

12-5008. Option of certain members of local police or fire pension plans for KP&F system membership. (a) Each active or inactive vested member of a local police or fire pension plan, which is maintained and funded by a city which has affiliated prior to the effective date of this act with the Kansas police and firemen's retirement system with regard to all active members and retired members of such plan as provided in K.S.A. 74-4954, and amendments thereto, who elected not to become a member of the system prior to the effective date of this act, may become a member of the system by filing a written statement of election to become a member of the system with the board of trustees on or after July 1, 1994, but not later than December 31, 1994. As a part of such written statement of election, such active member shall elect whether to be covered by the provisions of K.S.A. 74-4957a, 74-4958a, 74-4960a, 74-4963a and 74-4964a, and amendments thereto or not to be covered by such provisions. Each election as provided by this section shall be effective on the first day of the first payroll period of the calendar quarter coinciding with or following the date of such filing. Failure to file such written statement of election shall be presumed to be an election not to become a member of the system. Such election, whether to become a member or not to become a member as provided in this section, shall be irrevocable.

(b) Except as otherwise provided in this act, any active member of a local police or fire pension plan who elects to become a member of the Kansas police and firemen's retirement system as provided in this section, shall be subject to the provisions of K.S.A. 12-5001 et seq. and 74-4951 et seq., and amendments thereto.

(c) For any such active member who elects to become a member of the Kansas police and firemen's retirement system as provided in this section, the term "final average salary" means average highest annual compensation paid to such member for service as a policeman or fireman for any three of the five years immediately preceding retirement or termination of service, notwithstanding the definition of such term in K.S.A. 74-4952, and amendments thereto. For purposes of this section, compensation includes any amount of compensation for accumulated sick leave or vacation or annual leave paid to such member. The date that such active member who elects to become a member of the system as provided in this section is first hired as an employee shall mean the date that such active member became a member of the system as provided in this act.

(d) Any benefits which first become payable on or after the effective date of this act for any such active member who elects to become a member of the Kansas police and firemen's retirement system as provided in this section, shall be reduced by an amount equal to the value of the difference between contributions actually made by such active member and contributions which would have been made had such member always been a member of the Kansas police and firemen's retirement system. The amount of reduction shall be made by the board upon the advice of the actuary at the time benefits become payable and shall continue until benefits are no longer payable. Should such a member repay in a lump sum prior to or on such member's date of retirement an amount equal to the difference between contributions actually made by the member and contributions which would have been made had such member always been a member of the Kansas police and firemen's retirement system, there shall be no reduction as provided in this section. Such member shall pay the actual amount plus interest at a rate specified by the board of trustees.

(e) Except as otherwise provided, the terms used in this act:

(1) "Policeman" means an employee of a city who is assigned to the police department of the city, who is engaged in law enforcement and maintenance of order, who has been specifically designated, appointed, commissioned or styled as a policeman by the governing body or city manager of the city, and whose employment as a policeman is not seasonal or temporary and requires at least 1,000 hours of work per year.

(2) "Fireman" means an employee of a city who is assigned to the fire department of the city, who is engaged in the fighting and extinguishing of fires and the protection of life and property therefrom, who has been specifically designated, appointed, commissioned or styled as a fireman by the governing body or city manager of the city, and whose employment as a fireman is not seasonal or temporary and requires at least 1,000 hours of work per year.

(3) "Local police or fire pension plan" means any pension plan, system or fund which covers the policemen of a city or the firemen of a city, or both, and which was established by and is maintained and funded by such city under:

(A) K.S.A. 13-14a01 to 13-14a14, inclusive, and amendments thereto; or

(B) any part of K.S.A. 13-14a01 to 13-14a14, inclusive, and amendments thereto, and one or more charter ordinances adopted by such city under section 5 of article 12 of the Kansas constitution; or

(C) K.S.A. 14-10a01 to 14-10a15, inclusive, and amendments thereto; or

(D) any part of K.S.A. 14-10a01 to 14-10a15, inclusive, and amendments thereto, and one or more charter ordinances adopted by such city under section 5 of article 12 of the Kansas constitution; or

(E) one or more charter ordinances adopted by such city under section 5 of article 12 of the Kansas constitution.

(4) "Active member" means a person who is in active employment with a city as a policeman or fireman and who is covered by a local police or fire pension plan which is maintained and funded by such city.

(f) The provisions of this section shall take effect on and after July 1, 1994.

History: L. 1994, ch. 293, § 37; May 5.