

2023 Kansas Statutes

74-4911. Eligible employees; membership date; employees who become members as a result of a merger or consolidation; membership election by elected officials and employees of state board of regents; employees in military service or on leave of absence.

(1) Any employee of a participating employer other than an elected official on the entry date of such employer shall be a member of the system on either the entry date or the first day of the payroll period coinciding with or following the completion of one year of service, whichever is later, except that an employee of a participating employer who was first employed by a participating employer on or after July 1, 2008, but before July 1, 2009, shall be a member on July 1, 2009, and except that an employee who is first employed by a participating employer on or after July 1, 2009, shall be a member of the system on the first day of employment of such employee with such participating employer. On and after July 1, 2019, employees employed in direct support positions of an affiliated employer organized under K.S.A. 19-4001, and amendments thereto, and defined under K.S.A. 39-1803, and amendments thereto, may become a member of the system on the first day of the payroll period coinciding with or following the completion of a two-year period of training, whichever is later. For purposes of this act occasional breaks in service which shall not exceed an aggregate of 10 days in any such year shall not constitute a break in service for purposes of determining the membership date of such employee.

(2) Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, any employee other than an elected official who is employed by a participating employer after the entry date of such employer shall be a member of the system on the first day of the payroll period coinciding with or following completion of one year of continuous service. For purposes of this act, occasional breaks in service which shall not exceed an aggregate of 10 days in any such year shall not constitute a break in continuous service for purposes of determining the membership date of such employee. For purposes of this subsection, any employee of a local governmental unit which has its own pension plan who becomes an employee of a participating employer as a result of a merger or consolidation of services provided by local governmental units, which occurred on January 1, 1994, may count service with such local governmental unit in determining whether such employee has met the one year of continuous service requirement contained in this subsection.

(3) Any employee who is an elected official and is eligible to join the system shall file, within 90 days after taking the oath of office, an irrevocable election to become or not to become a member of the system. Such election shall become effective immediately upon making such election, if such election is made within 14 days of taking the oath of office or, otherwise, on the first day of the first payroll period of the first quarter following receipt of the election in the office of the retirement system. In the event that such elected official fails to file the election to become a member of the retirement system, it shall be presumed that such person has elected not to become a member.

(4) Except as otherwise required by USERRA, any employee other than an elected official who is in military service or on leave of absence on the entry date of such employee's employer shall become a member of the system upon returning to active employment or on the first day of the payroll period coinciding with or following the completion of one year of service, whichever is later. For purposes of this act, occasional breaks in service which shall not exceed an aggregate of 10 days in any such year shall not constitute a break in service for purposes of determining the membership date of such employee.

(5) Any employee of the state of Kansas other than an elected official, who is receiving or is eligible for assistance by the state board of regents in the purchase of a retirement annuity under K.S.A. 74-4925, and amendments thereto, and who becomes ineligible for such assistance because such employee's position is reclassified to a position in the classified service under the Kansas civil service act, or who becomes ineligible for such assistance because such person accepts and transfers to a position in the classified service under the Kansas civil service act shall be a member of the system on the first day of the payroll period coinciding with or

following the effective date of such reclassification or transfer. Any such employee who became ineligible for such assistance prior to the effective date of this act because of such a reclassification or such a transfer occurring prior to the effective date of this act and who is not a member of the system on the effective date of this act shall be a member of the system on the first day of the payroll period coinciding with or following the effective date of this act.

(6) Any employee of the state board of regents or of an educational institution under its management, other than an elected official, who is a member of the system and who becomes ineligible to be a member of the system because such employee's position is reclassified to a position under the Kansas civil service act which is eligible for assistance by the state board of regents in the purchase of a retirement annuity under K.S.A. 74-4925, and amendments thereto, or who becomes ineligible to be a member of the system because such employee transfers to a position under the Kansas civil service act which is eligible for such assistance, shall become eligible for such assistance in accordance with the provisions of K.S.A. 74-4925, and amendments thereto, unless such employee files a written election in the office of the retirement system, in the form and manner prescribed by the board of trustees thereof, to remain a member of the system prior to the first day of the first complete payroll period occurring after the effective date of such reclassification or transfer. Failure to file such written election shall be presumed to be an election not to remain a member of the system and to become eligible for assistance by the state board of regents in the purchase of a retirement annuity under K.S.A. 74-4925, and amendments thereto. Such election, whether to remain a member of the system or to become eligible for such assistance, shall be effective as of the effective date of such reclassification or transfer, and shall be irrevocable.

(7) Any elected official who at the time of becoming an elected official is already a member of the system by being or having been an employee of a participating employer shall continue as a member of the system.

History: L. 1961, ch. 427, § 11; L. 1965, ch. 446, § 2; L. 1967, ch. 427, § 2; L. 1974, ch. 390, § 15; L. 1977, ch. 273, § 1; L. 1979, ch. 246, § 1; L. 1983, ch. 254, § 4; L. 1985, ch. 254, § 8; L. 1986, ch. 294, § 2; L. 1992, ch. 321, § 6; L. 1994, ch. 293, § 9; L. 1998, ch. 64, § 28; L. 1998, ch. 201, § 15; L. 2007, ch. 164, § 14; L. 2019, ch. 50, § 3; July 1.