



## Self-Managed Plan Retirement Planning

### General Information

- Members can set up an SMP counseling appointment once every twelve months.
- If discrepancies exist due to omissions, errors or future changes in the law, the statute and SMP Plan Document will govern.
- Any payments for service credit must be made prior to the effective date of retirement and while you are actively employed with a SURS-covered employer, except in the case of a repay refund.
- Members are encouraged to contact the SMP provider(s) to discuss their fund allocations in relation to their proximity to retirement.

### Filing for Retirement

- Your application should be on file with SURS within 60 days of the Annuity Begin Date.
- If you have time with another public retirement system in the state of Illinois, you should contact that system(s) for an application.

### Required documentation

- A copy of your birth certificate
- A copy of your spouse's or primary beneficiary's birth certificate (if applicable)
- If applicable, a copy of your marriage certificate, dissolution of marriage, or spouse's death certificate

### Application Process

- Obtain an Income Illustration - If choosing any annuity option, you must contact TIAA or Principal Financial for an Income Illustration or one may be obtained by scheduling a 45-minute counseling appointment with a SURS counselor. Appointments are available at the SURS Champaign office, by phone or on campus. Due to time constraints, all information may not be discussed during on-campus appointments.
- Submit application to SURS
- SURS submits the application to the provider(s) when the following are received:
  - Termination report from the employer
  - Last payroll and payroll verification
  - State matching funds
  - All applicable documents

### SMP Member Distribution Options

NOTE: You will not receive a monthly payment for an average of 2-3 months. When your claim is finalized there is a difference between the payouts for Principal and TIAA. Principal will "back pay" to your retirement date if you elect to enroll in the State or CIP Insurance Plans. TIAA will only begin payments in the month (must be receive by the 20th of the month) they receive all of your paper work listed in the section above.

- Lump-Sum Retirement/Rollover – You receive your account balance in a lump sum
- Single-Life Annuity – You receive monthly payments for life

You may elect a guaranteed period:

- 10 years
- 15 years
- 20 years

If you die before the end of your chosen guaranteed period of 10, 15, or 20 years, monthly payments will continue to your designated beneficiary until the end of the guaranteed period.

- Joint and Survivor Annuity – You receive reduced monthly payments for life, with continued monthly payments to your designated beneficiary for life in an amount equal to either 50 percent or 100 percent of your monthly benefit.

You may elect a guaranteed period:

- 10 years
- 15 years
- 20 years

After you die, monthly payments will continue to your designated beneficiary for life in an amount equal to either 50 percent or 100 percent of your monthly benefit. If both you and your designated beneficiary die before the end of your chosen guaranteed period of 10, 15, or 20 years, monthly payments will continue to your contingent beneficiary in an amount equal to 50 percent or 100 percent of your monthly benefit until the end of the guaranteed period.

## **Election of Primary Beneficiary**

- If you are not married you may elect a primary beneficiary regardless of relationship.
- If you are married your spouse is your primary beneficiary, but you may name someone else with your spouse's signed consent.
- The survivorship annuity will be 50 percent or 100 percent of your reduced annuity, depending on your election.

## **Insurance**

- A lifetime annuity of the entire value of your SMP account is required for insurance eligibility.
- Insurance coverage (if applicable) begins as of the Annuity Begin Date.
- SMP annuitants are billed directly for the insurance premiums.
- You must choose a Joint & Survivor Annuity for your spouse or eligible survivor to remain eligible for insurance upon your death.
- When annuitizing, if your account balance is not sufficient to pay a monthly amount you will not be eligible for insurance.

## **Return to Work**

Return-to-work and earnings limitations do not apply to SMP members.

## **Taxability**

- Your annuity will be wholly or partially taxable for Federal Income tax.
- Your annuity is not currently taxed by the state of Illinois.
- If you reside in another state, check with that state regarding tax provisions.

## **Providers**

### **Fidelity**

(800) 343-0860

[www.netbenefits.com/surs](http://www.netbenefits.com/surs)

### **Principal Financial**

(877) 210-5565, ext. 202

[RRC@exchange.principal.com](mailto:RRC@exchange.principal.com)

### **TIAA**

(888) 219-8310

[www.tiaa.org/illinois](http://www.tiaa.org/illinois)