IPERS Overview





- Trust fund is more than \$45 billion the largest public retirement system in Iowa
- A defined benefit program
 - Lifetime retirement benefits are paid based on a formula, not on the amount of contributions
 - Formula factors: age, years of service, highest average salary

Your Retirement Benefit Calculation

Your Average Salary

(Based on years in IPERS-covered employment) Reduction (If you retire before normal retirement age) Your Retirement Benefit

=



Defined Benefit vs. Defined Contribution

	IPERS (Defined Benefit Plan)	401(k), 403(b), etc. (Defined Contribution Plan)
Guaranteed Benefit	YES. Monthly retirement benefit is guaranteed for life.	NO. Benefit fluctuates with market performance.
Investment Risk	Pooled investments. IPERS takes on all the risk.	YOU take on all the risk.
Withdrawals & Loans	NOT AVAILABLE	TYPICALLY AVAILABLE
Vesting	100% in your contributions	100% in <i>your</i> contributions
Portability	YES	YES
Death Benefits	YES	YES
Disability Benefits	YES. IPERS provides disability benefits depending on certain qualifications.	NO. Defined contribution plans do not usually provide disability benefits.
Fees & Expenses	INCLUDED	TYPICALLY HIGH



Membership Groups







Regular

Protection Occupations

Sheriffs/Deputy Sheriffs



FY2025 Contribution Rates



Regular member contribution rates:

- 6.29% from you
- 9.44% from your employer



Protection Occupations contribution rates:

- 6.21% from you
- 9.31% from your employer



Sheriffs/Deputy Sheriffs contribution rates:

- 8.51% equally from you/employer
 - 12.09% beginning July 1, 2025

Contributions are based on gross wages. IPERS can adjust the total contribution rate by no more than one percentage point up, or down, following a yearly actuarial valuation.



How do you become vested?







Regular members become vested when they:

- Complete seven years (28 quarters) of reported wages
 OR
- Turn age 65 while in IPERS-covered employment

Protection Occupations and

Sheriffs/Deputy Sheriffs members become vested when they:

- Complete four years (16 quarters) of covered service
 OR
- Turn age 55 while in IPERS-covered employment



What is vesting?

Entitles you to:

- A monthly retirement or disability benefit
- A portion of your employer's investment if a refund is taken
- Purchase service at retirement (if vested by years of service, not age alone)



The Benefit Formula -Regular Members



- The multiplier increases
 2 percentage points per year
 for the first 30 years worked.
- Increases 1 percentage point per year for years 31– 35, for a maximum of 65% of final average salary.
- Early retirement reduction applies if you retire before normal retirement age.

WORK IN IPERS-COVERED EMPLOYMEN 0F YOUR YEARS

7		AFTER SEVEN YEARS* IN
8		IPERS-COVERED EMPLOYMENT, You are vested. At retirement,
9		vested members are eligible for
10	\$\$\$\$\$ 20%	a monthly retirement benefit or
11		a lump-sum payment. "You con also become vested if you turn 65 while
12	\$\$\$\$\$\$\$ 24%	working in IPERS-covered employment.
13	\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$ 26%	
14	\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$ 28%	
15	\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$ 30%	
16	\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$ \$ 32%	
17	\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$ \$ \$ 34%	
18	\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$ 36%	
19	\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$ 38%	
20	\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$ 40%	6
21	\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$	2%
22	\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$	44%
23	\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$	46%
24	\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$	\$ 48%
25	\$	\$\$ 50%
26	\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$	\$\$\$ 52%
27	\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$	\$\$\$\$ 54%
28	\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$	\$\$\$\$\$ 56 %
29	\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$	\$\$\$\$\$ 58%
30	\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$	\$\$\$\$\$\$\$ 60%
31		\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$ 61%
32	\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$	\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$ 62%
33	\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$	\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$ 63%
34	\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$	\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$ 64%
35+	• \$	\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$ 65%

Normal Retirement Age



Rule of 88

Years of service + your age = 88 or greater

Rule of 62/20

Age 62 with 20 or more years of service

Age 65

No minimum service requirement





If you start receiving retirement benefits before reaching a normal retirement age, reductions will apply.

For portion of service earned before July 1, 2012

Reduced 3% a year

From nearest retirement eligibility (rule of 88; rule of 62/20; age 65)

For service earned after June 30, 2012 Reduced 6% a year From age 65



Purchasing Service

- Increases your IPERS service credits
- Free Service Credit
 - Leave of absence prior to 1998
 - Military duty while in IPERS-covered employment
 - FMLA up to 12 weeks/year





Purchasing Service

Service Purchase Types

• Nonqualified service ("air time")



- Refunded IPERS service (buy-back)
- Other public employment (if *not* eligible to draw pension from the other system)
- Active military duty/LOA time not eligible for free credit
- IPERS buy-up credit conversion (hybrid members)



Purchasing Service

Pre-Retirement **Cost Estimate** is done under option 2

Post-Retirement

Cost Quote is done under the option you choose

- Purchase at retirement
- Request a service purchase cost estimate to help you plan for a purchase at retirement
- Save money in a separate retirement account that can eventually be rolled over to IPERS to make your purchase

You are not obligated to purchase service if you request a quote.



Retirement Benefit Estimates

- Request benefit estimates from IPERS before deciding on a retirement date
- Working a little longer could increase benefits significantly
- May be eligible to retire earlier



Meet David!

David is 63 years old and is nearing retirement.

He is curious to know what his retirement benefit payment will be so he requested an estimate.

This is what his estimate looks like!



IPERS Benefit Estimate for: David Jones Member ID: 1234-5678

Information we used to figure your estimate

When you will start receiving benefits			
Month you leave employment	06/2029		
Month of last paycheck	07/2029		
First month of entitlement	07/2029		
Normal or early re	etirement?		
Birth date 07	/25/1962		
Nearest age at retirement	67		
	After June '12		
Months to go before normal 0 retirement age	0		
Early retirement percentage 100.00%	100.00%		
Disability benefits	Ν		
Contingent annuitant (CA)			
Relationship	Other		
Birth date 1	2/29/1963		
Nearest age at your retirement	66		

Years	of service a	nd multiplier
Membership class		Regular
	Before July '12	After June '12
Years of service	14.75	17.25
Assumed Regular service purchase	0.00	0.00
Total years of service		32.00
Future quarterly service		4
Regular class multiplier		62.000%
Sheriff class multiplier		0.000%
Protection class multiple	ier	0.000%
	(Contributions
Investment		\$121,920.52
Service purchase cost estimate		\$0.00
Total		\$121,920.52

Current salary		\$86,676.5
Yearly salary increase rate		2.00%
Highest salaries	2028	\$93,821.4
	2027	\$91,981.8
	2026	\$90,178.2
	2025	\$88,410.0
	2024	\$86,676.5
Average salary used in benefit		\$90,213.6



DAVID'S SAMPLE RETIREMENT ESTIMATE

Estimates of your IPERS benefits are based on the information given above.

Option 1 A lifetime monthly benefit of approximately \$4,664.13.

After your death, your designated beneficiary(ies) will receive a one-time lump-sum death benefit of \$1,000.

If your investment is at least \$2,000, you may designate a higher death benefit amount, in an increment of \$1,000. Your monthly benefit will be reduced by \$2.35 for each additional \$1,000 in death benefits.

If you designate \$61,000.00 for the death benefit, your monthly benefit will be about \$4,523.13.

If you choose the maximum death benefit amount of \$121,000.00, your monthly benefit will be about \$4,382.13.

Option 2 A lifetime monthly benefit of approximately \$4,661.04.

If gross benefits paid to you during your lifetime are less than your investment of \$121,920.52, your designated beneficiary(ies) will receive a lump-sum payment of the remaining amount after your death.

Option 3 A lifetime monthly benefit of approximately \$4,666.48. This option does not provide a payment after your death.

Option 4 A *lifetime* monthly benefit for you *and*, after your death, a lifetime monthly benefit for your contingent annuitant (CA), if you die before that person dies. You cannot change your contingent annuitant after you start receiving monthly benefits, even if that person dies before you. You must provide proof of your contingent annuitant's birth date and choose one of the following.

After your death, CA will receive	Your monthly benefit (approx.)	CA's monthly benefit (approx.)
100% of your monthly benefit amount	\$4,091.23	\$4,091.23
75% of your monthly benefit amount	\$4,221.32	\$3,165.99
50% of your monthly benefit amount	\$4,359.96	\$2,179.98
25% of your monthly benefit amount	\$4,508.02	\$1,127.01

DAVID'S SAMPLE RETIREMENT ESTIMATE



Option 5 A lifetime monthly benefit of approximately \$4,518.88.

We guarantee we will pay \$542,265.60 to you and/or your sole beneficiary. Your own monthly benefit is not limited to a ten-year period. However, if you die before you have received benefits for ten years, the following applies:

- If you have designated only one beneficiary, your beneficiary will receive the same monthly benefits for the *remainder* of the ten years. Your beneficiary cannot choose to receive a one-time lump-sum death benefit.
- If you have designated more than one beneficiary, or if your beneficiary is an entity such as an estate instead of a person, your beneficiaries will receive a lump-sum death benefit.

If you *and* your beneficiary(ies) die before you have received benefits for ten years, your beneficiary's estate will receive a lump-sum death benefit.

The amount of a lump-sum death benefit paid under Option 5 will not be the amount of the remaining ten years of monthly payments. Instead, it will be the present value of the guaranteed future payments.

Option 6 A *lifetime* monthly benefit for you *and*, after your death, a lifetime monthly benefit for your contingent annuitant (CA), if you die before that person dies. You cannot change your contingent annuitant after you start receiving monthly benefits, even if that person dies before you. You must provide proof of your contingent annuitant's birth date and choose one of the following.

After your death, CA will receive	Your monthly benefit (approx.)	CA's monthly benefit (approx.)
100% of your monthly benefit amount	\$4,016.44	\$4,016.44
75% of your monthly benefit amount	\$4,161.53	\$3,121.15
50% of your monthly benefit amount	\$4,317.48	\$2,158.74
25% of your monthly benefit amount	\$4,485.59	\$1,121.40

If your contingent annuitant dies before you die, your monthly benefit will increase to the amount you would have received if you had chosen Option 2. You may then designate a new beneficiary for your Option 2 death benefit, if any.

DAVID'S SAMPLE RETIREMENT ESTIMATE



Benefit Payment Options



Six monthly payment options

- Retirement benefits are paid for life
- Different death benefit provisions

IMPORTANT:

Your option choice cannot change once retirement benefit payments begin.





Option 1 Annuity with Fixed Lump-Sum Survivor Benefit

Example:

A lifetime monthly retirement benefit of approximately **\$4,664.13.** After your death, your designated beneficiary(ies) will receive a one-time lumpsum death benefit of \$1,000.

If your investment is at least \$2,000, you may designate a higher death benefit amount, in increments of \$1,000. Your monthly retirement benefit will be reduced by **\$2.35** for each additional \$1,000 in death benefits.

If you designate **\$61,000** for the death benefit, your monthly benefit will be about **\$4,523.13**.

If you choose the maximum death benefit amount of **\$121,000**, your monthly benefit will be about **\$4,382.13**.

NOTE: All examples are for illustrative purposes only. Actual amounts will vary based on your individual situation.



Annuity with Variable Decreasing Lump-Sum Death Benefit

Example:

A lifetime monthly retirement benefit of approximately **\$4,661.04.**

If gross benefits paid to you during your lifetime are less than your investment of **\$121,920.52**, your designated beneficiary(ies) will receive a lump-sum payment of the remaining amount after your death.





Example:

A lifetime monthly retirement benefit of approximately **\$4,666.48.** This option does not provide a payment after your death.

Option 5) 120-Month Term Certain Annuity

Example:

A lifetime monthly retirement benefit of approximately \$4,518.88.

We guarantee to pay **\$542,265.60** to you and/or your sole beneficiary. Your own monthly benefit is not limited to a 10-year period. However, if you die before you have received benefits for 10 years, the following applies:

- If you have designated only one beneficiary, your beneficiary will receive the same monthly benefits for the remainder of the 10 years. Your beneficiary cannot choose to receive a one-time lump-sum death benefit.
- If you have designated more than one beneficiary, or if your beneficiary is an entity such as an estate instead of a person, your beneficiaries will receive a lump-sum death benefit.

If you and your beneficiary(ies) die before you have received benefits for 10 years, your beneficiary's estate will receive a lump-sum death benefit.

The amount of a lump-sum death benefit paid under Option 5 will not be the amount of the remaining ten years of monthly payments. Instead, it will be the present value of the guaranteed future payments.

Beneficiaries vs. Contingent Annuitant

- With options 1, 2 and 5, your beneficiary or beneficiaries can be changed at any time as long as death benefit remains.
- With option 3, there is no need to name a beneficiary because there is no death benefit.
- With options 4 and 6, you will name a contingent annuitant rather than a beneficiary. Unlike a beneficiary, a contingent annuitant can never be changed regardless of death or divorce.



Option 4 100%, 75%, 50% or 25% Joint and Survivor Annuity

Example:

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A lifetime monthly retirement benefit for you, and a lifetime monthly death benefit for your contingent annuitant (CA) if that person lives longer. You cannot change your CA after you start receiving monthly retirement benefits, even if that person dies before you. You must provide proof of your CA's birth date and choose one of the following:

After your death, CA will receive	Your monthly retirement benefit (approximately)	CA's monthly benefit (approximately)
100% of your monthly benefit amount	\$4,091.23	\$4,091.23
75% of your monthly benefit amount	\$4,221.32	\$3,165.99
50% of your monthly benefit amount	\$4,359.96	\$2,179.98
25% of your monthly benefit amount	\$4,508.02	\$1,127.01

Option 6

100%, 75%, 50% or 25% Joint and Survivor Annuity with Pop-up Annuity

Example:

A lifetime monthly retirement benefit for you, and a lifetime monthly death benefit for your contingent annuitant (CA) if that person lives longer. You cannot change your CA after you start receiving monthly benefits, even if that person dies before you. You must provide proof of your CA's birth date and choose one of the following:

After your death, CA will receive	Your monthly retirement benefit (approximately)	CA's monthly benefit (approximately)
100% of your monthly benefit amount	\$4,016.44	\$4,016.44
75% of your monthly benefit amount	\$4,161.53	\$3,121.15
50% of your monthly benefit amount	\$4,317.48	\$2,158.74
25% of your monthly benefit amount	\$4,485.59	\$1,121.40

If your CA dies before you, your monthly retirement benefit will increase to the amount you would have received if you had chosen Option 2.

You may then designate a new beneficiary for your Option 2 death benefit, if any.

Pre-Retirement Death Benefits

Designated **sole beneficiary of a vested member** can elect a lump-sum payment or lifetime monthly death benefits.

If designated beneficiary is more than one individual, an estate or entity, death benefit can only be paid as a lump-sum payment.

If **no beneficiary** has been designated, a lump-sum payment is made to the estate.



Applying for Retirement

Must be age 55 or older

Not required if you are vested and eligible for IPERS disability benefits

Must submit a **completed** retirement application

Benefits are paid on the last business day of month

Must terminate all IPERS-covered employment unless age 70 or older



Returning to Work Bona Fide Retirement

To return to work with an IPERS-covered employer, you must have a **Bona Fide Retirement**:

- You have submitted a retirement application and IPERS has approved it.
- You are receiving retirement benefits.
- You have left employment with all IPERS-covered employers, including non-covered positions, with no written or verbal agreements to return.

IMPORTANT: There is a financial penalty for violating this requirement.



Returning to Work Bona Fide Retirement

For example, you receive your FIRST BENEFIT payment as a new retiree in January:



Bona Fide Retirement time restrictions

- Have no written or verbal agreements to return to any IPERS-covered employer until after you have received one retirement benefit payment.
- Stay out of all employment in an IPERS-covered position until you've received four retirement benefit payments.



Returning to Work Bona Fide Retirement – Independent Contractor

No Bona Fide Retirement if you:

Enter into a verbal or written arrangement to perform duties for your former employer(s) as an **independent contractor** prior to receiving one retirement benefit payment;

OR

Perform any duties for your former employer(s) as an independent contractor prior to receiving **one** month of retirement benefit payments.



Reemployment Guidelines

- Must have a Bona Fide Retirement.
- It's your responsibility to contact IPERS if you are returning to an IPERS-covered position.
- Know the Social Security earning limits.
- Contact us about specific elected official/appointed position rules/questions.
- There are other exceptions to the BFR period.



Reemployment Guidelines

Applies to IPERS-covered employment only

- \$50,000 earnings limit younger than age 65 (benefits reduced 50 cents for each dollar earned over the limit).
- No earnings limit after age 65.
- Upon second retirement complete our Reemployment termination verification form at www.ipers.org



Taxes

- Benefit payments are subject to all applicable federal income tax.
 - You can request that taxes be withheld from your monthly retirement benefit payment
- IPERS will mail you a 1099-R in January for tax purposes.



Beginning January 1, 2023, IPERS benefit payments are exempt from all personal state income tax, *but the State of Iowa will need you to opt out of the withholding on the W-4P.*



Fraud Prevention

IPERS is committed to protecting your personal information and takes steps to prevent fraud and identity theft.



www.ipers.org





My Account

I PERS







Watch our My Account instructional videos

My Account An Overview Your IPERS retirement toolkit 3:12	ESTIMATING BENEFITS BENEFIT STATEMENT GENERATOR AND PENSION CALCULATOR 4:08	Estimating Benefits with My Account
LOGGING IN TO MY ACCOUNT 3:06	DESIGNATE YOUR BENEFICIARY 2:21	Designate Your Beneficiary in My Account
SERVICE PURCHASE ESTIMATOR 4:04	SCHEDULE MEETINGS 3:06	Schedule Meetings in My Account
Updating Payment Preferences UPDATING PAYMENT in My Account	S	



REFERENCES

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