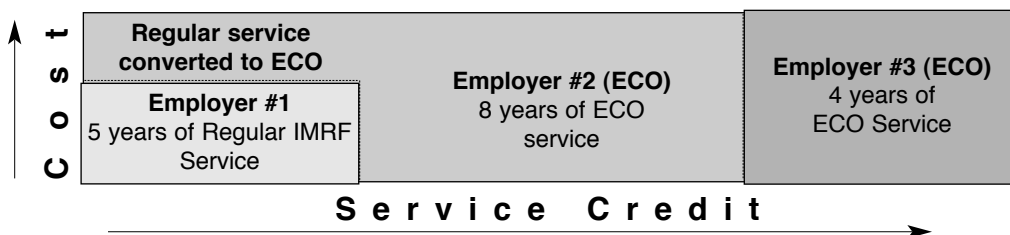
**For more information on members who continue in ECO under a different employer, see next page.*

ECO employer rates

- A separate employer rate is established for the ECO plan.
- If an ECO Plan member converts existing Regular or SLEP service to ECO service, the member's ECO employer will be charged for the additional benefit costs, even if the service was earned with a previous employer.
- If an Original ECO plan member stops working for the county but continues to participate in ECO through another employer, the member's original ECO employer will continue to be responsible for increased costs for benefits payable to the member under the ECO plan. The cost is illustrated as follows:
 - Employer #1 (Regular plan employer) is responsible for costs of Regular plan benefits
 - Employer #2 (ECO employer) is responsible for
 - cost of additional benefits earned from the conversion of regular service to ECO service
 - cost of benefits earned while member worked for ECO employer
 - cost of additional benefits earned while member participated in ECO under a Regular IMRF employer
 - Employer #3 (Regular plan employer) is responsible for cost of Regular plan benefits



- If the ECO plan member stops working for the county but continues to participate in ECO through another ECO employer, the second ECO employer would be responsible for costs of additional ECO benefits earned. The cost is illustrated as follows:



Member contribution rate

- Employers withhold ECO member contributions as follows:
 - 7.50% of earnings for ECO members (includes SLEP members in the ECO plan)
 - 6.75% for the member’s ECO pension
 - 0.75% for a survivor’s pension

Note: The member contribution rate for the Regular Plan is 4.5%; SLEP plan 7.5% (6.5% before June 1, 2006).

- If an employer does not adopt the ECO plan but has a member who participates in it (e.g., an Original ECO plan member subsequently working for a Regular plan employer), the appropriate ECO member contributions would be withheld and the member would earn ECO service. However, the original ECO employer would be charged for the cost of the additional ECO benefits earned. (See page 5.)

In other words, even if the employer has not adopted ECO, they may hire an ECO member from a county which has ECO, in which case they would still be required to withhold 7.50% of the member’s earnings. They would not be responsible for the additional ECO employer costs, just the Regular or SLEP costs.

Rescinding the Elected County Official Plan

- An employer may rescind the resolution to participate in the ECO plan at any time; however, the county’s current ECO members would remain “grandfathered” in the ECO program.

ECO service credit

ECO service credit is earned on the same basis and under the same conditions as service credit under the Regular and SLEP plans:

- A member receives one month of service credit for each month he or she works in a position qualified for IMRF participation and makes an IMRF member contribution. However, elected officials are often paid irregularly (i.e., quarterly or semi-annually). Elected officials receive service credit for the unpaid months (months in which they do not receive earnings) if they are paid at least once a year, the irregular pay is a condition of the position, and the county has notified IMRF of the unpaid months.
- After an elected official begins participation in IMRF (in either the Regular, SLEP, or ECO plan), he or she may be eligible to apply for a maximum of 50 months of retroactive service credit. To apply for the retroactive credit, he or she would complete IMRF Form 6.04, "Application for Retroactive Service Credit." (Note: If the county board adopted the appropriate resolution before January 1, 2002, more than 50 months of retroactive service credit may be purchased.)
- If an ECO plan member becomes disabled and receives ECO disability benefits, the member will be credited with one month of ECO service credit for each monthly disability benefit he or she receives. (See page 11 for more information about ECO disability benefits.)
- ECO service credit is treated the same as Regular or SLEP service credit under the Reciprocal Act.
- An ECO member is eligible for up to five years' Early Retirement Incentive (ERI) service credit if he or she meets the ERI eligibility requirements and if the employer has passed the ERI resolution.

Conversion of existing service credit

An Original ECO plan member may convert any IMRF service credit to ECO service credit. The cost to convert existing service is as follows:

- 3% of earnings plus interest for each month of Regular service credit converted
- 1% to 3% (depending on the original contribution) of earnings plus interest for each month of SLEP service credit converted

The interest rate used is IMRF's "prescribed" interest rate which varies over time. IMRF's prescribed interest rate has been 7.50% since 1992.

Interest is calculated from the date the service credit was earned to the date payment is received. The ECO plan member determines how many months of service credit he or she would like to convert, buying back credit from the latest month to the earliest month of eligible service.

To convert the service, the ECO plan member would complete IMRF Form 6.06, "Conversion of Regular or SLEP Service to ECO Service." Once IMRF receives the member's application, we will calculate the member's cost and send him or her a payment schedule. The member may purchase the service credit in a lump sum, on a payment plan, an eligible rollover from another qualified plan, or through payroll deductions.

- If the member pays the total cost with a lump sum, he or she will purchase all the service at once
- If the member chooses the payment plan (Unit Payment Plan), he or she can purchase one or more months at a time.
- If the member chooses the IMRF Tax-deferred Payroll Deduction Program, he or she can purchase the service credit on a tax-deferred basis through payroll deductions.

If an ECO plan member previously earned Regular or SLEP service credit but forfeited that service by taking a refund, that service may be re-established as ECO service.

- To do so, the member would have to participate in IMRF or a reciprocal retirement system for two years after the date of the refund, then repay the refund.*
- The member can repay the refund and convert the Regular or SLEP service credit to ECO simultaneously.
- Members may also pay the cost and convert omitted and/or retroactive service simultaneously.

*A SLEP member may be eligible to reinstate the refund immediately. Contact IMRF for more information.

Salary/ECO Final Rate of Earnings

- A member's Final Rate of Earnings (FRE) is the salary used to calculate the amount of disability, retirement, and death benefits.
 - Under the Original ECO plan, a member's FRE is the annualized salary payable on the last day of participation in the ECO plan divided by 12
 - The ECO monthly FRE does not include any lump sum payments for vacation, sick leave, overtime, personal leave, etc.
 - The ECO monthly FRE does include stipends, using a monthly portion of the annual stipend. For example, an annual stipend of \$2,500 increases the monthly FRE by \$208.33.
 - Under the Regular and SLEP plans, a member's FRE is the average of the highest 48 months within the last 10 years of service. Usually this is the average of the last 48 months of service.
- If when a member retires he or she has both ECO and Regular or SLEP service credit
 - The ECO monthly FRE will be used with the ECO service credit
 - The "customary" (Regular/SLEP) FRE will be used with the Regular and/or SLEP service credit
- Additional information regarding calculating ECO pensions can be found on page 15.

Trap for the unwary

If a member chooses to stop participating in the ECO plan, his/her ECO final rate of earnings will be "frozen." Even if he/she continues to participate in the Regular plan or in SLEP, any ECO benefit will be calculated using the "frozen" earnings.



Refunds of member contributions

- Like any other refund of member contributions that is paid when a member stops participating in IMRF, separation refunds under the ECO plan are payable without interest.
- If an elected county official chooses to stop participating in the ECO plan, he or she cannot
 - Convert the ECO service credit back to Regular or SLEP by taking a refund of the extra ECO contributions.
 - Receive a refund of any difference between the ECO contribution rate and the Regular or SLEP contribution rate without taking a refund of total member contributions and forfeiting all IMRF service credit.

Note: An ECO member will receive an ECO benefit based on as little as one month of ECO service, if he or she is vested in the IMRF plan as a whole (i.e. has at least eight years of total service credit.)

Federal withholding on all refunds

IMRF is required by federal law to withhold 20% of the taxable portion of your refund unless you elect to have the taxable portion directly rolled over to a traditional IRA (not a Roth IRA) or other qualified retirement plan.

Depending on your age, you may also be liable for a penalty of 10% of the taxable amount. You may defer the 10% penalty by directly rolling your refund into a traditional IRA or other qualified pension plan.

Under the Pension Protection Act of 2006, this 10% penalty does not apply to police officers, firefighters and emergency medical personnel if they are age 50 or older when they stop working for their IMRF employer.

ECO disability benefits

- Eligibility for disability benefits under the ECO plan is different from eligibility requirements for disability benefits under the Regular or SLEP plans.
- A member participating under the ECO plan will be eligible for ECO disability benefits if
 - He or she elects to receive ECO disability benefits instead of Regular disability benefits
 - He or she is unable to reasonably perform the duties of office
 - He or she is making ECO contributions at the time disability occurred
 - Two licensed physicians approved by IMRF certify that the ECO member is permanently disabled
- An ECO member eligible for disability benefits may choose to receive benefits under the Regular plan or under the ECO plan.
- The following eligibility requirements apply to both Regular and ECO disability benefits
 - 12 consecutive months of service credit required
 - Pre-existing exclusions may apply
 - 30-day waiting period before benefits are payable
 - Benefit payment is offset by Social Security and workers' compensation

ECO disability benefits, cont.

- Differences between Regular and ECO disability benefits
 - Under the Regular Plan
 - Benefit payable is 50% of last 12 months' salary
 - Degree of disability: unable to perform the duties of any position which might reasonably be assigned to you by your current IMRF employer
 - Under the ECO plan
 - Benefit payable is an amount equal to the pension earned to date (see top of next page)
 - Degree of disability: unable to reasonably perform the duties of office
- Example of disability benefit payable to an ECO member with 16 years of ECO service
 - 50% of salary under the Regular plan or
 - 60% of salary under the ECO plan
- If an ECO member is granted ECO disability benefits, but his or her employer submits a termination form to IMRF, the member will still receive ECO disability assuming he or she continues to be permanently disabled.
- While receiving ECO disability benefits, the member continues to earn ECO service credit and the member's survivors continue to be protected by ECO death benefits.

ECO retirement benefits

- An ECO pension is calculated as follows (credit is given for partial years):
 - 3% of ECO monthly final rate of earnings*
for each of the first 8 years of ECO service credit, plus
 - 4% of ECO monthly final rate of earnings
for each of the next 4 years of ECO service credit, plus
 - 5% of ECO monthly final rate of earnings
for each year of ECO service credit in excess of 12 years to a maximum of 80% of ECO monthly final rate of earnings.

- Participation in ECO does not change IMRF vesting requirements. The earliest retirement age is
 - Age 55 with 8 years of any combination of service credit (e.g., Regular, SLEP, and/or ECO)
 - Age 50 (for SLEP members only) with 20 years of SLEP service credit or 20 years of SLEP and SLEP ECO service credit

- An original ECO member does not need eight years of ECO service to qualify for the ECO formula. The ECO formula is applied to the ECO service regardless of the amount of that service. For example, if a member has one month of ECO service, the ECO formula will be applied to that one month and the Regular or SLEP formulas applied to the remaining service.

- If a member has both Regular and ECO service; or SLEP and ECO service, the ECO formula is applied first to the ECO service.
 - Examples
Member A has 12 years of ECO service credit followed by 5 years of Regular service credit. The pension formula would be applied as follows (ECO is applied first)

3%	x	8 years ECO service	=	24.0%	of ECO monthly FRE*
4%	x	4 years ECO service	=	16.0%	of ECO monthly FRE
1.66%	x	5 years Regular service	=	8.3%	of “customary” FRE*

Member B has 20 years of SLEP service followed by 4 years of Regular service. He decides to convert 4 years of SLEP service to ECO. The pension formula would be applied as follows (ECO is applied first, then SLEP, then Regular)

3%	x	4 years SLEP ECO service	=	12.0%	of ECO monthly FRE
2.5%	x	16 years SLEP service	=	40.0%	of “customary” FRE
1.66%	x	4 years Regular service	=	6.64%	of “customary” FRE

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*see page 9

ECO retirement benefits, contd.

- An ECO plan member earns the maximum (80%) ECO pension after 20 years of ECO service credit.
- The rules governing reduction of pension for Regular plan retirement prior to age 60 still apply to any portion of the member's pension calculated with Regular plan service credit. However, the reduction is not applicable to a member eligible for a SLEP pension nor to any portion of a pension attributable to ECO service.
- An ECO member retiring prior to age 62 will be eligible for an optional pension. The member can choose to receive an increased IMRF benefit until 62 and a reduced IMRF benefit thereafter.
- An ECO plan member may retire under the Reciprocal Act.
- An ECO member can retire under the Early Retirement Incentive (ERI) if he or she meets the ERI eligibility requirements and if the member's employer has passed the ERI resolution.
- ECO members will be eligible for the supplemental retirement benefit ("13th check").
- ECO members will receive a pension for as long as they live. The pension will be increased by 3% of the original amount on January 1 of each year after the member retires. (The first year increase is prorated.)
- A chart to estimate a future ECO plan pension can be found on page 15.

Chart to estimate a future ECO pension

- Social Security benefits are in addition to the figures shown.

Monthly Final Rate of Earnings	YEARS OF ECO SERVICE CREDIT												
	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
	PERCENTAGE OF FINAL MONTHLY SALARY												
	24%	28%	32%	36%	40%	45%	50%	55%	60%	65%	70%	75%	80%
AMOUNT OF MONTHLY ECO PENSION (IN DOLLARS)													
300	72	84	96	108	120	135	150	165	180	195	210	225	240
400	96	112	128	144	160	180	200	220	240	260	280	300	320
500	120	140	160	180	200	225	250	275	300	325	350	375	400
600	144	168	192	216	240	270	300	330	360	390	420	450	480
700	168	196	224	252	280	315	350	385	420	455	490	525	560
800	192	224	256	288	320	360	400	440	480	520	560	600	640
900	216	252	288	324	360	405	450	495	540	585	630	675	720
1000	240	280	320	360	400	450	500	550	600	650	700	750	800
1100	264	308	352	396	440	495	550	605	660	715	770	825	880
1200	288	336	384	432	480	540	600	660	720	780	840	900	960
1300	312	364	416	468	520	585	650	715	780	845	910	975	1,040
1400	336	392	448	504	560	630	700	770	840	910	980	1,050	1,120
1500	360	420	480	540	600	675	750	825	900	975	1,050	1,125	1,200
1600	384	448	512	576	640	720	800	880	960	1,040	1,120	1,200	1,280
1700	408	476	544	612	680	765	850	935	1,020	1,105	1,190	1,275	1,360
1800	432	504	576	648	720	810	900	990	1,080	1,170	1,260	1,350	1,440
1900	456	532	608	684	760	855	950	1,045	1,140	1,235	1,330	1,425	1,520
2000	480	560	640	720	800	900	1,000	1,100	1,200	1,300	1,400	1,500	1,600
2100	504	588	672	756	840	945	1,050	1,155	1,260	1,365	1,470	1,575	1,680
2200	528	616	704	792	880	990	1,100	1,210	1,320	1,430	1,540	1,650	1,760
2300	552	644	736	828	920	1,035	1,150	1,265	1,380	1,495	1,610	1,725	1,840
2400	576	672	768	864	960	1,080	1,200	1,320	1,440	1,560	1,680	1,800	1,920
2500	600	700	800	900	1,000	1,125	1,250	1,375	1,500	1,625	1,750	1,875	2,000
2750	660	770	880	990	1,100	1,238	1,375	1,513	1,650	1,788	1,925	2,063	2,200
3000	720	840	960	1,080	1,200	1,350	1,500	1,650	1,800	1,950	2,100	2,250	2,400
3250	780	910	1,040	1,170	1,300	1,463	1,625	1,788	1,950	2,113	2,275	2,438	2,600
3500	840	980	1,120	1,260	1,400	1,575	1,750	1,925	2,100	2,275	2,450	2,625	2,800
4000	960	1,120	1,280	1,440	1,600	1,800	2,000	2,200	2,400	2,600	2,800	3,000	3,200

To use this table

1. Find your ECO final monthly rate of earnings in the first column. (If you receive a stipend, include the monthly equivalent of the stipend. See page 9.)
2. Find your years of ECO service credit (top line).
3. Your approximate monthly pension at age 55 or older will be the amount shown at the point where your earnings line and service column intersect.

For example:

15 years of ECO service credit and final rate of earnings of \$1,500 a month will provide an ECO pension of \$825 per month at age 55 or older.

ECO death benefits

- The lump sum death benefit payable to beneficiaries of active, inactive, or retired ECO members is identical to the lump sum benefit payable under the Regular plan:

- **Death of a member participating in ECO**

If a member dies while participating in ECO or on IMRF Benefit Protection Leave or Disability Leave and

- Death is job related

A lump sum death benefit is paid to his or her beneficiary(ies) regardless of the years of service credit. The lump sum is equal to one year's earnings plus a refund of member contributions with interest*.

- Death is not job related

If death is not job related and the member has:

Less than one year of service credit, member contributions with interest* are refunded to the member's beneficiary(ies)

More than one year of service credit, a lump sum death benefit is paid to the member's beneficiary(ies). The lump sum is equal to one year's earnings plus a refund of member contributions with interest*.

Eight or more years of service credit, the member's surviving spouse may choose a monthly surviving spouse pension (see page 20) plus a \$3,000 payment, instead of a lump sum death benefit (one year's earnings plus a refund of member contributions with interest*).

- **Death of an inactive ECO member**

If a member dies while not participating in ECO but has member contributions on deposit with IMRF:

If the member has less than eight years of (any combination of) service credit or is under age 55, member contributions, plus interest*, are paid to his or her beneficiary(ies).

If the member has eight or more years of (any combination of) service credit and is age 55 or over, his or her spouse or other beneficiary(ies) will receive a lump sum death benefit of \$3,000 plus a refund of member contributions with interest*. However, in lieu of a refund of member contributions, the spouse may wish to receive a monthly surviving spouse pension (see page 20) plus the \$3,000.

**Member contributions plus interest less any benefit overpayment*

ECO death benefits, contd.

– Death of a member receiving an ECO pension

If a member dies while receiving an ECO pension:

- If the member's spouse and/or children are eligible (see below), a monthly benefit plus a \$3,000 death benefit is payable.
- If the member has no eligible spouse nor children, the member's designated beneficiary(ies) is paid \$3,000, plus any remainder of contributions and interest* that were not paid out as a pension.

Please note:

- A member can exclude his or her spouse from a surviving spouse pension, however, he or she cannot exclude children from a child's pension.
- When a child reaches age 18 or marries, the amount of the surviving spouse pension is recalculated. When no minor children remain, the monthly benefit payable will be 66-2/3% of the pension the member had earned (minimum amount 10% of salary). However, if at that time the spouse is less than age 50, benefit payments will stop and will resume when he or she attains age 50.

**Member contributions plus interest less any benefit overpayment*

ECO Death Benefits — surviving spouse pension/child's pension

- Eligibility requirements for an ECO surviving spouse pension/child's pension:
 - Member
 - If actively participating in ECO on date of death and eight or more years of any combination of IMRF service credit or
 - Was receiving an ECO pension on date of death
 - Spouse
 - Was married to member on last day of ECO participation, and
 - Was married to member for at least one year prior to member's date of death
 - Child(ren)
 - Under age 18 and not married
 - Eligible children include adopted children if adoption proceedings began at least one year prior to member's death

- If an ECO plan member's spouse is eligible for an ECO surviving spouse pension, he or she can choose benefits payable under the ECO plan or under the Regular plan.
- A child's pension (see page 21) is payable if the member's spouse is not eligible for a surviving spouse pension, but the deceased ECO member has unmarried children under the age of 18 (and the deceased member had eight or more years of service credit and was actively participating in ECO, or was receiving an ECO pension).

Surviving spouse pension under the Regular plan

- In addition to \$3,000 lump sum payment:
 - 50% of the pension the member had earned to date (active/inactive member) or
 - 50% of the pension member had been receiving (retired member)

Surviving spouse pension under ECO

Death of member actively participating in the ECO plan

- In addition to \$3,000 lump sum payment:
- At age 50 and older, spouse will receive a monthly pension equal to 66-2/3% of the pension the member had earned (minimum amount 10% of ECO salary)
- If the spouse is caring for the member's minor, unmarried children, the spouse will receive (age 50 requirement does not apply)
 - A monthly pension equal to 30% of the ECO member's salary at time of death plus
 - 10% of the ECO member's salary at time of death for each minor, unmarried child(The maximum total monthly benefit payable to spouse and children cannot exceed 50% of the member's ECO salary at time of death.)

or

- A monthly pension equal to 66-2/3% of the pension the member had earned (minimum amount 10% of ECO salary)

Death of an ECO member receiving a pension

- In addition to \$3,000 lump sum payment:
 - At age 50 or older, spouse will receive a monthly pension equal to 66-2/3% of the pension the member had been receiving (minimum amount payable is 10% of ECO salary)
 - If the spouse is caring for the member's minor, unmarried children, the spouse will receive (age 50 requirement does not apply) the greater of:
 - A monthly pension equal to 66-2/3% of the pension the member had been receiving, or
 - A monthly pension equal to the **lesser** of:
 - 30% of the member's salary plus 10% of the salary for each minor unmarried child,
 - or
 - 50% of the member's salary

Note: The total combined payment to the spouse and/or minor children cannot exceed 75% of the pension the member had been receiving.

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Surviving spouse pension under ECO, contd.

Death of an inactive ECO member (with eight or more years of any combination of IMRF service credit and at least age 55)

- In addition to \$3,000 lump sum payment:
- 50% of the pension the member would have been entitled to, or
- a refund of contributions and interest*

**Member contributions plus interest less any benefit overpayment*

Child's Pension

- If there is no surviving spouse, if the spouse is not eligible, or if an eligible spouse dies, a child's pension is payable to the member's minor (under age 18) unmarried children:
 - Death of member actively participating in the ECO plan
 - A monthly pension equal to 20% of the member's ECO salary at the time of death for each child
(The maximum total monthly benefit payable to all children cannot exceed 50% of the member's ECO salary last reported to IMRF.)
 - Death of a member receiving an ECO pension
 - A monthly pension equal to 20% of the member's final ECO salary for each child
(The maximum total monthly benefit payable to all children cannot exceed 75% of the pension the member was receiving at date of death.)
- If an ECO plan member's child(ren) is eligible for an ECO child pension, he or she can choose benefits payable (including lump sum benefits) under the ECO plan or under the Regular IMRF plan.
- A child's pension is discontinued at the earlier of:
 - Age 18
 - Marriage
- When any minor child reaches age 18 or marries (whichever is earliest),
 - the death benefit is recalculated to what it would have been had that child not been a minor at the time of the member's death
 - When all children are age 18 or married, any remaining member contributions and interest* (not paid out as pension payments) is paid in a lump sum to the member's designated beneficiary.
- Adopted children are treated the same as natural children if proceedings for adoption commenced one year before date of death.

**Member contributions plus interest less any benefit overpayment*

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Inside back cover

IMRF Mission statement

To efficiently and impartially develop, implement, and administer programs that provide income protection to members and their beneficiaries on behalf of participating employers in a prudent manner.

Adopted September 26, 1991

IMRF Vision

To be the best provider of retirement services for public employees in the State of Illinois.

Adopted July 2, 2001

IMRF Values**Honesty**

Be truthful in what we think, say and do.

Accountability

Answer for our conduct and obligations.

Accuracy

Recognize that what we do affects the lives of others.

Courage

Confront new ideas and be willing to change.

Empathy

Be aware of and sensitive to the feelings of others.

Respect

Recognize the worth and importance of yourself, your co-workers, and IMRF members and employers.

**Original
Elected County Official Plan
Under Public Act 90-0032**

Member and Employer Information

Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund

Oak Brook Office
2211 York Road
Suite 500
Oak Brook, IL 60523-2337

Springfield Regional Counseling Center
3000 Professional Drive
Suite 101
Springfield, IL 62703

Members and employers should mail all correspondence, forms, payments, etc. to our Oak Brook office (Suite 500, 2211 York Road, Oak Brook, IL 60523-2337).

IMRF Member Service Representatives

1-800-ASK-IMRF (1-800-275-4673)

www.imrf.org

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