



WHAT IS TRS?

The Teachers' Retirement System of Oklahoma (TRS) is a state agency that administers retirement assets and provides income security through a lifetime monthly retirement benefit to each of our retirees.



WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO PARTICIPATE IN TRS?

Classified Employees: Classified employees are **required** to participate in TRS. Classified employees include:

- Any teacher, principal, superintendent, supervisor, administrator, librarian, or certified or registered nurse.

Classified employees in TRS should **NOT** be confused with "Certified Staff."

Nonclassified Employees:

Nonclassified employees are allowed, but not required to participate in TRS. This category applies to individuals who are:

- Not classified employees at the same or a different school district;
- Regularly employed by the District (i.e. not employed as a temporary, seasonal, or irregular employee); AND
- Work 20 hours or more per week.

Nonclassified employees must complete an election form **within 30 days** of their initial hire or eligibility for TRS deciding whether or not to participate in TRS. If the employee fails to make an election **within 30 days**, they are required to participate in TRS.

There are different eligibility requirements for employees of OU and OSU related to their Alternative Retirement Plan. These employees should check with their Human Resources Department to determine eligibility.



WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF TRS?

Retirement Benefits

Retired members receive a lifetime benefit from TRS under one of the five retirement plans. TRS calculates that benefit as follows:



Maximum Annual Retirement Benefit

*Members with service credit prior to July 1, 1995 may have a slightly different retirement benefit calculation.

Members with 30 years of service may also elect to receive a Partial Lump Sum payment at the time of retirement.

Survivor Benefits

When an **IN-SERVICE OR RETIRED** member passes, TRS provides a benefit to the member's beneficiary.

- **In-Service - \$18,000:** This is in addition to the member's contribution account balance, including accrued interest.
- **Retired Members - \$5,000:** This is in addition to the benefits provided by the retirement option selected by the retiree.

Health Insurance Supplement

Retired members with 10 or more years of service may be eligible for a health insurance supplement of \$100-\$105 per month.



WHEN CAN I RETIRE?

A vested member is eligible for an **unreduced benefit** based on the date they joined TRS:

Joined on or after November 1, 2011

- Age 65 or Combination 90 at Age 60. These members may retire at age 65 OR when the member's age is at least 60 and years of creditable service total at least 90 (i.e., age 60 + 30 service years = 90).

Joined from July 1, 1992 through October 31, 2011

- Age 62 or Combination 90. These members may retire at age 62 OR when the member's age and years of creditable service total 90 (i.e., age 55 + 35 service years = 90).

Joined before July 1, 1992

- Age 62 or Combination 80. These members may retire at age 62 OR when the member's age and years of creditable service total 80 (i.e., age 60 + 20 service years = 80).

In certain circumstances, a vested member may choose to take an early, reduced retirement benefit or qualify for disability retirement.



HOW DO I VEST IN TRS?

Members who joined TRS prior to November 1, 2017, vest with 5 years of service.

Members who joined TRS on or after November 1, 2017, vest with 7 years of service.



Have questions about retirement?
TRS is here to help!

Our Retirement Planning Consultants can help with any questions you have regarding participating in TRS.

TRS Member Services:
877-738-6365 (toll-free)
405-521-2387 (OKC)

