

97B.43 Prior service credit.

1. Each member in service on July 4, 1953, who made contributions under the abolished system, and who has not applied for and qualified for benefit payments under the abolished system, shall receive credit for years of prior service in the determination of retirement allowance payments under [this chapter](#), if the member elects to become a member on or before October 1, 1953, the member has not made application for a refund of the part of the member's contributions under the abolished system which are payable under [sections 97.50 through 97.53](#), and the member gives written authorization prior to October 1, 1953, to the commission to credit to the retirement fund the amount of the member's contribution which would be subject to a claim for refund. The amount so credited shall, after transfer, be considered as a contribution to the retirement system made as of July 4, 1953, by the member and shall be included in the determination of the amount of moneys payable under [this chapter](#). However, an employee who was under a contract of employment as a teacher in the public schools of the state of Iowa at the end of the school year 1952-1953, or any person covered by [section 97B.1A, subsection 20](#), paragraph "c" or "d", shall be considered as in service as of July 4, 1953, if they were members of the abolished system.

2. Any person with a record of thirty years as a public employee in the state of Iowa prior to July 1, 1947, and who is not eligible for prior service credit under other provisions of [this section](#), is entitled to a credit for years of prior service in the determination of the retirement allowance payment under [this chapter](#), provided the public employee makes application to the system for credit for prior public service, accompanied by verification of the person's claim as the system may require. The person's allowance for prior service credits shall be computed in the same manner as otherwise provided in [this section](#), but shall not exceed the sum of four hundred fifty dollars nor be less than three hundred dollars per annum. Any such person is entitled to receive retirement allowances computed as provided by [this chapter](#), effective from the date of application to the system, provided such application is approved. However, beginning July 1, 1975, the amount of such person's retirement allowance payment received during June 1975, as computed under [this section](#) shall be increased by two hundred percent and the allowance for prior service credits shall not exceed one thousand three hundred fifty dollars nor be less than nine hundred dollars per annum. Effective July 1, 1987, there is appropriated for each fiscal year from the Iowa public employees' retirement fund created in [section 97B.7](#) to the system an amount sufficient to fund the retirement allowance increases paid under [this subsection](#). Effective July 1, 1980, a person with a record of thirty years as a public employee in the state of Iowa prior to July 1, 1947, receiving retirement allowances under [this chapter](#) shall receive the monthly increase in benefits provided in [section 97B.49G, subsection 3](#), paragraph "a".

3. Each individual who on or after July 1, 1978, was an active, vested, or retired member and who (1) made application for and received a refund of contributions made under the abolished system or (2) has on deposit with the retirement fund contributions made under the abolished system shall be entitled to credit for years of prior service in the determination of retirement allowance payments by filing a written election with the system on or after July 1, 1978, and by redepositing any withdrawn contributions under the abolished system together with interest as stated in [this subsection](#). Any individual who on or after July 1, 1978, is a retired member and who made application for and received a refund of contributions made under the abolished system may, by filing a written election with the system on or after July 1, 1978, have the system retain fifty percent of the monthly increase in retiree benefits that will accrue to the individual because of prior service. If the monthly increase in retirement benefits is less than ten dollars, the system shall retain five dollars of the scheduled increase, and if the monthly increase is less than five dollars, the provisions of [this subsection](#) shall not apply. The system shall continue to retain such funds until the withdrawn contributions, together with interest accrued to the month in which the written election is filed, have been repaid. Due notice of this provision shall be sent to all retired members on or after July 1, 1978. However, [this subsection](#) shall not apply to any person who received a refund of any membership service contributions unless the person repaid the membership service contributions pursuant to [section 97B.80C](#); but a refund of contributions remitted for the

calendar quarter ending September 30, 1953, which was based entirely upon employment which terminated prior to July 4, 1953, shall not be considered as a refund of membership service contributions. The interest to be paid into the fund shall be compounded at the rates credited to member accounts from the date of payment of the refund of contributions under the abolished system to the date the member redeposits the refunded amount. The provisions of [subsection 1](#) relating to the consideration given to credited amounts shall apply to the redeposited amounts or to amounts left on deposit. Effective July 1, 1978, the provisions of [this subsection](#) shall apply to each individual who on or after July 1, 1978, was an active, vested, or retired member, but who was not in service on July 4, 1953. The period for filing the written election with the system and redepositing any withdrawn contributions together with interest accrued shall commence July 1, 1978. A member who is a retired member on or after July 1, 1978, may file written election with the system on or after July 1, 1978, to have the system retain fifty percent of the monthly increase as provided in [this subsection](#).

4. Effective July 1, 2004, a member eligible for an increased retirement allowance because of the repayment of contributions under [this section](#) is entitled to receipt of adjustment payments beginning with the month in which payment was received by the system.

[C46, 50, §97.13, 97.45; C54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §97B.43]

[88 Acts, ch 1123, §1](#); [88 Acts, ch 1242, §31](#); [90 Acts, ch 1240, §25](#); [92 Acts, ch 1201, §38](#); [98 Acts, ch 1183, §26, 82](#); [2001 Acts, ch 68, §21, 24](#); [2003 Acts, ch 145, §175, 286](#); [2004 Acts, ch 1103, §21, 22](#); [2016 Acts, ch 1011, §32](#); [2021 Acts, ch 80, §53](#)

Referred to in [§97B.49A, 97B.68](#)

Subsection 1 amended