

ARTICLE 2. POLICE AND FIREFIGHTERS' PENSION AND DISABILITY FUND (1977 FUND)

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Rule 1. Membership

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35 IAC 2-1-1 Application for membership

Authority: [IC 5-10.5-4-2](#); [IC 36-8-8-5](#)
Affected: [IC 36-8-8-7](#)

Sec. 1. (a) Employee membership applications for the 1977 Police and Firefighters' Pension and Disability Fund (1977 Fund) will be accepted by the 1977 Fund if signed by the local board and the appointing authority.

(b) All application materials and other personal records containing medical information shall be treated as confidential medical information to the extent required under the Americans with Disabilities Act (as defined in 35 IAC 2-9-2(b)). (*Board of Trustees of the Indiana Public Retirement System; 35 IAC 2-1-1; filed May 9, 1979; 11:31 a.m.: 2 IR 681; filed Sep 8, 1982, 2:05 p.m.: 5 IR 2110; filed May 7, 1998, 4:15 p.m.: 21 IR 3327; readopted filed Oct 31, 2001, 2:21 p.m.: 25 IR 898; adopted Nov 9, 2007: 20071205-IR-035070818ONA*)

35 IAC 2-1-2 Prior service credit; prerequisites

Authority: [IC 5-10.5-4-2](#); [IC 36-8-8-5](#)
Affected: [IC 36-8-8-7](#); [IC 36-8-8-8](#)

Sec. 2. (a) Prior service credit shall be given to any member of the 1977 Police and Firefighters' Pension and Disability Fund (1977 Fund) providing the following conditions are met:

- (1) As used in this section, "prior service" means any services or duties performed as a member of the 1977 Fund after April 30, 1977.
- (2) The police officer or firefighter was a member of the 1977 Fund and had contributions withheld for membership.
- (3) The city, town, or township to which the police officer or firefighter is transferred or has been hired by is a member of the 1977 Fund.
- (4) The member repays, either in a lump sum or a series of payments determined by the 1977 Fund, the amount of contributions plus interest which was refunded to him. The interest is at a rate determined by the board and is calculated from the date of

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the withdrawal. The fund shall provide the eligible fund member with information with respect to the cost of such service.

(b) Service may be purchased in one (1) month increments. The minimum service purchase is one (1) year for a member who elects to purchase service through installment payments.

(c) Payments are subject to the terms and conditions of a finance agreement.

(d) Any such purchase may be made via a direct cash payment, a direct rollover as allowed by statute, or a combination of both.

(e) Any direct rollover may not exceed the actual cost of such service as established by the fund.

(f) Payment may be made in a lump sum or in annual installments for a period not to exceed five (5) years. Any installment may bear interest at the actuarial assumed interest rate effective on the date of the first installment.

(g) Any payments are subject to applicable Internal Revenue Service limits, and INPRS may deny an application or may limit any payments if the purchase would exceed those limitations.

(h) In the event of a payment default under the terms of the finance agreement or the purchase is not completed, a partial service credit amount will be determined by INPRS. The partial service credit amount will be based on the payments made as of the date of payment default and the cost of the service. Partial service will be credited in monthly increments. The minimum amount of partial service credit will be one (1) month. The fund member is not eligible to make service purchase payments after the date of the payment default or the date of separation of employment.

(i) In the event any annual payment is not timely made, allowing for a thirty (30) day grace period, the payment will be deemed in default under the terms of the finance agreement. The fund member is not eligible to make service purchase payments after the date of the payment default.

(j) If the member does not choose periodic payments, a lump sum payment must be received within ninety (90) days of the member receiving the cost letter. In the event the lump sum payment is not timely made, allowing for a thirty (30) day grace period, the payment will be deemed in default under the terms of the finance agreement. The fund member is not eligible to make service purchase payments after the date of the payment default. (*Board of Trustees of the Indiana Public Retirement System; 35 IAC 2-1-2; filed May 9, 1979; 11:31 a.m.: 2 IR 681; filed Sep 8, 1982, 2:05 p.m.: 5 IR 2110; filed May 7, 1998, 4:15 p.m.: 21 IR 3327; readopted filed Oct 31, 2001, 2:21 p.m.: 25 IR 898; adopted Nov 9, 2007: [20071205-IR-035070818ONA](#); adopted Dec 13, 2013: [20131225-IR-035130565ONA](#)*)

35 IAC 2-1-3 Effective date

Authority: [IC 5-10.5-4-2](#); [IC 36-8-8-5](#)

Affected: [IC 36-8-8-7](#); [IC 36-8-8-8.5](#)

Sec. 3. (a) Enrollment and pension fund rights begin on the later of the actual hire date on the membership record document or the admission approval date of the 1977 Fund.

(b) If an otherwise qualified active member's enrollment effective date is or was delayed due to error or omission by the local board or hiring authority:

(1) the member or the member's employer may purchase at the actuarial cost such service that would have been credited to the 1977 Fund but for the error or omission; and

(2) the age restriction is waived if the member was age eligible for the 1977 Fund at the time of application.

The determination as to whether there was an error or omission causing delay is in the sole discretion of the board. (*Board of Trustees of the Indiana Public Retirement System; 35 IAC 2-1-3; filed Aug 6, 1981, 2:30 p.m.: 4 IR 1805; readopted filed Oct 31, 2001, 2:21 p.m.: 25 IR 898; adopted Nov 9, 2007: [20071205-IR-035070818ONA](#); adopted Apr 29, 2011: [20110511-IR-035110273ONA](#)*)

35 IAC 2-1-4 Leave of absence

Authority: [IC 5-10.5-4-2](#); [IC 36-8-8-5](#)

Affected: [IC 36-8-8-6](#)

Sec. 4. (a) As used in this article, "FMLA" refers to the Family and Medical Leave Act (29 U.S.C. 2601 et seq.) and all applicable regulations and amendments.

(b) This section and [IC 36-8-8-6](#) shall be administered in a manner consistent with the FMLA.

(c) If the member is compensated while on an FMLA covered leave, the statutory contributions must be maintained. A member may make contributions as provided in [IC 36-8-8-6](#) during an unpaid FMLA leave, although such contributions would not result in

credit for service for benefit purposes in any event. The member's employer is not required to make contributions with respect to an unpaid FMLA leave.

(d) In calculating credit for vesting and eligibility purposes, time spent on an FMLA protected leave shall be counted, including any time spent receiving disability benefits while on such leave.

(e) A member seeking credit for an FMLA leave must provide documentary evidence demonstrating that the statutory requirements have been satisfied. (*Board of Trustees of the Indiana Public Retirement System; 35 IAC 2-1-4; filed May 7, 1998, 4:15 p.m.: 21 IR 3327; readopted filed Oct 31, 2001, 2:21 p.m.: 25 IR 898; adopted Nov 9, 2007: [20071205-IR-035070818ONA](#)*)

35 IAC 2-1-4.5 Leave of absence

Authority: [IC 5-10.5-4-2](#); [IC 36-8-8-5](#)

Affected: [IC 36-8-8-6](#)

Sec. 4.5. No service credit shall be given for accrued but unused sick leave whether or not the member received compensation for such unused sick leave. (*Board of Trustees of the Indiana Public Retirement System; 35 IAC 2-1-4.5; adopted Apr 29, 2011: [20110511-IR-035110273ONA](#)*)

35 IAC 2-1-4.6 Military leave of absence contributions

Authority: [IC 5-10.5-4-2](#); [IC 36-8-8-5](#)

Affected: [IC 36-8-5-7](#); [IC 36-8-8-3](#); [IC 36-8-8-6](#)

Sec. 4.6. (a) Pursuant to and in accordance with [IC 36-8-5-7](#), a member of a 1925, 1937, 1953, or 1977 fund does not lose his or her benefits from the fund because he or she fails to pay assessments that are assessed against him or her while on temporary leave or on a leave of absence that qualifies for the protections afforded by the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act (38 U.S.C. 4301 et seq.). These employee contributions are deemed waived and are not required to be made up.

(b) Employee contributions must resume once the member returns to covered employment. (*Board of Trustees of the Indiana Public Retirement System; 35 IAC 2-1-4.6; adopted Nov 4, 2016: [20161116-IR-035160500ONA](#)*)

35 IAC 2-1-5 1977 Fund service purchases

Authority: [IC 5-10.5-4-2](#); [IC 36-8-8-5](#)

Affected: [IC 36-8-8-8.3](#)

Sec. 5. (a) Under various provisions under [IC 36-8-8](#), eligible members of the 1977 Fund may purchase service.

(b) The cost to purchase such service shall be the total actuarial cost of the service. The fund shall provide the eligible fund member with information with respect to the cost of such service.

(c) An eligible fund member may purchase such service subject to the following:

(1) Service may be purchased in one (1) month increments. The minimum service purchase is one (1) year for a member who elects to purchase service through installment payments.

(2) Payments are made under the terms and conditions of the finance agreement.

(3) Any such purchase may be made via a direct cash payment, a direct rollover as allowed by statute, or a combination of both.

(4) Any direct rollover may not exceed the actual cost of such service as established by the fund.

(5) Payment may be made in a lump sum or annual installments for a period not to exceed five (5) years. Any installment may bear interest at the actuarial assumed interest rate effective on the date of the first installment. Any payments are subject to applicable Internal Revenue Service limits, and the fund may deny an application or may limit any payments in a manner necessary to comply with these limits.

(d) In the event of a payment default under the terms of the finance agreement, a partial service credit amount will be determined by the 1977 Fund. The partial service credit amount will be based on the payments made as of the date of payment default and the actuarial cost of the service. The minimum amount of partial service credit will be one (1) month. Partial service will be credited in monthly increments. The fund member is not eligible to make service purchase payments after the date of the payment default.

(e) Any interest rate used will be determined by INPRS.

(f) In the event any annual payment is not timely made, allowing for a thirty (30) day grace period, the payment will be deemed in default under the terms of the finance agreement. The fund member is not eligible to make service purchase payments after the date of the payment default.

(g) If the member does not choose periodic payments, a lump sum payment must be received within ninety (90) days of the member receiving the cost letter. In the event the lump sum payment is not timely made, allowing for a thirty (30) day grace period, the payment will be deemed in default under the terms of the finance agreement. The fund member is not eligible to make service purchase payments after the date of the payment default. (*Board of Trustees of the Indiana Public Retirement System; 35 IAC 2-1-5; adopted Feb 19, 2010: [20100310-IR-035100124ONA](#); adopted Nov 19, 2010: [20101208-IR-035100722ONA](#); adopted Dec 13, 2013: [20131225-IR-035130565ONA](#)*)

35 IAC 2-1-6 Calculation of prior service cost for transferred members

Authority: [IC 5-10.5-4-2](#); [IC 36-8-8-5](#)

Affected: [IC 36-8-8-18](#); [IC 36-8-8-18.1](#)

Sec. 6. (a) If a unit becomes a participant in the 1977 Fund under the conditions of [IC 36-8-8-18](#), the INPRS actuary determines the cost of the prior service. The amount the police officers or firefighters would have paid into the 1977 Fund (contributions of six percent (6%) of the first class officer salary with three and one-half percent (3.5%) annual interest) during the most recent years prior to transferring to the 1977 Fund must be fully paid under an agreement that specifies how much the unit is to pay and how much the member is to pay.

(b) If the unit previously covered police officers, firefighters, or emergency medical technicians (as defined in [IC 36-8-8-18.1](#)) in PERF, the amount that the unit and the member must contribute to the 1977 Fund under [IC 36-8-8-18](#) shall be reduced by the amounts transferred to the 1977 Fund under [IC 36-8-8-18.1](#). The amount credited to the ASA to be transferred to the 1977 Fund shall be the full cost of the service if the member's ASA balance is enough to fund the full cost. If the member's ASA balance is less than the full cost of the service, the existing ASA balance should be transferred. If the member's ASA balance is more than the full cost of the service, the ASA balance remaining after the amount equal to the full cost of service is transferred to the 1977 Fund shall remain in the ASA account. (*Board of Trustees of the Indiana Public Retirement System; 35 IAC 2-1-6; adopted Jun 20, 2014: [20140820-IR-035140335ONA](#); adopted Nov 4, 2016: [20161116-IR-035160500ONA](#); adopted Dec 13, 2019: [20191225-IR-035190683ONA](#)*)

35 IAC 2-1-7 Calculation of the 1977 Fund minimum benefit

Authority: [IC 5-10.5-4-2](#); [IC 36-8-8-5](#)

Affected: [IC 36-8-8-18.1](#)

Sec. 7. For the purposes of calculating the minimum benefit described in [IC 36-8-8-18.1](#), the 77 Fund will adjust the minimum benefit calculation so that the amount credited to the ASA of the transferring member as of the day before the transfer reflects the actual amount transferred for that member. (*Board of Trustees of the Indiana Public Retirement System; 35 IAC 2-1-7; adopted Jun 20, 2014: [20140820-IR-035140335ONA](#)*)

35 IAC 2-1-8 Transfer of employee contribution from certain Indiana public retirement funds assets for service purchases

Authority: [IC 5-10.5-4-2](#)

Affected: [IC 5-10.2-3-1](#); [IC 36-8-10-12.5](#)

Sec. 8. (a) If an employee beneficiary makes a transfer pursuant to and in accordance with [IC 36-8-10-12.5](#)(d), the employee waives all previous service credit to the extent of the contributions from the eligible public retirement fund from which the transfer was made.

(b) Residual service credit in the previous fund remains with the previous fund until canceled by the member by taking a permissible refund, retirement, or by operation of law.

(c) Residual service credit will be calculated using the rate of employee contributions for the previous position at the time of termination from the previous position as follows:

(1) Determine the annual employee contribution amount for one (1) year of service in the previous plan.

(2) Subtract the transferred amount from the employee's ASA or contribution account used to purchase the service at the actuarial cost in the sheriff's plan.

(3) Divide the residual balance by the annual contribution amount made by the employee or picked up by the employer during the last period of covered employment in the previous position. The quotient represents the residual service credit amount, if any, in the previous plan.

(d) The amount of service credit associated with the transfer to the sheriff's plan cannot be used in the previous plan. (*Board of Trustees of the Indiana Public Retirement System; 35 IAC 2-1-8; adopted Nov 4, 2016: [20161116-IR-035160500ONA](#)*)

Rule 1.1. Medical Fitness Examinations (Voided)

NOTE: Voided by P.L.4-1992, SECTION 55, effective January 26, 1992 (retroactive).

Rule 2. Contributions; Withdrawal

35 IAC 2-2-1	Refund of deceased active member's contributions
35 IAC 2-2-2	Interest on employees' contribution accounts (Repealed)
35 IAC 2-2-3	Actuarial assumptions

35 IAC 2-2-1 Refund of deceased active member's contributions

Authority: [IC 5-10.5-4-2](#); [IC 36-8-8-5](#)

Affected: [IC 36-8-8-8](#); [IC 36-8-8-16](#)

Sec. 1. Deceased Active Member's Contributions. A deceased active member's contributions plus accumulated interest will be refunded to the estate of the deceased member, if the deceased member has no survivors eligible for benefits under the fund.

If the total amount of survivor benefits paid does not exceed the member's total contribution plus accumulated interest, the difference shall be paid to the member's estate. (*Board of Trustees of the Indiana Public Retirement System; 35 IAC 2-2-1; filed May 9, 1979, 11:31 am: 2 IR 681; filed Aug 6, 1981, 2:30 pm: 4 IR 1805; readopted filed Oct 31, 2001, 2:21 p.m.: 25 IR 898; adopted Nov 9, 2007: [20071205-IR-035070818ONA](#)*)

35 IAC 2-2-2 Interest on employees' contribution accounts (Repealed)

Sec. 2. (*Repealed by Board of Trustees of the Indiana Public Retirement System; adopted Dec 14, 2012: [20121226-IR-035120663ONA](#)*)

35 IAC 2-2-3 Actuarial assumptions

Authority: [IC 5-10.5-4-2](#); [IC 36-8-8](#)

Affected: [IC 36-8-8](#)

Sec. 3. Early retirement benefits are actuarially reduced to be equivalent to the normal retirement benefit. For the 1977 Fund, the reduction is 6.00% per year. The reduction is prorated based on the number of months by which the member's age in completed months at commencement precedes normal retirement age. (*Board of Trustees of the Indiana Public Retirement System; 35 IAC 2-2-3; adopted Apr 26, 2013: [20130508-IR-035130167ONA](#); adopted Oct 28, 2022: [20221116-IR-035220338ONA](#)*)

Rule 3. Retirement Benefits

35 IAC 2-3-1	Reemployment after retirement
35 IAC 2-3-2	Payment method
35 IAC 2-3-2.1	Reinstatement under settlement agreement or administrative or judicial proceeding; service credit
35 IAC 2-3-3	Supplemental benefit computation
35 IAC 2-3-4	Birth date; proof required

35 IAC 2-3-1 Reemployment after retirement

Authority: [IC 5-10.5-4-2](#); [IC 36-8-8-5](#)
Affected: [IC 36-8-8-10](#); [IC 36-8-8-11.5](#)

Sec. 1. If a member is receiving disability or retirement benefits from the 1977 Fund and is reemployed in a position covered by this article, benefits will terminate until the member has terminated service for the second time. The benefits will then be computed on the total years of credited service. If a member is reemployed not less than thirty (30) days after retirement by the same unit in a position not covered by this article, then the member will continue to receive benefits unless the INPRS board receives from the Internal Revenue Service a determination that prohibits the implementation. (*Board of Trustees of the Indiana Public Retirement System; 35 IAC 2-3-1; filed May 9, 1979, 11:31 a.m.: 2 IR 681; filed Sep 8, 1982, 2:05 p.m.: 5 IR 2110; readopted filed Oct 31, 2001, 2:21 p.m.: 25 IR 898; adopted Nov 9, 2007: [20071205-IR-035070818ONA](#); adopted Nov 21, 2008: [20090107-IR-035080955ONA](#); errata filed Jan 16, 2018, 3:12 p.m.: [20180124-IR-035180061ACA](#); adopted Feb 23, 2018: [20180307-IR-035180117ONA](#)*)

35 IAC 2-3-2 Payment method

Authority: [IC 5-10.5-4-2](#); [IC 36-8-8-5](#)
Affected: [IC 36-8-8-10](#)

Sec. 2. Retirement Benefits. The benefits shall be paid on the 15th of each month and be payable from first: the member's contribution account, and second from the employer's contribution account. (*Board of Trustees of the Indiana Public Retirement System; 35 IAC 2-3-2; filed Aug 6, 1981, 2:30 pm: 4 IR 1805; readopted filed Oct 31, 2001, 2:21 p.m.: 25 IR 898; adopted Nov 9, 2007: [20071205-IR-035070818ONA](#)*)

35 IAC 2-3-2.1 Reinstatement under settlement agreement or administrative or judicial proceeding; service credit

Authority: [IC 5-10.5-4-2](#); [IC 36-8-8-5](#)
Affected: [IC 36-8-8-3](#); [IC 36-8-8-6](#)

Sec. 2.1. Credit for lost service in the fund when a terminated member is reinstated to covered service under an agreement or under a judicial or an administrative proceeding shall be allocated by INPRS among the period the member earned or should have earned the service only when required contributions that would have been paid are received by INPRS covering the affected period of lost service. It is irrelevant whether the award or agreement included back compensation to the member during the period of lost service. (*Board of Trustees of the Indiana Public Retirement System; 35 IAC 2-3-2.1; adopted Nov 4, 2016: [20161116-IR-035160500ONA](#)*)

35 IAC 2-3-3 Supplemental benefit computation

Authority: [IC 5-10.5-4-2](#); [IC 36-8-8-5](#)
Affected: [IC 36-8-8-23](#)

Sec. 3. In determining the monthly supplemental benefit, the amount of the monthly benefit in step two of the formula described in [IC 36-8-8-23](#)(b) includes cost of living increases, if any. (*Board of Trustees of the Indiana Public Retirement System; 35 IAC 2-3-3; adopted Dec 14, 2012: [20121226-IR-035120663ONA](#)*)

35 IAC 2-3-4 Birth date; proof required

Authority: [IC 5-10.5-4-2](#)
Affected: [IC 34-28-1](#); [IC 36-8-8](#)

Sec. 4. (a) No retirement benefits shall be paid to a member until the member provides proof of date of birth in any one (1) of the following forms:

- (1) A birth certificate or registration from the public health department or other governmental entity.
- (2) A court decree obtained under [IC 34-28-1](#) and certified by the clerk of the court.

(3) Other evidence relating to the member's date of birth may be submitted, and upon approval the board shall fix a date based thereon.

(b) A member selecting a joint and survivor retirement option shall also provide evidence of the date of birth of the cosurvivor. (*Board of Trustees of the Indiana Public Retirement System; 35 IAC 2-3-4; adopted Dec 14, 2012: [20121226-IR-035120663ONA](#)*)

Rule 4. Funeral Benefits

[35 IAC 2-4-1](#)

Death benefits

[35 IAC 2-4-2](#)

Survivor benefits; active duty

[35 IAC 2-4-3](#)

Death in service; compliance with the Heroes Earning Assistance and Relief Tax Act of 2008 (HEART)

35 IAC 2-4-1 Death benefits

Authority: [IC 5-10.5-4-2](#); [IC 36-8-8-5](#)

Affected: [IC 29-1-8-1](#); [IC 36-8-8-16](#)

Sec. 1. The death benefits under [IC 36-8-8-16](#) for a deceased member's heirs or estate shall be paid by the 1977 Fund from the employer contributions of the city, town, or township where the member was last employed. This death benefit is payable to the member's estate and may be claimed by the estate's personal representative, as evidenced by letters testamentary or letters of administration. If no personal representative has been appointed, then the distribution can be made to a person who presents a Small Estate Affidavit, as described in [IC 29-1-8-1](#). INPRS shall not rely on a member's last will and testament to determine who receives this death benefit. If a person directs who should receive this death benefit through a last will and testament, it shall be the responsibility of the personal representative or the person entitled to receive the funds under a small estate affidavit to deliver the funds to that beneficiary. (*Board of Trustees of the Indiana Public Retirement System; 35 IAC 2-4-1; filed Aug 6, 1980, 9:20 a.m.: 3 IR 1473; filed May 7, 1998, 4:15 p.m.: 21 IR 3328; readopted filed Oct 31, 2001, 2:21 p.m.: 25 IR 898; adopted Nov 9, 2007: [20071205-IR-035070818ONA](#); adopted Apr 26, 2013: [20130508-IR-035130167ONA](#)*)

35 IAC 2-4-2 Survivor benefits; active duty

Authority: [IC 5-10.5-4-2](#); [IC 36-8-8-5](#)

Affected: [IC 36-8-8-14.1](#)

Sec. 2. (a) For purposes of [IC 36-8-8-14.1](#), a member is on active duty if that member is in employment status with the employer and is not on leave of absence or has not been suspended from his or her duties. However, a member who is on a leave pursuant to the Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993 shall be considered to be on active duty. The 1977 Fund will require a certification from the member's employer with respect to the member's status at the time of death for purposes of determining active duty.

(b) Active duty does not have the same meaning as line of duty, which is defined by [IC 36-8-8-14.1\(d\)](#). (*Board of Trustees of the Indiana Public Retirement System; 35 IAC 2-4-2; filed May 7, 1998, 4:15 p.m.: 21 IR 3328; readopted filed Oct 31, 2001, 2:21 p.m.: 25 IR 898; adopted Nov 9, 2007: [20071205-IR-035070818ONA](#)*)

35 IAC 2-4-3 Death in service; compliance with the Heroes Earning Assistance and Relief Tax Act of 2008 (HEART)

Authority: [IC 5-10.5-4-2](#); [IC 36-8-8-5](#)

Affected: [IC 36-8-8-14.1](#)

Sec. 3. (a) Effective with respect to deaths occurring on or after January 1, 2007, while a member is performing qualified military service (as defined in Chapter 43 of Title 38, United States Code), to the extent required by Section 401(a)(37) of the Internal Revenue Code, survivors of a member in the retirement system are entitled to any additional benefits that the system would provide if the member had resumed employment and then died, such as accelerated vesting or survivor benefits that are contingent on the member's death while employed.

(b) Effective with respect to deaths or disabilities occurring on or after January 1, 2007, while a member is performing qualified military service (as defined in Chapter 43 of Title 38, United States Code), to the extent permitted by Section 414(u)(9) of the Internal

Revenue Code, for benefit accrual purposes, the member will be treated as having returned to employment on the day before the death or disability and then terminated on the date of death or disability. This provision shall be applied to all similarly situated individuals in a reasonably equivalent manner.

(c) Beginning January 1, 2009, to the extent required by Sections 3401(h) and 414(u)(12) of the Internal Revenue Code, an individual receiving differential wage payments (while the individual is performing qualified military service (as defined in Chapter 43 of Title 38, United States Code)) from an employer shall be treated as employed by that employer and the differential wage payment shall be treated as earned compensation. This provision shall be applied to all similarly situated individuals in a reasonably equivalent manner. (*Board of Trustees of the Indiana Public Retirement System; 35 IAC 2-4-3; adopted Nov 20, 2009: [20091209-IR-035090927ONA](#); adopted Apr 26, 2013: [20130508-IR-035130167ONA](#)*)

Rule 5. Disability Benefits

35 IAC 2-5-1	Date of disability payments; source of funds
35 IAC 2-5-2	Transfer from disability to regular retirement
35 IAC 2-5-3	Recurring disability benefits
35 IAC 2-5-4	Applicable disability structure; member transfers
35 IAC 2-5-5	1977 Police Officers' and Firefighters' Pension and Disability Fund disability procedures
35 IAC 2-5-5.1	Standard to determine degree of impairment for a covered impairment
35 IAC 2-5-5.2	1977 police officers' and firefighters' pension and disability fund benefit payments pending appeal
35 IAC 2-5-5.3	Temporary disability benefits
35 IAC 2-5-6	Determination of work within the fund member's department
35 IAC 2-5-7	Line-of-duty review
35 IAC 2-5-8	Withholding of payments
35 IAC 2-5-9	Administrative orders; proceedings; reviews
35 IAC 2-5-10	Public safety officer disability benefits
35 IAC 2-5-11	Deferred retirement option plan (DROP) disability benefit

35 IAC 2-5-1 Date of disability payments; source of funds

Authority: [IC 5-10.5-4-2](#); [IC 36-8-8-5](#)

Affected: [IC 36-8-8](#)

Sec. 1. Disability benefits shall begin on the later of an effective date determined by the local board or the date following the exhaustion of all paid leave. The benefits shall be paid on the fifteenth of the month and be payable from the employer's contributions until the member attains his or her earliest retirement age under the fund, at which time the member's contribution account shall be eliminated, just as if the member had then retired. (*Board of Trustees of the Indiana Public Retirement System; 35 IAC 2-5-1; filed Aug 6, 1980, 9:20 a.m.: 3 IR 1473; filed Aug 6, 1981, 2:30 p.m.: 4 IR 1805; filed May 7, 1998, 4:15 p.m.: 21 IR 3328; readopted filed Oct 31, 2001, 2:21 p.m.: 25 IR 898; adopted Nov 9, 2007: [20071205-IR-035070818ONA](#)*)

35 IAC 2-5-2 Transfer from disability to regular retirement

Authority: [IC 5-10.5-4-2](#); [IC 36-8-8-5](#)

Affected: [IC 36-8-8-12.4](#)

Sec. 2. (a) A fund member hired for the first time before January 1, 1990, and who did not file an election under [IC 36-8-8-12.4](#) with the INPRS board prior to January 1, 1991, shall continue to receive the same amount of disability benefits when the member is transferred from disability to regular retirement status.

(b) Upon attaining fifty-two (52) years of age, a member receiving Class 1 or Class 2 impairment benefits shall be entitled to receive a retirement benefit equal to the greater of:

(1) the benefit payable to a member with twenty (20) years of service; or

(2) a benefit calculated on the total years of service and salary, as of the year the member attains fifty-two (52) years of age, that the member would have earned had the member remained in active service until attaining fifty-two (52) years of age.

(c) Upon attaining fifty-two (52) years of age, a member receiving Class 3 impairment benefits, who has at least four (4) years of service or who is receiving a Class 3 impairment benefit that equals or exceeds thirty percent (30%) of the monthly salary of a first class police officer or firefighter in the year of the local board's determination of impairment, shall continue to receive the same amount of disability benefits when the member is transferred from disability to regular retirement status.

(d) An eligible member may apply for disability benefits regardless of age. If it is determined that a member of the pre-1990 disability plan has a line-of-duty impairment, or a member of the 1990 disability plan has a Class 1 or Class 2 impairment, the member will begin receiving a lifetime impairment benefit. If a member of the pre-1990 disability plan has a nonline-of-duty impairment, or a member of the 1990 disability plan has a Class 3 impairment, and the member has already attained fifty-two (52) years of age, the member's disability retirement will be immediately converted to a regular retirement. (*Board of Trustees of the Indiana Public Retirement System; 35 IAC 2-5-2; filed Aug 6, 1981, 2:30 p.m.: 4 IR 1806; filed Sep 8, 1982, 2:05 p.m.: 5 IR 2110; filed May 7, 1998, 4:15 p.m.: 21 IR 3328; readopted filed Oct 31, 2001, 2:21 p.m.: 25 IR 898; adopted Nov 9, 2007: [20071205-IR-035070818ONA](#); adopted Nov 19, 2010: [20101208-IR-035100722ONA](#); adopted Feb 23, 2018: [20180307-IR-035180117ONA](#)*)

35 IAC 2-5-3 Recurring disability benefits

Authority: [IC 5-10.5-4-2](#); [IC 36-8-8-5](#)

Affected: [IC 36-8-8-12.3](#); [IC 36-8-8-15](#)

Sec. 3. A member who:

(1) has a covered impairment as defined in [IC 36-8-8-12.3](#);

(2) recovers and returns to active service with the department; and

(3) within two (2) years after returning to active service has an impairment that, except for [IC 36-8-8-12.3](#), would be a covered impairment;

is entitled to the benefit described under this section if the impairment described in subdivision (3) results from the same condition or conditions (without an intervening circumstance) that caused the covered impairment described in subdivision (1). The member is entitled to receive the monthly disability benefit amount paid to the member at the time of the member's return to active service plus any adjustments under [IC 36-8-8-15](#) that would have been applicable during the member's period of reemployment. (*Board of Trustees of the Indiana Public Retirement System; 35 IAC 2-5-3; filed May 7, 1998, 4:15 p.m.: 21 IR 3329; readopted filed Oct 31, 2001, 2:21 p.m.: 25 IR 898; adopted Nov 9, 2007: [20071205-IR-035070818ONA](#)*)

35 IAC 2-5-4 Applicable disability structure; member transfers

Authority: [IC 5-10.5-4-2](#); [IC 36-8-8-5](#)

Affected: [IC 36-8-4-11](#); [IC 36-8-8-7](#); [IC 36-8-8-12.3](#); [IC 36-8-8-15](#)

Sec. 4. (a) For purposes of determining which disability benefit provisions apply, the 1977 Fund shall interpret the phrase "hired for the first time" by using the member's first date of employment by the local unit where the member is currently employed. However, in the case of a fund member who directly transfers from covered employment with one (1) local unit to covered employment with another local unit, the fund member's date of employment with the first local unit shall be used.

(b) Members who directly transfer from covered employment with one (1) local unit to covered employment with the same or another local unit shall not be subjected to the maximum age limits under [IC 36-8-8-7\(a\)](#).

(c) For purposes of this section, "directly transfer" and "directly transfers" means the following:

(1) For those members laid off from employment pursuant to [IC 36-8-4-11](#), a transfer between covered employment with one (1) local unit to covered employment with a different local unit occurs within the reinstatement period set forth in [IC 36-8-4-11](#).

(2) For all other members, a transfer between covered employment with one (1) local unit to covered employment with the same or a different local unit occurs not later than one hundred eighty (180) days after the date of the separation from the first local unit. Furthermore, "directly transfer" and "directly transfers" shall not include any situation where the member receives a refund of his or her contributions from the fund unless the contributions are repaid pursuant to 35 IAC 2-1-2.

(*Board of Trustees of the Indiana Public Retirement System; 35 IAC 2-5-4; filed May 7, 1998, 4:15 p.m.: 21 IR 3329; readopted filed Oct 31, 2001, 2:21 p.m.: 25 IR 898; adopted Nov 9, 2007: [20071205-IR-035070818ONA](#); adopted Nov 20, 2009: [20091209-IR-035090927ONA](#); adopted Feb 19, 2010: [20100310-IR-035100124ONA](#); adopted Apr 29, 2011: [20110511-IR-035110273ONA](#); adopted Dec 13, 2013: [20131225-IR-035130565ONA](#); adopted Dec 13, 2019: [20191225-IR-035190683ONA](#)*)

35 IAC 2-5-5 1977 Police Officers' and Firefighters' Pension and Disability Fund disability procedures

Authority: [IC 5-10.5-4-2](#); [IC 36-8-8-5](#)

Affected: [IC 4-21.5](#); [IC 36-8-8-12.5](#); [IC 36-8-8-13.5](#)

Sec. 5. (a) The disability application process shall be as described as follows:

(1) The local board shall submit to the state board the following documents:

(A) A completed disability application form that includes the following:

- (i) The member's name, address, and Social Security number.
- (ii) The date of the local board's hearing.
- (iii) The date the local board determined a covered impairment exists.

The local board shall use the applicable forms developed by the state board for this purpose.

(B) The applicable form developed by the state board shall require the following:

- (i) The local board to submit its determinations, including findings of fact, with regard to the existence of a covered impairment and the class of impairment for a fund member who was hired for the first time after December 31, 1989, or who had elected coverage under [IC 36-8-8-12.5](#) and [IC 36-8-8-13.5](#) (Class 1 duty related injury, Class 2 duty related disease, and Class 3 all other covered impairments).
- (ii) A copy of the written job description for the member's position.
- (iii) A statement from the local board that certifies that the member cannot perform the essential functions of the job as reflected on the written job description by identifying the specific functions the member is incapable of performing.
- (iv) A statement from the appointing authority that certifies that there is no suitable and available work in the member's department for which the member is or may be capable of becoming qualified, considering reasonable accommodations to the extent required by the Americans with Disabilities Act.
- (v) The local board's findings with respect to self-inflicted injury, attempted suicide, commission of felony, or preexisting conditions.
- (vi) The local board's determination on whether the impairment resulted from an accidental injury.
- (vii) A statement that certifies that the local board's decision was communicated, in writing, to the fund member and the appointing authority.

(C) A transcript of the local board's hearing. The transcript should be signed by the person doing the transcription and by the pension secretary reflecting that the transcript is a true and accurate report of the testimony and exhibits presented during the local board's hearing.

(D) Copies of all exhibits accepted by the local pension board. These exhibits would include the medical evaluations of the fund member. Tests and examination results must be included.

(E) Certification by the appointing authority or the local board with regard to the fund member's last day of pay (including the last payment for any type and all forms of paid leave).

(F) Certification by the appointing authority of years of service.

(2) Unless the application is complete, the 1977 Fund will not accept the application. If the application is not accepted, the 1977 Fund shall do the following:

(A) Determine whether the file is complete.

(B) Send a letter to the local board stating that either a complete file has been received or the file is incomplete and will not be accepted until the specified items have been received by the 1977 Fund. If the file is incomplete, the 1977 Fund will send a letter stating the file is complete after all previously specified items have been received by the 1977 Fund.

(C) Once a completed file is accepted, the 1977 Fund will give the completed file to the medical authority or the mental health disability review panel.

(3) INPRS may make a provisional determination and invite the applicant to provide further records or evidence for review by INPRS before the initial determination is made. The INPRS board or its duly authorized representative will make an initial determination within sixty (60) days from the date the complete application is received by the 1977 Fund unless there is a delay attributable to the fund member or the appointing authority. The initial determination by the INPRS board for members who were hired for the first time after December 31, 1989, or who had elected coverage under [IC 36-8-8-12.5](#) and [IC 36-8-8-13.5](#), shall include a determination of class of impairment and degree of impairment. In making this determination, the 1977 Fund

shall treat a member as first hired using the member's first date of employment with the local unit where the member is currently employed. However, in the case of a fund member who directly transferred from covered employment with one (1) local unit to covered employment with another local unit, the fund member's date of employment with the first local unit shall be used. If the application is not accepted, the 1977 Fund shall do the following:

(A) The 1977 Fund will not consider the sixty (60) day period to begin until a completed file is accepted.

(B) The initial determination will be mailed, by certified mail return receipt requested, to the member, the local board, and the appointing authority. An appeal of the initial determination must be filed within fifteen (15) days after receiving written notice of the initial determination pursuant to [IC 4-21.5](#).

(C) If the INPRS board or its duly authorized representative does not make an initial determination within sixty (60) days and if the delay is not attributable to the fund member or the appointing authority, the local board's determination, or the fund member's statement in the case of an appeal of a local board determination, shall constitute the INPRS board's initial determination. A letter confirming this initial determination shall be sent by the 1977 Fund to the local board, the fund member, and the appointing authority.

(D) The letter communicating the INPRS board's initial determination shall inform the parties of the time limit on filing objections and shall clearly state that, if no objections are filed, the initial determination shall automatically become the state board's final order.

(4) If no objection to the INPRS board's initial determination is filed with the 1977 Fund within fifteen (15) days after the date of the INPRS board's initial determination letter, the INPRS board's initial determination shall become the INPRS board's final order.

(5) If a timely objection to the INPRS board's initial determination is filed, the 1977 Fund shall follow an internal hearing procedure. The 1977 Fund shall notify the member if the appeal is not timely. Such notice will indicate that the initial determination automatically became the INPRS board's final order.

(6) After receiving a timely objection to the initial determination, the 1977 Fund shall designate a hearing officer to review the case. The hearing officer must make a recommendation to the 1977 Fund with regard to a final decision within sixty (60) days after the hearing. The hearing will be recorded and a transcript prepared.

(7) Based upon the complete record and the recommendation from the hearing officer, the INPRS board shall issue a final order. The INPRS board may accept, but shall not be required to accept, the hearing officer's recommendation as its final order. The final order will be communicated in a letter, sent certified mail return receipt requested, to the fund member, the local board, and the appointing authority. In addition, the INPRS board may do the following:

(A) The INPRS board may request or accept additional information before issuing a final determination.

(B) The INPRS board shall issue a final order within one hundred eighty (180) days from the date the complete application is received by the 1977 Fund unless there is a delay attributable to the fund member or the appointing authority. If an order is not issued within one hundred eighty (180) days and if the delay is not attributable to the fund member or the appointing authority, the initial determination statements shall constitute the INPRS board's final order.

(b) The review of a fund member's impairment may be initiated by the 1977 Fund, the fund member, the safety board, or the local board. The review shall follow the procedure for disability applications. The cost of any medical examination required by the local board shall be paid by the party who petitioned for review.

(c) Requirements for recovered disabilitants shall be as follows:

(1) If there is a final determination that a disabilitant has recovered as result of a review described in subsection (b), the 1977 Fund shall solicit a certification from the local authorities with regard to the existence of suitable and available work on the police or fire department.

(2) Benefits will be terminated if suitable and available work on the police or fire department has been offered to the member. Benefits shall terminate in such a case regardless of the member's decision to accept or reject the employment offer from the police or fire department.

(3) In the event that a recovered member returns to 1977 Fund covered duties by the employing unit as a result of being released to such reinstatement of duties by the member's treating physician, the employing unit shall notify INPRS in writing of such reinstatement and disability benefits shall stop beginning the first of the month following the date of such reinstatement. Any benefits paid to the member after the first of the month following reinstatement must be repaid to the 1977 Fund.

(4) A recovered member returning to the same department will not be treated as a new applicant and will not be subjected to the application process for new members in the fund.

(5) In the event a member recovers from a covered impairment, returns to active service with the police or fire department, and becomes unable to perform all suitable and available work on the police or fire department within two (2) years of returning to active duty due to a covered impairment that is based on the same condition or conditions for which disability benefits were previously paid to the member, the member shall be entitled to receive monthly disability benefits equal to the amount of the monthly disability benefits that were paid to the member at the time of the member's return to active service plus any applicable cost of living adjustments.

(Board of Trustees of the Indiana Public Retirement System; 35 IAC 2-5-5; filed May 7, 1998, 4:15 p.m.: 21 IR 3329; readopted filed Oct 31, 2001, 2:21 p.m.: 25 IR 898; adopted Nov 9, 2007: [20071205-IR-035070818ONA](#); adopted Nov 21, 2008: [20090107-IR-035080955ONA](#); adopted Dec 14, 2012: [20121226-IR-035120663ONA](#); adopted Jun 26, 2020: [20200708-IR-035200360ONA](#))

35 IAC 2-5-5.1 Standard to determine degree of impairment for a covered impairment

Authority: [IC 5-10.5-4-2](#); [IC 36-8-8-5](#)

Affected: [IC 36-8-8-13.1](#); [IC 36-8-8-13.7](#)

Sec. 5.1. To determine the degree of impairment, for a member who has been found to have a covered impairment, the impairment standards contained in the most current edition of the American Medical Association: Guidelines of Disability Ratings in effect at the time the application for disability benefits is filed with the INPRS board shall be used to determine the degree of impairment. Notwithstanding that INPRS reviews disability at the time of application, the degree of impairment may be reviewed pursuant to [IC 36-8-8-13.7](#). Furthermore, the INPRS medical authority may determine a provisional degree of impairment until an applicant has reached Maximum Medical Improvement, as described in the American Medical Association: Guidelines of Disability Ratings. *(Board of Trustees of the Indiana Public Retirement System; 35 IAC 2-5-5.1; adopted Nov 9, 2007: [20071205-IR-035070818ONA](#); adopted Feb 19, 2010: [20100310-IR-035100124ONA](#); adopted Dec 13, 2013: [20131225-IR-035130565ONA](#); adopted Feb 23, 2018: [20180307-IR-035180117ONA](#))*

35 IAC 2-5-5.2 1977 police officers' and firefighters' pension and disability fund benefit payments pending appeal

Authority: [IC 5-10.5-4-2](#); [IC 36-8-8-5](#)

Affected: [IC 4-21.5](#); [IC 34-13-1-6](#); [IC 36-8-8-12.5](#); [IC 36-8-8-13.5](#)

Sec. 5.2. (a) A member who elects to exercise the right to appeal an adverse decision issued by the 1977 police officers' and firefighters' pension and disability fund may receive benefit payments less the disputed amount while the matter is pending. Should the matter be resolved in the member's favor, future benefits will be adjusted accordingly and a lump-sum payment for past benefits due shall be issued within sixty (60) days. If, however, the necessary information has not been provided or was delayed, the sixty (60) day period will be extended accordingly.

(b) Whenever, by final decree or judgment, a sum of money is adjudged to be due to a person, the judgment shall draw an annual rate of interest as described in [IC 34-13-1-6](#). The fund shall not pay prejudgment interest.

(c) When a member appeals an initial determination of disability benefits and the member prevails, the increase is awarded retroactive to the date of the initial determination. No interest on any retroactive disability payments will be owed. *(Board of Trustees of the Indiana Public Retirement System; 35 IAC 2-5-5.2; adopted Nov 19, 2010: [20101208-IR-035100722ONA](#))*

35 IAC 2-5-5.3 Temporary disability benefits

Authority: [IC 5-10.5-4-2](#); [IC 36-8-8-5](#)

Affected: [IC 36-8-8-12.3](#); [IC 36-8-8-13.7](#)

Sec. 5.3. (a) "Temporary disability" means a covered impairment that prevents the member from performing the essential functions of their duties but has a foreseeable rehabilitation period that would allow the member to return to duty.

(b) Eligibility for temporary disability benefits are determined under [IC 36-8-8-12.3](#) and subsection 5.1 of this chapter [*section 5.1 of this rule*].

(c) Members receiving a temporary disability benefit shall have their disability status reviewed no less than one (1) time per fiscal year, or more as recommended by the INPRS medical authority.

(d) INPRS may stop a member's benefit if, within thirty (30) days of INPRS' request for a review, the member has not provided

sufficient medical evidence to demonstrate a permanent disability. (*Board of Trustees of the Indiana Public Retirement System; 35 IAC 2-5-5.3; adopted Jun 23, 2017: [20170705-IR-035170307ONA](#)*)

35 IAC 2-5-6 Determination of work within the fund member's department

Authority: [IC 5-10.5-4-2](#); [IC 36-8-8-5](#)

Affected: [IC 36-8-8-12.3](#)

Sec. 6. In order for the INPRS board to make a determination with respect to a fund member's disability, the 1977 Fund must receive a certification from the local safety board that there is no suitable and available work in the member's department for which the fund member is or may be capable of becoming qualified, considering reasonable accommodation to the extent required by the Americans with Disabilities Act. The 1977 Fund will not process an application for disability unless the appropriate certification is included with the application for disability benefits. (*Board of Trustees of the Indiana Public Retirement System; 35 IAC 2-5-6; filed May 7, 1998, 4:15 p.m.: 21 IR 3331; readopted filed Oct 31, 2001, 2:21 p.m.: 25 IR 898; adopted Nov 9, 2007: [20071205-IR-035070818ONA](#); adopted Feb 23, 2018: [20180307-IR-035180117ONA](#)*)

35 IAC 2-5-7 Line-of-duty review

Authority: [IC 5-10.5-4-2](#); [IC 36-8-8-5](#)

Affected: [IC 36-8-8](#)

Sec. 7. After a hearing is conducted by the local board concerning determinations of impairment for fund members who:

(1) are hired for the first time before January 1, 1990; and

(2) do not choose coverage by sections [IC 36-8-8-12.5](#) and [IC 36-8-8-13.5](#) under section [IC 36-8-8-12.4](#), pursuant to [IC 36-8-8-12.7\(r\)](#);

the INPRS board shall review the local board's recommendation not later than forty-five (45) days after receiving the recommendation and shall issue an initial determination regarding whether the covered impairment was incurred in the line of duty or not in the line of duty. If the INPRS board fails to issue an initial determination within forty-five (45) days after receiving the recommendation from the local board, the default award on whether the covered impairment was incurred in the line of duty will be the determination made by INPRS' medical authority. (*Board of Trustees of the Indiana Public Retirement System; 35 IAC 2-5-7; adopted Nov 21, 2008: [20090107-IR-035080955ONA](#); adopted Dec 14, 2012: [20121226-IR-035120663ONA](#)*)

35 IAC 2-5-8 Withholding of payments

Authority: [IC 5-10.5-4-2](#); [IC 36-8-8-5](#)

Affected: [IC 4-21.5](#); [IC 36-8-8-12.5](#); [IC 36-8-8-13.5](#)

Sec. 8. The provisions of 35 IAC 1.2-6-10 apply to the fund. (*Board of Trustees of the Indiana Public Retirement System; 35 IAC 2-5-8; adopted Nov 19, 2010: [20101208-IR-035100722ONA](#); adopted Sep 10, 2021: [20210915-IR-035210420ONA](#)*)

35 IAC 2-5-9 Administrative orders; proceedings; reviews

Authority: [IC 5-10.5-4-2](#)

Affected: [IC 2-3.5-3-4](#); [IC 4-21.5-3-5](#); [IC 4-21.5-3-28](#); [IC 5-10.2](#); [IC 5-10.3-8-5](#); [IC 33-38-6-23](#); [IC 33-39-7-11](#)

Sec. 9. (a) The purpose of this rule is to establish procedures to process petitioner appeals of the 1977 police officers' and firefighters' pension and disability fund staff action, determinations, or decisions referred to as "staff action" in accordance with and pursuant to the Indiana Administrative Orders and Procedures Act (Act), [IC 4-21.5-3](#).

(b) Pursuant to [IC 4-21.5-3-28](#), the executive director (ED) as the board's delegate is the ultimate authority and has set forth the following review process to be followed before a final order is issued:

(1) The 1977 police officers' and firefighters' pension and disability fund will issue an initial determination of its response to a questioned action.

(2) The initial determination will be sent by certified mail to the stakeholder with a summary of the member's right to administrative review.

(3) Pursuant to [IC 4-21.5-3-5](#), the petitioner will have fifteen (15) days from receipt of the 1977 police officers' and firefighters' pension and disability fund's initial determination to appeal in writing.

(4) Upon receipt by the 1977 police officers' and firefighters' pension and disability fund, a copy of the appeal will be sent to the administrative law judge (ALJ) assigned to the matter.

(5) The assigned ALJ may set a prehearing conference to discuss issues of discovery and motions for summary judgment and to determine a briefing schedule.

(6) If an evidentiary hearing is required, the 1977 police officers' and firefighters' pension and disability fund shall provide space which is equipped with a recording device to conduct the hearing or engage a court reporter to make a record of the hearing if necessary.

(7) Once the ALJ has entered a decision and recommended order, the petitioner will have fifteen (15) days to object to the ALJ's decision.

(8) The ED will make a final determination to affirm, modify, or dissolve the ALJ's order. The executed final order will be mailed by certified mail to the ALJ and petitioner.

(9) The petitioner has thirty (30) days from receipt of the final order to petition a court of jurisdiction for judicial review.

(10) If no petition for judicial review is filed within the thirty (30) day time period, the file is closed.

(11) This rule shall be interpreted to conform to the Act and shall be implemented pursuant to and in accordance with the Act.

(c) This rule will apply to appeals filed pursuant to [IC 5-10.3-8-5](#), [IC 33-39-7-11](#), [IC 33-38-6-23](#), and [IC 2-3.5-3-4](#). (*Board of Trustees of the Indiana Public Retirement System; 35 IAC 2-5-9; adopted Nov 19, 2010: [20101208-IR-035100722ONA](#)*)

35 IAC 2-5-10 Public safety officer disability benefits

Authority: [IC 5-10.5-4-2](#); [IC 36-8-8-5](#)

Affected: [IC 36-8-4-11](#); [IC 36-8-8-7](#)

Sec. 10. (a) "Public safety officer" means a member of the 1977 Fund who performs the functions of and is a regularly employed and qualified as a police officer and who also performs the functions of and is regularly employed and qualified as a firefighter by a single employing unit.

(b) Participating employing units shall designate and enroll public safety officers either as firefighters or police officers in accordance with [IC 36-8-8](#).

(c) Benefits and account administration of public safety officers shall be governed pursuant to and in accordance with the rules and regulations governing the member's enrollment designation. (*Board of Trustees of the Indiana Public Retirement System; 35 IAC 2-5-10; adopted Dec 14, 2012: [20121226-IR-035120663ONA](#)*)

35 IAC 2-5-11 Deferred retirement option plan (DROP) disability benefit

Authority: [IC 5-10.5-4-2](#); [IC 36-8-8-5](#)

Affected: [IC 36-8-8-13.5](#); [IC 36-8-8.5-12](#); [IC 36-8-8.5-16.5](#)

Sec. 11. (a) For the purposes of paying a retirement benefit calculated under the disability retirement provisions of [IC 36-8-8-13.5](#), the member's service credit and salary are frozen on the DROP entry date. The disability benefit shall be calculated based on the member's salary and service credit in effect on the member's DROP entry date.

(b) For the purposes of paying the additional amount calculated under [IC 36-8-8.5-16.5](#), the DROP retirement date is the effective date of disability or upon the member's separation from the employer, whichever is later.

(c) Pursuant to 26 U.S. Code §104, the monthly benefit related to the line of duty injury that is not determined on the basis of age, length of service, or prior contributions is nontaxable income. Benefits not related to a line of duty injury, including the DROP additional amount calculated under [IC 36-8-8.5-12](#), are not eligible for favorable tax treatment. (*Board of Trustees of the Indiana Public Retirement System; 35 IAC 2-5-11; adopted Jun 23, 2017: [20170705-IR-035170307ONA](#)*)

Rule 6. Employer Contributions

[35 IAC 2-6-1](#)

Payment of employer contributions

35 IAC 2-6-1 Payment of employer contributions

Authority: [IC 5-10.5-4-2](#); [IC 36-8-8-5](#)
Affected: [IC 36-8-8-4](#); [IC 36-8-8-6](#)

Sec. 1. (a) The Indiana public retirement system board of trustees herein sets the due date for contributions as seven (7) days after a covered employer's payroll unless otherwise approved by the board.

(b) Any employer who fails to make such payments by the due date may be assessed a penalty. The board may fine the employer or department one hundred dollars (\$100) for each additional day that the payments are late. The penalty will be determined by the board of trustees.

(c) For purposes of [IC 36-8-8-6\(e\)](#), the system board will request that the amount payable be withheld by the auditor of state from money payable to the employer and transferred to the fund if the employer fails to submit required contributions, records, or reports for over sixty (60) days after the due date. The system board may also recover in the circuit or superior court of the county in which the employer is located, in an action by the state on the relation of the system board, prosecuted by the attorney general, if the employer fails to submit required contributions, records, or reports for over sixty (60) days after the due date. (*Board of Trustees of the Indiana Public Retirement System; 35 IAC 2-6-1; filed Aug 6, 1980, 9:20 a.m.: 3 IR 1473; readopted filed Oct 31, 2001, 2:21 p.m.: 25 IR 898; adopted Nov 9, 2007: [20071205-IR-035070818ONA](#); adopted Dec 13, 2013: [20131225-IR-035130565ONA](#); adopted Sep 10, 2021: [20210915-IR-035210420ONA](#)*)

Rule 7. Employer Reporting and Salary

[35 IAC 2-7-1](#) Report of salary levels
[35 IAC 2-7-2](#) Employer reporting

35 IAC 2-7-1 Report of salary levels

Authority: [IC 5-10.5-4-2](#); [IC 36-8-8-5](#)
Affected: [IC 36-8-1-11](#); [IC 36-8-8-6.5](#); [IC 36-8-8-11](#)

Sec. 1. Annually, on or before January first each year, the Clerk-Treasurer or City Controller shall certify to the 1977 Fund within the limits of [IC 36-8-1-11](#) what constitutes the salary of a first class patrolman or firefighter for that employer for that calendar year on a form approved by INPRS. (*Board of Trustees of the Indiana Public Retirement System; 35 IAC 2-7-1; filed Aug 6, 1980, 9:20 a.m.: 3 IR 1473; filed Sep 8, 1982, 2:05 p.m.: 5 IR 2110; readopted filed Oct 31, 2001, 2:21 p.m.: 25 IR 898; adopted Nov 9, 2007: [20071205-IR-035070818ONA](#); adopted Sep 10, 2021: [20210915-IR-035210420ONA](#)*)

35 IAC 2-7-2 Employer reporting

Authority: [IC 5-10.5-4-2](#); [IC 36-8-8-5](#)
Affected: [IC 36-8-8-6](#); [IC 36-8-8-6.5](#)

Sec. 2. (a) INPRS may request reports and records from employers participating in the 1977 fund.

(b) Pursuant to [IC 36-8-8-6](#), said reports or records are due to the system board not more than thirty (30) days after the end of the calendar quarter when such records or reports were requested.

(c) INPRS may make an expedited request for reports and records to be submitted not earlier than thirty (30) days from the date requested, provided INPRS has a reasonable need for such expedited request unless the employer has just cause for the delay. Just cause for purposes of this subsection is determined solely by INPRS.

(d) Any employer who fails to provide the requested report or records by the due date may be assessed a penalty. The board may fine the employer or department one hundred dollars (\$100) for each additional day that the reports and records are late. The penalty will be determined by the board.

(e) The provisions of 35 IAC 2-6-1(c) apply to this section. (*Board of Trustees of the Indiana Public Retirement System; 35 IAC 2-7-2; adopted Sep 10, 2021: [20210915-IR-035210420ONA](#)*)

Rule 8. Employer's Contribution

[35 IAC 2-8-1](#) Actuarial data used in calculating total membership cost

[35 IAC 2-8-2](#)

Interest on employer's account

35 IAC 2-8-1 Actuarial data used in calculating total membership cost

Authority: [IC 5-10.5-4-2](#); [IC 36-8-8-5](#)

Affected: [IC 36-8-8-4](#)

Sec. 1. The Actuarial Data to be used in calculating the total membership cost of participants shall include all service as a full time sworn police officer or firefighter in an Indiana police or fire force having a 1977 Police and Firefighters' Pension and Disability Fund. (*Board of Trustees of the Indiana Public Retirement System; 35 IAC 2-8-1; filed Aug 6, 1981, 2:30 pm: 4 IR 1806; filed Sep 8, 1982, 2:05 pm: 5 IR 2111; readopted filed Oct 31, 2001, 2:21 p.m.: 25 IR 898; adopted Nov 9, 2007: [20071205-IR-035070818ONA](#)*)

35 IAC 2-8-2 Interest on employer's account

Authority: [IC 5-10.5-4-2](#); [IC 36-8-8-5](#)

Affected: [IC 36-8-8-4](#)

Sec. 2. Interest on Employer's Account. Annual interest shall be paid each year, on the prior year-end account balance at a rate determined by the 1977 Fund, on all accounts having a positive year-end balance. All accounts having a negative year-end account balance may be charged an interest rate determined by the 1977 Fund. (*Board of Trustees of the Indiana Public Retirement System; 35 IAC 2-8-2; filed Aug 6, 1981, 2:30 p.m.: 4 IR 1806; readopted filed Oct 31, 2001, 2:21 p.m.: 25 IR 898; adopted Nov 9, 2007: [20071205-IR-035070818ONA](#)*)

Rule 9. Baseline Statewide Medical Examinations and Standards

[35 IAC 2-9-1](#)

Purpose

[35 IAC 2-9-2](#)

Definitions

[35 IAC 2-9-3](#)

Administration of rule

[35 IAC 2-9-4](#)

Components of examinations

[35 IAC 2-9-5](#)

Local determination and transfer to INPRS

[35 IAC 2-9-6](#)

INPRS determinations and disqualifying conditions

35 IAC 2-9-1 Purpose

Authority: [IC 5-10.5-4-2](#); [IC 36-8-8-5](#); [IC 36-8-8-19](#)

Affected: [IC 36-8-8-7](#)

Sec. 1. (a) This rule identifies the baseline statewide physical medical standards that are applicable to all applicants who desire to become members of the 1977 Police Officers' and Firefighters' Pension and Disability Fund (1977 Fund). The baseline statewide medical standards are designed to ensure all applicants seeking to become a police officer or firefighter are capable of successfully performing the essential functions of the job without imposing a direct threat to the health or safety of themselves, coworkers, or the public with whom they come in contact during the course of employment.

(b) The requirements in this rule and in 35 IAC 2-10, containing the Class 3 excludable conditions, were based on in-depth consideration of the essential functions of the job for police officers and firefighters.

(c) For firefighters, consideration was also given to the fact that the essential functions are performed in and affected by environmental factors, including the following:

- (1) Operate both as a member of a team and independently at incidents of uncertain duration.
- (2) Spend extensive time outside exposed to the elements.
- (3) Experience frequent transition from hot to cold and from humid to dry atmospheres.
- (4) Tolerate extreme fluctuations in temperature and perform physically demanding work in hot (up to four hundred degrees Fahrenheit (400°F)), humid (up to one hundred percent (100%)) atmospheres while wearing equipment that significantly impairs body cooling mechanisms.
- (5) Work in wet, icy, or muddy areas.

- (6) Perform a variety of tasks on slippery, hazardous surfaces, such as on roof tops or from ladders.
- (7) Work in areas where sustaining traumatic or thermal injury is possible.
- (8) Face exposure to carcinogenic dusts such as:
 - (A) asbestos; or
 - (B) toxic substances, such as:
 - (i) hydrogen cyanide;
 - (ii) acids;
 - (iii) carbon monoxide; or
 - (iv) organic solvents;either through inhalation or skin contact.
- (9) Face exposure to infectious agents such as hepatitis B or human immunodeficiency virus (HIV).
- (10) Perform complex tasks during life-threatening emergencies.
- (11) Work for long periods of time, requiring sustained physical activity and intense concentration.
- (12) Face life or death decisions during emergency conditions.
- (13) Tolerate exposure to grotesque sights and smells associated with major trauma and burn victims.
- (14) Make rapid transitions from rest to near maximal exertion without warm-up periods.
- (15) Operate in environments:
 - (A) of high noise;
 - (B) of poor visibility;
 - (C) of limited mobility;
 - (D) at heights; and
 - (E) in enclosed or confined spaces.
- (16) Use manual or power tools in the performance of duties.
- (17) Rely on senses of sight, hearing, smell, and touch to help determine the nature of the emergency, maintain personal safety, and make critical decisions in confused, chaotic, and potentially life-threatening environments.
- (18) Wear personal protective equipment that weighs approximately fifty (50) pounds while performing the essential functions of the job.
- (19) Perform physically demanding work while wearing positive pressure breathing equipment with one and five-tenths (1.5) inches water column resistance to exhalation at a flow of forty (40) liters per minute.
- (20) Be able to communicate with people effectively.
- (d) For police officers, consideration was also given to the fact that the essential job functions are performed in and affected by environmental factors, including the following:
 - (1) Operate both as a member of a team and independently at incidents of uncertain duration.
 - (2) Face exposure to infectious agents such as hepatitis B or human immunodeficiency virus (HIV).
 - (3) Perform complex tasks during life-threatening emergencies.
 - (4) Work for long periods of time, requiring sustained physical activity and intense concentration.
 - (5) Face life or death decisions during emergency conditions.
 - (6) Tolerate exposure to grotesque sights and smells associated with major trauma.
 - (7) Make rapid transitions from rest to near maximal exertion without warm-up periods.
 - (8) Use firearms, self-defense equipment, and body armor.
 - (9) Be able to physically protect himself or herself.
 - (10) Be able to communicate with people effectively.

(Board of Trustees of the Indiana Public Retirement System; 35 IAC 2-9-1; filed May 27, 1993, 12:00 p.m.: 16 IR 2338, eff Jul 1, 1993; filed May 7, 1998, 4:15 p.m.: 21 IR 3331; readopted filed Oct 31, 2001, 2:21 p.m.: 25 IR 898; adopted Nov 9, 2007: [20071205-IR-035070818ONA](#))

35 IAC 2-9-2 Definitions

Authority: [IC 5-10.5-4-2](#); [IC 36-8-8-5](#); [IC 36-8-8-19](#)

Affected: [IC 36-8-3.2](#)

Sec. 2. (a) The definitions in this section apply throughout this rule.

(b) "Americans with Disabilities Act" refers to the Americans with Disabilities Act (42 U.S.C. 12101 et seq.) and all applicable regulations and amendments, if any, related to the Americans with Disabilities Act.

(c) "Candidate" means an individual who has successfully passed the physical agility test and, if applicable, the general aptitude test under [IC 36-8-3.2-3](#) or [IC 36-8-3.2-3.5](#) and received an offer of employment that is subject to the individual's successful completion of the physical and mental examinations identified in [IC 36-8-3.2-6](#) and [IC 36-8-8-19](#). (*Board of Trustees of the Indiana Public Retirement System; 35 IAC 2-9-2; filed May 27, 1993, 12:00 p.m.: 16 IR 2339, eff Jul 1, 1993; readopted filed Oct 31, 2001, 2:21 p.m.: 25 IR 898; adopted Nov 9, 2007: [20071205-IR-035070818ONA](#)*)

35 IAC 2-9-3 Administration of rule

Authority: [IC 5-10.5-4-2](#); [IC 36-8-8-5](#); [IC 36-8-8-19](#)

Affected: [IC 36-8-8-19](#)

Sec. 3. Notwithstanding any other provision, this rule shall be administered in a manner that is consistent with the Americans with Disabilities Act, to the extent required by the Americans with Disabilities Act. (*Board of Trustees of the Indiana Public Retirement System; 35 IAC 2-9-3; filed May 27, 1993, 12:00 p.m.: 16 IR 2339, eff Jul 1, 1993; readopted filed Oct 31, 2001, 2:21 p.m.: 25 IR 898; adopted Nov 9, 2007: [20071205-IR-035070818ONA](#)*)

35 IAC 2-9-4 Components of examinations

Authority: [IC 5-10.5-4-2](#); [IC 36-8-8-5](#); [IC 36-8-8-19](#)

Affected: [IC 36-8-8-7](#)

Sec. 4. (a) The first component of the baseline statewide physical examination consists of a comprehensive general medical history. The comprehensive general medical history shall cover the applicant's known health problems, such as major illnesses, surgeries, medication use, and allergies. Symptom review is also important for detecting early signs of disqualifying conditions and excludable conditions. The comprehensive general medical history shall include the following:

- (1) A personal health history.
- (2) A family health history.
- (3) An immunization history.
- (4) A reproductive history.

An occupational history shall also be completed to collect information about the person's past occupational and environmental exposures.

(b) After the examining physician completes the comprehensive medical history, the physician shall conduct a general physical examination of the candidate. Requirements for the baseline statewide physical examination shall be as follows:

- (1) The baseline statewide physical examination is intended to test the following organ systems:

- (A) Dermatological system.
- (B) Ears, eyes, nose, mouth, and throat.
- (C) Cardiovascular system.
- (D) Respiratory system.
- (E) Gastrointestinal system.
- (F) Genitourinary system.
- (G) Endocrine and metabolic systems.
- (H) Musculoskeletal system.

- (2) The baseline statewide physical examination shall include the following tests:

- (A) Vital signs, such as pulse, respiration, blood pressure, and, if indicated, temperature.
- (B) Visual testing, using a Snellen chart or other comparable chart. Vision testing shall also include field of vision testing and color vision testing.
- (C) Audiometric testing. (An audiogram should be performed in a soundproof booth pursuant to the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) standard S3.1-1991 with equipment calibrated to ANSI standard S3.6-1989). If a booth is unavailable, the test room sound pressure levels should not exceed those specified in 29 CFR 1910.95 (July 1, 1992)

edition).

(D) Pulmonary function testing. Only a spirogram that is technically acceptable and demonstrates the best efforts by an individual should be used to calculate the forced vital capacity (FVC) and forced expiratory volume in one (1) second (FEV1).

(E) Quantiferon test (TB blood test).

(F) Laboratory testing must include the following:

(i) Baseline blood testing, including complete blood count (CBC) and HIV testing.

(ii) Biochemical test battery (SMA), including, at a minimum, liver function tests (bilirubin, direct & indirect, SGOT, SGPT, GGT), fasting blood glucose, electrolytes, BUN, creatinine, fasting serum lipids, and test for syphilis.

(iii) Routine urinalysis to detect specific illnesses.

(iv) Drug abuse testing.

(v) Alcohol abuse testing, if indicated.

Additional laboratory testing should be conducted as indicated.

(G) Chest x-ray. Posterior-anterior (PA) and lateral views required; spine x-rays and other diagnostic imaging, if indicated.

(H) Twelve (12) lead electrocardiogram (resting) test.

(I) Treadmill cardiac stress test.

(J) Each candidate must complete a respirator clearance questionnaire.

(K) Submax (Bruce protocol) treadmill evaluation.

(L) Functional movement screening or orthopedic screening, or both.

(c) The local board shall determine the standards for passage of the baseline statewide mental examination. The local board may designate a community health center, a hospital, a licensed physician, or a licensed psychologist to administer the baseline statewide mental examination required under [IC 36-8-8-7](#) and [IC 36-8-8-19](#). The examining physician must have no pre-existing personal relationship with the applicant. The baseline mental examination shall consist of the Minnesota Multiphasic Personality Inventory III. The results of the baseline statewide mental examination shall be interpreted by a licensed physician or a licensed psychologist. (*Board of Trustees of the Indiana Public Retirement System; 35 IAC 2-9-4; filed May 27, 1993, 12:00 p.m.: 16 IR 2339, eff Jul 1, 1993; filed May 7, 1998, 4:15 p.m.: 21 IR 3332; readopted filed Oct 31, 2001, 2:21 p.m.: 25 IR 898; adopted Nov 9, 2007: [20071205-IR-035070818ONA](#); adopted Feb 19, 2010: [20100310-IR-035100124ONA](#); adopted May 7, 2021: [20210519-IR-035210173ONA](#)*)

35 IAC 2-9-5 Local determination and transfer to INPRS

Authority: [IC 5-10.5-4-2](#); [IC 36-8-8-5](#)

Affected: [IC 36-8-3.2-3](#); [IC 36-8-3.2-3.5](#); [IC 36-8-8-7](#); [IC 36-8-8-19](#)

Sec. 5. (a) The examining physician shall send the results of the comprehensive general medical history and physical examination to the local board.

(b) Once the local board determines that the candidate satisfies any physical and mental standards established by the appointing authority or the local board, the baseline statewide physical examination, and the baseline statewide mental examination, the local board shall send INPRS the following:

(1) Copies and certification of the results of the general medical history and baseline statewide physical examination required under [IC 36-8-8-7](#) and [IC 36-8-8-19](#).

(2) Certification of the results of the physical agility examination required under [IC 36-8-3.2-3](#) or [IC 36-8-3.2-3.5](#).

(3) Certification of the results of the baseline statewide mental examination required under [IC 36-8-8-7](#) and [IC 36-8-8-19](#).

(c) The local board shall submit the certification of the results of the baseline statewide physical examination within six (6) months of the date of the examination. If INPRS receives the certification of the results of the baseline statewide physical examination more than six (6) months from the date of the examination, the local board has not met the requirements for the transfer of the local determination under this section. However, if the date of an applicant's baseline statewide physical examination is more than six (6) months prior to the date the certification of the baseline statewide physical examination is received by INPRS, the applicant may petition INPRS to accept the certification. Such petition must be in writing signed by the petitioner and provide the reason why such

certification should be accepted. Upon review of the petition, INPRS in its sole discretion shall determine whether to accept or reject the certification. (*Board of Trustees of the Indiana Public Retirement System; 35 IAC 2-9-5; filed May 27, 1993, 12:00 p.m.: 16 IR 2340, eff Jul 1, 1993; readopted filed Oct 31, 2001, 2:21 p.m.: 25 IR 898; adopted Nov 9, 2007: [20071205-IR-035070818ONA](#); adopted Feb 17, 2012: [20120222-IR-035120095ONA](#); adopted Feb 23, 2018: [20180307-IR-035180117ONA](#)*)

35 IAC 2-9-6 INPRS determinations and disqualifying conditions

Authority: [IC 5-10.5-4-2](#); [IC 36-8-8-5](#); [IC 36-8-8-19](#)

Affected: [IC 36-8-3.5-12](#)

Sec. 6. (a) As determined by the INPRS board or the INPRS board's designee, based on the results of the general medical history and the physical examination of the candidate, the existence of any of the conditions identified in subsection (b) will result in the revocation of the candidate's conditional offer of employment unless the conditions can be eliminated or effectively reduced by reasonable accommodations to the extent required under the Americans with Disabilities Act as determined by the appointing authority and certified to INPRS.

(b) The following are disqualifying conditions:

(1) Vision testing as follows:

(A) Any of the following tests for far vision acuity:

(i) Binocular vision not correctable to at least 20/30.

(ii) Vision of the worse eye not correctable to at least 20/50.

(iii) Uncorrected binocular vision of worse than 20/100, with the exception that long term successful users of soft contact lenses do not have to meet this uncorrected standard.

(B) Color vision. An inability to identify red, green, and yellow colors.

(C) Peripheral vision. Uncorrected field of vision of worse than one hundred forty (140) degrees in the horizontal meridian in each eye.

(2) Hearing deficit. A hearing deficit in the pure tone thresholds (five hundred (500) hertz, one thousand (1,000) hertz, two thousand (2,000) hertz, and three thousand (3,000) hertz) in the unaided worse ear:

(A) of more than twenty-five (25) decibels in three (3) of the four (4) frequencies;

(B) of more than thirty (30) decibels in any one (1) of the first three (3) frequencies; or

(C) with an average loss within the four (4) frequencies of more than thirty (30) decibels.

(3) Communicable diseases. Any communicable disease or condition that poses a significant risk of substantial harm to the health or safety of the candidate, coworkers, or members of the public with whom the candidate will come in contact during the course of employment.

(4) Suddenly incapacitating diseases or conditions. Any disease or condition (physical or mental) that could incapacitate the candidate without sufficient warning to allow the candidate to take preventive measures, thereby imposing a significant risk of substantial harm to the health or safety of the candidate, coworkers, or members of the public with whom the candidate will come in contact during the course of employment (unless such disease or condition can be controlled by medication and the candidate affirms he or she takes the appropriate medication).

(5) Alcoholism or illegal use of drugs as follows:

(A) Any history of alcoholism, unless the candidate has successfully rehabilitated for a period of at least one (1) year, successfully passes an examination for alcohol usage, and the candidate affirms he or she is no longer engaging in the use of alcohol and has successfully rehabilitated for a period of at least one (1) year preceding his or her application for employment.

(B) Any history of illegal use of drugs or evidence of drug abuse, unless the candidate has successfully rehabilitated for a period of at least one (1) year, successfully passes an examination for use of drugs or drug abuse, and the candidate affirms he or she is no longer engaging in drug abuse and has successfully rehabilitated for a period of at least one (1) year preceding his or her application for employment.

(c) The determination of whether a candidate's condition poses a significant risk of substantial harm will be based on an objective individualized assessment of the applicant's present ability to safely perform the essential functions of the job considering reasonable accommodations to the extent required under the Americans with Disabilities Act. Factors to be considered include the following:

- (1) The duration of the risk.
- (2) The nature and severity of the potential harm.
- (3) The likelihood that the potential harm will occur.
- (4) The imminence of the potential harm.

Relevant evidence may include input from the applicant, the experience of the applicant in previous similar positions, opinions of medical doctors, rehabilitation counselors, or physical therapists who have expertise in the disability involved, or direct knowledge of the applicant. (*Board of Trustees of the Indiana Public Retirement System; 35 IAC 2-9-6; filed May 27, 1993, 12:00 p.m.: 16 IR 2340, eff Jul 1, 1993; readopted filed Oct 31, 2001, 2:21 p.m.: 25 IR 898; adopted Nov 9, 2007: [20071205-IR-035070818ONA](#); adopted Feb 23, 2018: [20180307-IR-035180117ONA](#)*)

Rule 10. Preexisting Excludable Medical Conditions

35 IAC 2-10-1	Purpose
35 IAC 2-10-2	Preexisting excludable medical conditions
35 IAC 2-10-3	Statement of understanding

35 IAC 2-10-1 Purpose

Authority: [IC 5-10.5-4-2](#); [IC 36-8-8-5](#); [IC 36-8-8-13.6](#)
Affected: [IC 36-8-8-13.5](#)

Sec. 1. (a) This rule identifies the Class 3 preexisting excludable conditions which, under [IC 36-8-8-13.5](#) and [IC 36-8-8-13.6](#), make members of the 1977 Police Officers' and Firefighters' Pension and Disability Fund (Fund) ineligible under certain circumstances for the Class 3 impairment benefits established in [IC 36-8-8-13.5\(e\)](#).

(b) The purpose of this rule is to permit the continued development and administration of the Fund in accordance with accepted principles of risk assessment. This rule is designed to protect the fiscal integrity of the Fund by identifying certain preexisting conditions that have a substantial likelihood of causing impairments that would result in a member of the Fund becoming eligible for Class 3 impairment benefits. (*Board of Trustees of the Indiana Public Retirement System; 35 IAC 2-10-1; filed May 27, 1993, 12:00 p.m.: 16 IR 2341, eff Jul 1, 1993; readopted filed Oct 31, 2001, 2:21 p.m.: 25 IR 898; adopted Nov 9, 2007: [20071205-IR-035070818ONA](#)*)

35 IAC 2-10-2 Preexisting excludable medical conditions

Authority: [IC 5-10.5-4-2](#); [IC 36-8-8-5](#); [IC 36-8-8-13.6](#)
Affected: [IC 36-8-8-13.5](#)

Sec. 2. (a) As determined by the INPRS board or the INPRS board's designee and based on the results of the general medical history and the physical examination of the candidate, the preexisting conditions identified in subsection (b) will result in the candidate being ineligible under certain circumstances for the Class 3 impairment benefits established in [IC 36-8-8-13.5\(e\)](#).

(b) Each of the following preexisting conditions constitutes an excludable condition under [IC 36-8-8-13.5](#) and [IC 36-8-8-13.6](#):

- (1) A history of myocardial infarction.
- (2) Angina pectoris or other evidence of coronary artery disease.
- (3) Congenital heart disease.
- (4) Hypertrophy or dilation of the heart as evidenced by examination.
- (5) Pericarditis, endocarditis, or myocarditis unless the examining physician determines that the condition is now stable and unlikely to recur.
- (6) Arrhythmias.
- (7) Diabetes. A candidate with a history of hyperglycemia or glucosuria or albuminuria must be considered to have an excludable condition unless a report from the physician that treated the candidate can be obtained which assures the absence of diabetes mellitus.
- (8) Pancreatitis.
- (9) A history of a chronic bowel disorder such as Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis. A candidate with a history of a bowel obstruction within the preceding ten (10) years shall be considered to have an excludable condition unless the candidate is able

to obtain a letter from the treating physician to the examining physician explaining the nature of the obstruction and what was done to cure it.

- (10) Any hepatitis, chronic or acute, with impairment of liver function.
- (11) Cirrhosis or varices.
- (12) Inguinal or femoral hernia, hiatal hernia, if symptomatic, or ventral hernia, if symptomatic.
- (13) Interabdominal tumor or mass.
- (14) Any previous gastric resection unless there is sound x-ray evidence provided that there is little chance of recurrence of the condition which caused the first surgery.
- (15) Active gastric or duodenal ulcer unless the candidate is able to provide x-ray evidence that the ulcer is currently healed. A history of a gastric or duodenal ulcer shall be treated the same as any such active ulcer unless the candidate is able to provide x-ray evidence that the ulcer is currently healed.
- (16) Any evidence of rectal or prostatic malignancy.
- (17) Evidence of existing renal calculus or ureterovesical calculus, if symptomatic.
- (18) A person who has had a nephrectomy but with a functional remaining kidney will not be considered to have an excludable condition, provided there is no evidence of reduced renal function in the remaining kidney.
- (19) Any chronic nephritis or nephrosis, hydronephrosis, pyelonephrosis, pyelitis, pyelonephritis, or polycystic disease of the kidneys.
- (20) Urinary tract disease, whether or not the urinary tract has any significant abnormalities at this time, or whether any organic disease is present, or other related disorders adversely affecting the kidneys, excluding urinary tract infections.
- (21) A history of kidney stones. If there is a history of kidney stones, urological consultation must be sought in order to provide an estimate of the likelihood of the recurrence of long term incapacitating symptoms. A candidate exhibiting a high likelihood of recurrence must be considered to have an excludable condition.
- (22) Any proteinuria which is a result of renal disease.
- (23) Any malformation of the urinary tract organs, congenital or acquired.
- (24) Polycystic kidney.
- (25) Any current fistula, either congenital or acquired, including tracheostomy.
- (26) Any history of subarachnoid hemorrhage, cerebral aneurysm, or any cerebral vascular disease including any previous stroke within the preceding ten (10) years.
- (27) Hydrocephalus.
- (28) Abnormalities from recent head injury, such as severe cerebral concussion or contusion.
- (29) Any acute or chronic pathological condition in either eye or the adnexa of the eye.
- (30) Nystagmus of the eye, uncorrected strabismus, glaucoma, and aphakia, whether it is unilateral or bilateral, and active chorioretinitis should be considered for further examination by a qualified eye specialist to determine the likelihood and degree of future impairment.
- (31) Cataract, retinitis pigmentosa, and any papilledema or tumor.
- (32) Any retinal exudate, hemorrhage or edema, or detachment of the retina.
- (33) Inflammatory disease of the retina, the globe, or the other structures within the globe.
- (34) Heterophoria, hyperphoria, esophoria, or exophoria should be considered for further examination by a qualified eye specialist to determine the likelihood and degree of future impairment.
- (35) Bronchiectasis.
- (36) Bronchial asthma.
- (37) Emphysema or chronic obstructive pulmonary disease.
- (38) Pulmonary fibrosis.
- (39) Pleurisy with effusion or empyema.
- (40) Any spontaneous pneumothorax unless the examining physician determines that the condition is not likely to persist or recur.
- (41) Any evidence or history of tuberculosis, sarcoidosis, or congenital cystic disease of the lung, active histoplasmosis, or any other lung pathology unless the examining physician determines that the condition is now stable and unlikely to recur.
- (42) Tumor or cyst of the lung, pleura, or mediastinal.
- (43) Any disease of the blood forming organs or of the blood.

- (44) Anemia with the hemoglobin lower than twelve (12) grams per hundred cubic centimeters.
 - (45) Polycythemia, leukemia, or any other progressive diseases of the blood system.
 - (46) Hemophilia or other bleeding disorder.
 - (47) High blood pressure, evidenced by any of the following:
 - (A) Any blood pressure reading above one hundred fifty (150) millimeters mercury (for systolic).
 - (B) Any blood pressure reading above ninety (90) millimeters mercury (for diastolic).
 - (C) Use of antihypertensive medication.
- However, if systolic and diastolic readings without medication are produced at levels lower than one hundred fifty (150) millimeters mercury (for systolic) and ninety (90) millimeters mercury (for diastolic) on three (3) consecutive days, high blood pressure shall not be an excludable condition.
- (48) If peripheral edema is present, the cause shall be determined and the disqualifying disorder identified.
 - (49) Aneurysm and arteriovenous malformation.
 - (50) Any active disease of bones and joints, including active arthritis, osteomyelitis, or marked deformity of the spinal column, including, but not limited to, the following:
 - (A) History of laminectomy.
 - (B) Amputation or deformity of a joint or limb.
 - (C) Joint reconstruction.
 - (D) Ligamentous instability.
 - (E) Joint replacement.
 - (51) Herniation of an intervertebral disk.
 - (52) Neurofibromatosis.
 - (53) Neuropathy or neuralgia, including sciatica.
 - (54) Recurrent syncope.
 - (55) Any seizure disorder within the preceding ten (10) years.
 - (56) Parkinsonian syndrome (includes Parkinson's disease).
 - (57) Huntington's disease (chorea).
 - (58) Ankylosing rheumatoid spondylitis.
 - (59) Malignant melanoma or, if it had been removed, any evidence of metastatic disease.
 - (60) Hodgkin's disease, lymphadenopathy, lymphomas, or lymphosarcomas.
 - (61) Addison's disease, splenomegaly, or adenopathy secondary to systemic disease or metastasis.
 - (62) Disease of the adrenal gland, pituitary gland, parathyroid gland, or thyroid gland of clinical significance.
 - (63) Nutritional deficiency disease or metabolic disorder.
 - (64) Any malignant tumor of any type unless completely eradicated for at least ten (10) years.
 - (65) Alcohol or drug abuse within five (5) years.
 - (66) Anorexia nervosa or bulimia within three (3) years.
 - (67) Autoimmune disorders, including, but not limited to, the following:
 - (A) Rheumatoid arthritis and myasthenia gravis.
 - (B) Dermatomyositis.
 - (C) Scleroderma.
 - (68) Lupus erythematosus.
 - (69) Multiple sclerosis.
 - (70) Amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (Lou Gehrig's disease).
 - (71) Muscular dystrophy.
 - (72) Obesity of such a degree so as to interfere with normal activities, including respiration.
 - (73) Peripheral atherosclerosis or arteriosclerosis, including any of the following peripheral vascular diseases:
 - (A) Intermittent claudication.
 - (B) Buerger's disease.
 - (C) A phenomenon of repeated thrombophlebitis.
 - (74) Acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS) or human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) positive, as determined by a blood test.

- (75) Sexually transmitted diseases should be considered for further examination by a qualified medical specialist to determine the likelihood and degree of future impairment.
- (76) Narcolepsy or hypersomnolence due to any cause.
- (77) Heart bypass surgery within the preceding ten (10) years.
- (78) Primary pulmonary hypertension.
- (79) Organ transplant.
- (80) Pacemaker implant.
- (81) Sleep apnea syndrome.
- (82) Anxiety disorder.
- (83) Panic disorder.
- (84) Obsessive compulsive disorder.
- (85) Post-traumatic stress disorder.
- (86) Attention deficit/hyperactivity disorder.
- (87) Tourette syndrome.
- (88) Depressive disorder.
- (89) Bipolar disorder.
- (90) Personality disorder.
- (91) Substance abuse disorder.
- (92) Schizophrenia and other psychotic disorders.
- (93) Anorexia nervosa.
- (94) Miscellaneous or other significant psychiatric disorder.
- (95) Any disqualifying condition under 35 IAC 2-9-6 that has been accommodated by the local appointing authority.
- (96) Any other significant disease/disorder.

(Board of Trustees of the Indiana Public Retirement System; 35 IAC 2-10-2; filed May 27, 1993, 12:00 p.m.: 16 IR 2341, eff Jul 1, 1993; filed Mar 3, 2000, 7:45 a.m.: 23 IR 1606; readopted filed Oct 31, 2001, 2:21 p.m.: 25 IR 898; adopted Nov 9, 2007: [20071205-IR-035070818ONA](#); adopted Feb 19, 2010: [20100310-IR-035100124ONA](#); adopted Nov 19, 2010: [20101208-IR-035100722ONA](#); adopted Feb 23, 2018: [20180307-IR-035180117ONA](#))

35 IAC 2-10-3 Statement of understanding

Authority: [IC 5-10.5-4-2](#); [IC 36-8-8-5](#)
Affected: [IC 36-8-3.5-12](#); [IC 36-8-8-13.5](#); [IC 36-8-8-13.6](#)

Sec. 3. An application for membership in the 1977 Police Officers' and Firefighters' Pension and Disability Fund must include a statement of understanding signed by the candidate. This statement must be presented to and signed by the candidate when a conditional offer of employment is extended. The statement must include an explanation of the effect of this rule and a provision affirming that the candidate understands the effect this rule may have on his or her eligibility for Class 3 impairment benefits. *(Board of Trustees of the Indiana Public Retirement System; 35 IAC 2-10-3; filed May 27, 1993, 12:00 p.m.: 16 IR 2343, eff Jul 1, 1993; readopted filed Oct 31, 2001, 2:21 p.m.: 25 IR 898; adopted Nov 9, 2007: [20071205-IR-035070818ONA](#))*

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