

495—13.1(97B) Disability for persons retiring under Iowa Code section 97B.50(2).

13.1(1) For IPERS regular class members retiring because of a disability:

a. The member must indicate on the application for retirement that the retirement is due to an illness, injury or similar condition.

b. The member must be awarded federal social security benefits due to a disability which existed at the time the application for retirement was filed.

c. Effective July 1, 1990, the member may also qualify for the IPERS disability provision by being awarded, and commencing to receive, disability benefits through the federal Railroad Retirement Act, 45 U.S.C. Section 231 et seq., due to a disability which existed at the time of retirement.

d. The period for which up to 36 months of retroactive payments under Iowa Code section 97B.50(2) shall be paid is for up to 36 months preceding the month in which such completed application for IPERS disability is received by IPERS. In no event shall retroactive disability benefits payments under Iowa Code section 97B.50(2) precede the month the member actually receives the member's first social security or railroad retirement disability payment. The member shall provide IPERS with a copy of the Social Security Administration award letter showing dates of eligibility.

e. Continued qualification monitoring. For a member retiring due to a disability on or after January 1, 2009, in order to continue qualification for disability benefits, the member shall provide IPERS with proof of continuing eligibility for federal social security disability benefits or railroad retirement disability benefits by June 30 of each calendar year. IPERS may also require complete copies of the member's state and federal income tax returns, including all supporting schedules, by June 30 of each calendar year. IPERS may suspend the benefits of any such member if these records are not timely provided.

13.1(2) If a member returns to covered employment after achieving a bona fide retirement, the benefits being provided to the member under Iowa Code section 97B.50(2) "a" or "b" shall be suspended or reduced as follows. If the member has not attained the age of 55 upon reemployment, benefit payments shall be suspended in their entirety until the member subsequently terminates employment, applies for, and is approved to receive benefits under the provisions of Iowa Code chapter 97B. If the member has attained the age of 55 or older upon reemployment, the member shall continue to receive monthly benefits adjusted as follows. Monthly benefits shall be calculated under the same benefit option that was first selected, based on the member's age, years of service, and the applicable reductions for early retirement as of the month that the member returns to covered employment. The member's benefit shall also be subject to the applicable provisions of Iowa Code section 97B.48A pertaining to reemployed retired members.

13.1(3) Upon terminating a reemployment that resulted in the suspension of all or a portion of the member's disability retirement allowance, the member's benefits shall be recomputed under Iowa Code section 97B.48A and rule 495—12.8(97B). To requalify for a monthly retirement allowance under Iowa Code section 97B.50(2), the member must furnish a new or updated Social Security Administration disability award letter, or other acceptable documentation from the Social Security Administration, indicating that the member is currently eligible for social security disability benefits.

13.1(4) If a member whose IPERS disability benefits were suspended because of the member's return to covered employment provides proof acceptable to IPERS that the member remains eligible for federal social security disability benefits or railroad retirement disability benefits, IPERS shall reinstate the member's disability benefits, subject to the member's continued compliance with paragraph 13.1(1) "e."