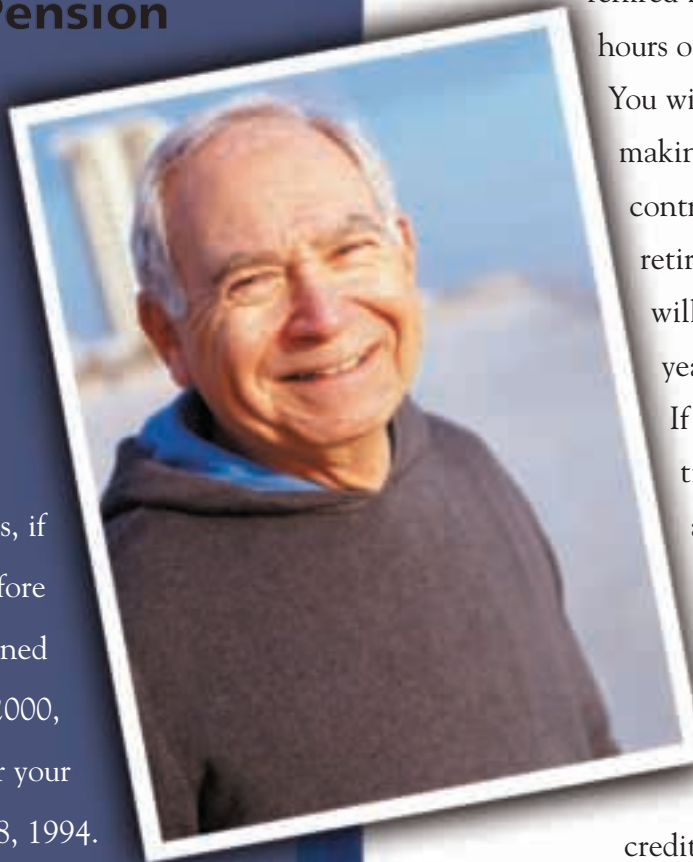


Vested Employees Who Are Not Receiving a Pension

If you were vested in a previous period of service and have returned to work, your pension will be based on your creditable service before, and after, your rehire date. In most cases, if you were re-employed before June 10, 1999, and remained employed on January 1, 2000, you will receive credit for your service prior to August 28, 1994.



Retirees Returning to Work

If you are retired and receiving a benefit from CERF, your benefit will be suspended if you are rehired in a full-time (1,000 hours or more), eligible position. You will also be subject to making the required CERF contribution. When you retire again, your pension will be based on your total years of creditable service. If you are rehired as a part-time employee, however, and work less than 1,000 hours in a calendar year, your pension will continue without interruption. You will not earn additional credit for the part-time service.



CERF
COUNTY EMPLOYEES'
RETIREMENT FUND

How to reach us...

County Employees' Retirement Fund

2121 Schotthill Woods Drive
Jefferson City, MO 65101
Toll-free: (877) 632-2373
Fax: (573) 761-4404
E-mail: admin@mocerf.org
Website: www.mocerf.org

Great-West Retirement Services

100 N. Tucker, Suite 100
St. Louis, MO 63101
Toll-free: (877) 895-1394
Fax: (314) 241-2181
E-mail: james.ellison@gwrs.com
Website: www.gwrs.com

The purpose of this brochure is to enable a member to more easily understand benefits provided under the CERF Pension Plan. If we have omitted or misstated any of the plan's provisions when explaining the topics covered by this brochure, the official plan rules contained in the Code of State Regulations will remain the final authority.

OTHER AVAILABLE BROCHURES:

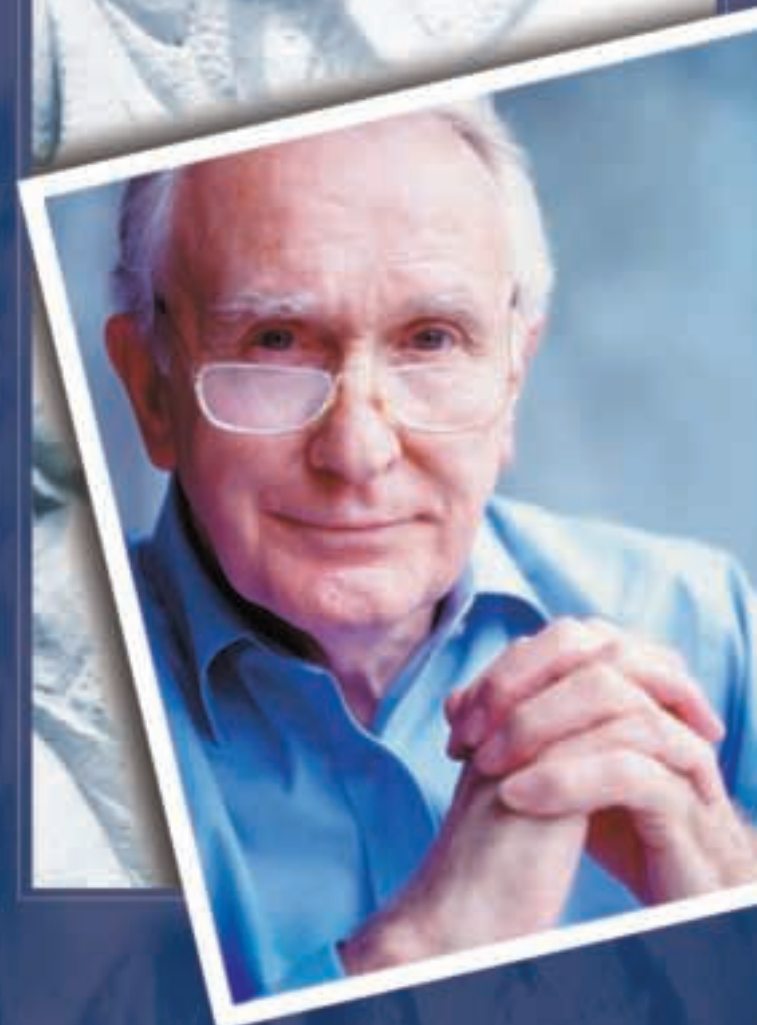
- "Participating in the CERF Pension Plan"
- "Benefits for your Survivors in the CERF Pension Plan"
- "When You Retire in the CERF Pension Plan"
- "When You Terminate Non-Vested in the CERF Pension Plan"
- "Participating in the CERF 401(a) Savings Plan"
- "Participating in the CERF 457 Savings Plan"

11/07



Creditable Service

In the CERF Pension Plan



“Creditable service” is used to calculate the amount of your benefit under the CERF Pension Plan. For this reason, it is very important for you to understand how service is determined.

Creditable service is any period of employment in an eligible position in a participating county. Absences for sickness or injury that are 12 months or less in duration also count as creditable service, provided your absence is considered a medical leave by the county and you have not terminated employment. You will also receive creditable service for qualified leaves of absence for military service.

There are, however, periods of employment that do not count as creditable service unless the service is purchased. These periods include:

- If you are rehired, any service that you lost because you terminated employment before becoming vested;
- If you are a part-time employee, the period of service in which you obtained 1,000 hours before you became a plan participant; or
- Any period in which you fail to make the required contributions for any reason (i.e., if you want to receive credit for service during a military leave, you must buy back your service for this period of time).

Buying Back Your Service Credit

For any period of employment you may have forfeited, you have 60 days after your rehire date to notify CERF if you want to repurchase that service. The CERF Administrative Office can advise you of the cost to purchase the service. You can purchase the service with a single payment or elect to have monthly installments deducted from your paycheck. Whether a single payment or monthly installments, these payments are made on an after-tax basis and will not reduce your current taxable income.

If you terminate employment before you finish buying back a period of service, you will receive credit for the period only if you make a lump-sum payment for the unpaid balance within 60 days of your termination date. If you die before the balance is satisfied, your beneficiary will have the opportunity to make a lump-sum payment on the outstanding balance.

If you leave employment before you become vested, and after 30 days are rehired by a county into an eligible position, you will

have to complete eight years of continuous service from your date of rehire to be eligible for a retirement benefit from CERF. However, if you terminate employment with the county and are rehired in an eligible position by the same or different participating county within 30 days, your service will be treated as continuous and your original hire date will be the date used when determining your eight years of vesting.

Prior Service

Under the terms of the Pension Plan in effect before January 1, 2000, “prior service” (which is eligible service before August 28, 1994) was not included in your creditable service unless it was purchased. In most cases, if you were a county employee on June 10, 1999, and you were still in service on January 1, 2000, this prior service is automatically included in your benefit calculation at no cost to you.

Any period of employment wherein you are not earning service credit under this plan will affect your eligibility to receive “free” credit for your prior service.

When Benefits Are Not Paid

You may lose all or part of the benefits provided by this plan if you:

- Previously opted out of CERF and did not purchase the opted-out period of service;
- Do not purchase the service during a military leave of absence;
- Are on medical leave beyond 12 months, or on a leave of absence for other reasons.

- Are a part-time employee and do not purchase the period of service in which you earned your first 1,000 hours in the calendar year before you became a plan participant;
- Terminate employment before you become vested in this plan (if you are later rehired, you may purchase this service for service credit);
- Transfer to an ineligible position within the county;
- Have not paid the required contributions;
- Choose not to purchase your prior service.



CERF
COUNTY EMPLOYEES'
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