#### MARYLAND STATE RETIREMENT AGENCY 120 EAST BALTIMORE STREET BALTIMORE, MD 21202-6700 410-625-5555 OR 1-800-492-5909



## REEMPLOYMENT AFTER RETIREMENT FOR RETIREES OF THE STATE POLICE RETIREMENT SYSTEM

RETIREMENT USE ONLY

FORM 128 (REV. 7/19)

FORM 128 (REV. 7/19)

VIDEO: For an overview of this information, go to sra.maryland.gov, select YouTube or Vimeo and watch "Reemployment After Retirement."

Keep your copy of this form on file as a handy reference for the future. You should also keep on hand your Notice of Retirement Allowance that the Retirement Agency will send to you as a new retiree. The Notice of Retirement Allowance includes information such as the amount of your monthly retirement allowance, the beneficiary you designated and your earnings limitation. To determine what, if any, earnings limitation applies and the effect, if any, on your retirement allowance, you need your Notice of Retirement Allowance to identify the type of retirement you are receiving (service, ordinary disability or special disability) and your earnings limitation. Then, apply the reemployment rules. Reemployment earnings are the annual reemployment compensation reported to the IRS that the retiree received during a calendar year. Note the reemployment rules do not apply while a retiree is participating in the State=s Deferred Retirement Option Program (DROP).

<u>Under no circumstances should your decision to retire be conditioned upon an offer of reemployment, and in fact, no offers of reemployment should be discussed by you and your employer prior to your retirement.</u> However, if after your retirement you consider reemployment with an employer that participates in the State Retirement and Pension System (SRPS) you need to be aware of two important issues: Internal Revenue Service (IRS) guidelines regarding reemployment and Maryland retirement law regarding reemployment.

#### INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE GUIDELINES REGARDING REEMPLOYMENT

There can be significant consequences to you and the SRPS if you retire before the normal retirement age of your plan and/or before age 59 1/2, and are reemployed with the same employer without a bona fide separation of service. Please note that all units of Maryland state government, including the University System of Maryland, are considered one employer.

The IRS can impose a significant tax penalty on your income if you are under the age of 59 1/2, retire and begin receiving your monthly retirement benefits, and are reemployed by the same employer from whom you retired. In order to avoid this penalty there must be a bona fide separation from service between you and your former employer.

If you retire before your normal retirement age, there are also serious IRS consequences to the SRPS if a bona fide separation does not take place following retirement and prior to reemployment with the same employer.

While the IRS has not specifically defined what constitutes a bona fide separation from service, it is clear that the more differences between your last job before retirement and the job being performed upon your reemployment, and the longer the break between the date of your retirement and the date of your reemployment, the more likely it is that there has been a bona fide separation of service. If you are reemployed to perform the same job, even if there is a reduction in your work schedule, this would not likely qualify as a bona fide separation of service unless there is a lengthy break in employment. Even arrangements where you are rehired as an "independent contractor" may not meet the IRS' standard.

#### MARYLAND RETIREMENT LAW REGARDING REEMPLOYMENT

Maryland law requires that there must be a minimum of **45 DAYS** between your retirement date and the date you are rehired by any employer that is a participating employer in the SRPS. All units of Maryland State government, including the University System of Maryland, are considered to be *one employer* under these reemployment rules.

Additionally, employment after retirement, under certain conditions, may cause your retirement allowance to be reduced.

#### SERVICE RETIREMENT

If you accept temporary employment (not in a regularly allocated position) with a *participating employer\**, you must notify the Board of Trustees in writing of your intent to accept reemployment and the amount of your anticipated compensation. Temporary employment is defined as full time for 6 months or less or part-time for the equivalent of 6 months or less. Your retirement allowance will be reduced if your post retirement earnings exceed your earnings limitation. The benefit is reduced dollar for dollar up to a maximum of the full retirement allowance.

\*A participating employer is any employer that offers State Retirement and Pension System benefits to its employees. A list of participating employers is printed on page three. Before accepting employment, contact the State Retirement Agency for updates to this list.

#### (CONTINUED ON PAGE TWO)

I acknowledge that I have received this information about my obligation with regard to reemployment and I agree to notify the Board of Trustees of my anticipated earnings should I return to work. I also understand that, should I exceed the earnings limitations imposed by law, my monthly retirement allowance may be reduced or terminated until such time that any resulting overpayment of benefits is recovered. I understand that I must be separated from any and all employment, including substitute, seasonal, temporary, contractual, and/or permanent employment, with any employer that participates in the SRPS at the date of my retirement. By signing this form, I am certifying to the Maryland State Retirement Agency that at the date of my retirement, I will not be employed in any capacity by any employer that participates in the SRPS and that no discussions or offers of reemployment after my retirement have occurred between me and any employer that participates in the SRPS.

Social Security Number	Signature	Date
	sra.maryland.gov	

# MARYLAND RETIREMENT LAW REGARDING REEMPLOYMENT SERVICE RETIREMENT (CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE)

Reemployment rules for Service Retirement do not apply if you have been retired for more than 5 years.

#### **DISABILITY RETIREMENT**

Suspension of Disability Retirement: An Ordinary or Special Disability allowance shall be temporarily suspended if the retiree:

- Is not eligible for normal service retirement, and
- Is employed by a participating employer as a probationary status law enforcement officer, a law enforcement officer, or chief as defined in §3-101 of the Public Safety Article, and
- Is receiving an annual compensation that is at least equal to the retiree's average final compensation at retirement.

There is no additional benefit accrued while employed. If suspended, the retiree's allowance will be reinstated on the first day of the month following the month in which the retiree ceased employment with the participating employer. The retiree's allowance at time of reinstatement will be adjusted to reflect the accumulated cost of living adjustments during suspension. Please note that the temporary suspension of disability benefit causes the temporary suspension of retiree health insurance coverage.

#### Earnings Limitation for Ordinary Disability Retirees Only: An Ordinary Disability allowance shall be reduced if the retiree:

- Is under normal retirement age, and
- Is employed by a participating employer as a probationary status law enforcement officer, a law enforcement officer, or chief as defined in §3-101 of the Public Safety Article, and
- Is receiving an annual compensation that exceeds the retiree's earnings limitation.

The reduction will be \$1.00 for every \$2.00 over the limit if the retiree has been retired less than 10 years. If the retiree has been retired 10 years or longer, the reduction will be \$1.00 for every \$5.00 over the limit.

#### An earnings limitation does not apply for Special Disability Retirees.

If you have any questions, call a Retirement Benefits Specialist at 410-625-5555 or toll free 1-800-492-5909 to understand how the reemployment provisions apply to you. We will make every effort to assist you in understanding your options, but it is your responsibility to advise us of your reemployment.

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## **PARTICIPATING EMPLOYERS \* Maryland State Retirement and Pension System**

## State of Maryland **University System of Maryland Baltimore City and All County Boards of Education (Teachers' System)** Community Colleges and All Public Libraries (Teachers' System)

### Participating Governmental Units in the Employees' System as of July 1, 2017

Allegany College of Maryland Allegany County Board of Education Allegany County Commission Allegany County Housing Authority Allegany County Library Allegany County Transit Authority Annapolis, City of Anne Arundel County Board of Education Anne Arundel County Community College

Berlin, Town of Berwyn Heights, Town of Bladensburg, Town of

Bowie, City of – Police Dept. (LEOPS)

Brunswick, City of

Calvert County Board of Education

Cambridge, City of

Caroline County Board of Education Caroline County Sheriff Deputies Carroll County Board of Education Carroll County Public Library Carroll Soil Conservation District Catoctin & Frederick Soil

Conservation District Cecil County Board of Education Cecil County Government Cecil County Library Centreville, Town of

Chesapeake Bay Commission

Chestertown, Town of Cheverly, Town of

College of Southern Maryland

College Park, City of Crisfield, City of

Crisfield Housing Authority Cumberland, City of

Cumberland, City of - Police Department Mount Rainier, City of

Denton, Town of District Heights, City of

**Dorchester County Board of Education** 

**Dorchester County Commission Dorchester County Roads Board** Dorchester County Sanitary Commission Oxford, Town of

Eastern Shore Regional Library

Edmonston, Town of

Emmitsburg, City of

Federalsburg, Town of

Frederick County Board of Education

Frostburg, City of Fruitland, City of

**Garrett County Board of Education** Garrett County Community Action

Committee Greenbelt, City of Greensboro, Town of Hagerstown, City of

Hagerstown Community College

Hampstead, Town of Hancock, Town of

Harford Community College Harford County Board of Education Harford County Government

Harford County Library

Housing Authority of Cambridge Howard Community College

**Howard County Board of Education Howard County Community Action** 

Committee Hurlock, Town of Hyattsville, City of

Kent County Board of Education **Kent County Commissioners** 

Kent Soil and Water Conservation District

Landover Hills, Town of La Plata, Town of

Lower Shore Private Industry Council

Manchester, Town of

**Facilities Authority** 

Maryland Health & Higher Education

Middletown, Town of Montgomery College Morningside, Town of Mount Airy, Town of New Carrollton, City of North Beach, Town of

Northeast Maryland Waste Disposal

Authority Oakland, Town of Pocomoke, City of Preston, Town of

Prince George's Community College Prince George's County Board of

Education

Prince George's County Crossing Guards Prince George's County Government Prince George's County Memorial Library

Princess Anne, Town of

Queen Anne's County Board of Education

Queen Anne's County Commission

Queenstown. Town of Ridgely, Town of Rock Hall, Town of

St. Mary's County Board of Education

St. Mary's County Commission

St. Mary's County, Housing Authority

St. Mary's County Metropolitan Commission

St. Michaels, Commissioners of

Salisbury, City of Shore Up!

Snow Hill, Town of

Somerset County Board of Education

Somerset County Commission

Somerset County Economic Development Commission

Somerset County Sanitary District, Inc.

Southern Maryland Tri-County Community Action Committee

Sykesville, Town of Takoma Park, City of

Talbot County Board of Education

**Talbot County Council** Tanevtown. City of Thurmont, Town of

Tri-County Council of Western Maryland

Tri-County Council for the Lower

Eastern Shore University Park, Town of Upper Marlboro, Town of Walkersville, Town of

Washington County Board of Education

Washington County Board of License Commission Washington County Library Westminster, City of

Worcester County Board of Education Worcester County Commission Wor-Wic Community College

\*NOTE: The list of employers that participate in the Maryland State Retirement and Pension System (SRPS) is subject to change at any time. This list is updated annually. To determine whether a particular employer participates in SRPS, call a retirement benefits specialist at 410-625-5555 or toll-free at 1-800-492-5909.

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