

# Chapter 18: Judicial Retirement Plans

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## Overview

This chapter contains information on the Judicial retirement plans, which include judges and court officers hired or taking office prior to January 1, 2011, and judges taking office on or after January 1, 2011. This chapter will cover enrollment, retirement eligibility, disability retirement, and survivor benefits for each Judicial Employees retirement plan.

## Who is Eligible for the Judicial Plans?

Currently there are three specialty retirement plans for judges and court officers:

- ❖ Judicial Employees (prior to January 1, 2011)
- ❖ Judicial Employees 2 (January 1, 2011 through June 30, 2015)
- ❖ Judicial Employees 3 (after June 30, 2015)

Each plan has its own set of characteristics. The dates listed above are generally the applicable dates of each plan; any exceptions are explained throughout this chapter. For a judge, eligibility depends upon the date that he or she took office; for a court officer, eligibility depends on the date of hire.

### **JUDICIAL EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT PLAN**

The Judicial Employees retirement plan pertains to judges and court officers whose first employment making them eligible for one of the four state retirement systems (Louisiana State Employees' Retirement System (LASERS), Teachers' Retirement System of Louisiana (TRSL), Louisiana School Employees' Retirement System (LSERS), or Louisiana State Police Retirement System (LSPRS)) was *prior to January 1, 2011*. The following positions qualify as judges and court officers under the Judicial Employees retirement plan:

- ❖ Justices of the Louisiana Supreme Court
- ❖ Judicial Administrator of the Supreme Court and his or her deputies
- ❖ Judges of the Courts of Appeal
- ❖ Judges of the District Courts
- ❖ Judges of the Civil District Court for Orleans Parish
- ❖ Commissioners of the Civil District Court for Orleans Parish
- ❖ Judges of the Criminal District Court for Orleans Parish
- ❖ Magistrates of the magistrate section of the Criminal District Court for Orleans Parish
- ❖ Commissioners of the magistrate section of the Criminal District Court for Orleans Parish
- ❖ Judges of the Juvenile Courts for East Baton Rouge, Orleans, Jefferson, and Caddo Parishes
- ❖ Judges of the Family Court for East Baton Rouge Parish
- ❖ Judges of the First and Second Parish Courts of Jefferson Parish
- ❖ Judges of the First and Second City Courts of New Orleans, Municipal Court of New Orleans, and Traffic Courts of New Orleans
- ❖ Judges of the various City Courts
- ❖ Judges of any Parish Court
- ❖ Judicial Administrators of the Criminal District Court of Orleans Parish and his or her deputies

- ❖ Judicial Administrator of the Traffic Courts for Orleans Parish and each Deputy Administrator
- ❖ Judicial Administrator of the Fourth Judicial District Court for the parishes of Morehouse and Ouachita and his or her deputies

### JUDICIAL EMPLOYEES 2 & JUDICIAL EMPLOYEES 3 RETIREMENT PLANS

The Judicial Employees 2 and Judicial Employees 3 retirement plans only pertain to judges whose first employment making them eligible for one of the four state retirement systems (LASERS, TRSL, LSERS, or LSPRS) was on or after January 1, 2011. Court officers hired on or after January 1, 2011, were excluded from these plans and became part of the rank-and-file Regular Employees plans. The following positions qualify as judges under the Judicial Employees 2 and Judicial Employees 3 retirement plans:

- ❖ Justices of the Louisiana Supreme Court
- ❖ Judges of the Courts of Appeal
- ❖ Judges of the District Courts
- ❖ Judges of the Civil District Court for Orleans Parish
- ❖ Judges of the Criminal District Court for Orleans Parish
- ❖ Judges of the Juvenile Courts for East Baton Rouge, Orleans, Jefferson, and Caddo Parishes
- ❖ Judges of the Family Court for East Baton Rouge Parish
- ❖ Judges of the First and Second Parish Courts of Jefferson Parish
- ❖ Judges of the First and Second City Courts of New Orleans, Municipal Court of New Orleans, and Traffic Courts of New Orleans
- ❖ Judges of the various City Courts
- ❖ Judges of any Parish Court

## Enrolling Employees into Judicial Retirement Plans

When enrolling a judge or court officer as a member of LASERS, it is important to determine if the employee has any previous service in one of the four state retirement systems (LASERS, TRSL, LSERS, or LSPRS). This will determine if the judge or court officer

is eligible for enrollment into one of the Judicial retirement plans, or if he or she should be enrolled in a Regular Employees retirement plan. Agencies should use Employer Self-Service (ESS) to determine if a member has current, un-refunded service in LASERS. Agencies are also encouraged to utilize the "Ask LASERS" section of the LASERS website.

[Form 01-01: Member Registration](#) must be completed to ensure that the member is enrolled properly. However, this form is not required to be submitted to LASERS; it should be kept in the employee's personnel file at the employing agency. For more information on enrolling members, refer to [Chapter 1: Membership & Enrollment](#).

Members who were enrolled in one of the four state retirement systems (LASERS, TRSL, LSERS, and LSPRS) prior to July 1, 2015, and did not refund their contributions, will be enrolled into the LASERS retirement plan that was in place on the date that he or she was first eligible to be enrolled in one of the four state retirement systems. Eligible members should complete [Form 01-10: Certification of Membership in a State System Prior to July 1, 2015](#) and have it certified by the prior retirement system. The completed form must be submitted to LASERS to ensure that the member is enrolled in the proper retirement plan.

### EMPLOYEES WITH NO PREVIOUS SERVICE

If a judge takes office and has no previous service in one of the four state retirement systems (LASERS, TRSL, LSERS, or LSPRS) or was a previous member of one of the four state retirement systems but *refunded the previous service*, then he or she **must be enrolled** in the Judicial Employees 3 retirement plan. This plan is only for judges taking office on or after July 1, 2015.

If the new employee is a court officer and has no previous service in one of the four state retirement systems (LASERS, TRSL, LSERS, or LSPRS) or was a previous member of one of the four state retirement systems but *refunded the previous service*, then he or she **must be enrolled** in Regular Employees 4 retirement plan (for more information on enrolling members, refer to [Chapter 1: Membership & Enrollment](#)).

## EMPLOYEES WITH CURRENT UN-REFUNDED SERVICE

If a judge takes office and has current un-refunded service in one of the four state retirement systems (LASERS, TRSL, LSERS, or LSPRS), then depending upon his or her original hire date, the judge should be enrolled in the Judicial Employees retirement plan or the Judicial Employees 2 retirement plan. If the new employee is a court officer and has current un-refunded service in one of the four state retirement systems, then depending upon his or her original hire date, the court officer should be enrolled in the Judicial Employees retirement plan or the appropriate Regular Employees retirement plan (for more information on enrolling members, refer to [Chapter 1: Membership & Enrollment](#)).

### Judicial Employees Retirement Plan

**Judges and court officers** who were originally hired or first took office prior to January 1, 2011, should be enrolled in the Judicial Employees retirement plan. Membership in this plan is generally closed to new employees; however, new employees may belong to this class if they have un-refunded membership in one of the four state retirement systems (LASERS, TRSL, LSERS, and LSPRS) prior to January 1, 2011.

### Judicial Employees 2 Retirement Plan

**Judges** who originally first took office on or after January 1, 2011, but on or before June 30, 2015, should be enrolled in the Judicial Employees 2 retirement plan. Membership in this plan is generally closed to new employees; however, new employees may belong to this class if they have un-refunded membership in one of the four state retirement systems (LASERS, TRSL, LSERS, and LSPRS) prior to July 1, 2015.

**NOTE:** *Court officers hired on or after January 1, 2011, are not eligible for enrollment in the Judicial Employees 2 and Judicial Employees 3 retirement plans. These members must be enrolled in the appropriate Regular Employees retirement plan.*

## Judicial Retirement Plan Contribution Rates

The Judicial Employees retirement plan, which includes judges and court officers, has an employee contribution rate of 11.5%. Judicial Employees 2 and Judicial Employees 3 retirement plans, which include only judges, have an employee contribution rate of 13%.

Employer contribution rates change every fiscal year. These rates are determined each year based on an actuarial formula and are approved by the Public Retirement Systems' Actuarial Committee (PRSAC). Once approved, these rates must be used to calculate employer contributions submitted to LASERS beginning in the July reporting period. This includes payrolls with a check date of July, regardless of when earned. LASERS issues a Liaison Memorandum each year when the rates are approved. This memorandum includes a chart that lists the updated employer contribution rates by retirement plan. For more information on remitting contributions and historical contribution rates, refer to [Chapter 3: Contribution Reporting](#).

## Retirement Benefits for Judicial Retirement Plan Members

The Judicial retirement plans are considered specialty plans, meaning that each plan has its own set of characteristics that are different from the characteristics of Regular Employees retirement plans. Retirement eligibility, retirement options, benefit accrual rates, final average compensation (FAC), and employee contribution rates are determined by the Judicial plan in which a member is enrolled. For more information on benefit calculation and retirement eligibility for the Judicial retirement plans, refer to [Chapter 8: Retirement Benefit Calculation & Eligibility](#).

## JUDICIAL EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT PLAN CHARACTERISTICS

The Judicial Employees retirement plan includes judges and court officers. At retirement, members of this plan have the option to choose the Judicial Maximum retirement option or any of the six regular retirement options (this excludes the Regular Plan Maximum retirement option). For a full description of the retirement options, refer to [Chapter 9: Retirement Options & Cost-of-Living Adjustments](#).

The Judicial Maximum retirement option pays the maximum monthly benefit to the member until his or her death. Upon the member's death, the Judicial Maximum option pays a survivor benefit to the member's surviving spouse, who was **married to the member at the time of death**. For more information on the benefit payable to the surviving spouse, please contact LASERS at 800.256.3000 or 225.922.0600.

If a member of the Judicial Employees plan selects one of the six regular retirement options, then the member's monthly benefit will be paid based upon the option selected at the time of retirement. Judicial survivor benefits will not be payable and the member must select a beneficiary(ies). Upon the member's death, benefits will be paid to the named beneficiary(ies) based on the option chosen. If a married member selects an option that does not leave at least 50 percent of a monthly benefit to his or her current spouse, the spouse must sign [Form 04-04: Spousal Consent](#) in the presence of a Notary Public and submit the notarized form to LASERS.

### Upgrading Service into the Judicial Employees Retirement Plan

Members of the Judicial Employees retirement plan may elect to upgrade any non-judicial service credit to judicial service credit by paying the actuarial cost of the upgrade. The upgrade will increase the benefit accrual rate to three and one-half percent (3.5%) and establish eligibility for retirement under the Judicial Employees retirement plan. The service credit may be upgraded at any time prior to the member's retirement including while the member is participating in DROP and while the member is working after DROP.

When a member upgrades service credit while participating in DROP or while working after DROP, the upgraded service credit only counts toward the supplemental benefit. Furthermore, it is only the difference in the original accrual rate and the upgraded accrual rate that is applied to the supplemental benefit.

[Form 02-15: Judicial Upgrade Invoice Request](#) must be completed by the member. Each applicable employer should certify the member's prior service. The form must be submitted to LASERS along with the appropriate actuarial calculation fee. The system actuary will determine the cost to upgrade the service credit (for more information on actuarial purchases, refer to [Chapter 9: Purchases, Transfers and Reciprocals](#)). The member should allow six weeks to receive an invoice. **It is highly recommended that an invoice be requested at least six months prior to the date needed.**

**NOTE:** LASERS highly recommends that members of the Judicial Employees retirement plan request estimates and schedule individual counseling sessions 18 months prior to retiring or entering DROP, in order to fully understand all of the retirement options and eligibilities that are applicable to this plan.

**Payments for Upgraded Service**

All payments for upgraded service credit must be made in full prior to the expiration of the invoice. The cost cannot be paid in monthly installments. If the invoice expires, then the member must reapply and pay an additional actuarial calculation fee, if appropriate, in order to obtain a new invoice.

All payments must be paid in a lump sum by any combination of personal checks, cashier's checks, certified checks, money orders, and rollovers from

qualified accounts. Funds may also be wired to LASERS. A copy of the invoice must accompany all payments.

If the member rolls over funds to LASERS from a qualified account, then [Form 02-13: LASERS Acceptance Letter of Rollover of Assets](#) must be completed by an authorized agent of the financial institution that is remitting the payment and submitted to LASERS. LASERS **will not** accept a financial institution's direct rollover form in lieu of Form 02-13.

**Judicial Employees Retirement Plan Characteristics**

<p><b>Judicial Retirement Eligibility</b></p>	<p><b>Eligibility for Regular Retirement, DROP and IBO:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ 10 years of service credit as a Judge or Court Officer at age 65</li> <li>❖ 12 years of service credit as a Judge or Court Officer at age 55</li> <li>❖ 18 years of service credit as a Judge or Court Officer at any age</li> <li>❖ 20 years of total service credit at age 50, with at least 12 years as a Judge or Court Officer</li> <li>❖ Any number of years of service credit as a Judge or Court Officer at age 70</li> </ul> <p><i>In addition to the retirement eligibility requirements listed above, members of this plan may also choose to <b>retire or enter DROP</b> under <b>Regular Employees</b> or <b>Regular Employees 2</b> retirement eligibilities, depending upon when the member entered the system. See eligibilities listed below.</i></p>
<p><b>Regular Employees Retirement Eligibility</b> <i>(For Judges and Court Officers who were hired or first took office on or before June 30, 2006)</i></p>	<p><b>Eligibility for Regular Retirement, DROP and IBO:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ 10 years of service credit at age 60</li> <li>❖ 25 years of service credit at age 55</li> <li>❖ 30 years of service credit at any age</li> </ul> <p><b>Eligibility for Regular Retirement with an Actuarially Reduced Benefit:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ 20 years of service credit at any age - the actuarial reduction is based on the number of months that the member is away from unreduced Regular Service Retirement eligibility.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Regular Employees 2 Retirement Eligibility</b> <i>(For Judges employed between July 1, 2006 and December 31, 2010)</i></p>	<p><b>Eligibility for Regular Retirement, DROP and IBO:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ 5 years of service credit at age 60</li> </ul> <p><b>Eligibility for Regular Retirement with an Actuarially Reduced Benefit:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ 20 years of service credit at any age - the actuarial reduction is based on the number of months that the member is away from unreduced Regular Service Retirement eligibility.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Benefit Accrual</b></p>	<p>2.5% plus an additional 1.0% for all years served as a Judge or Court Officer</p>
<p><b>FAC Period</b></p>	<p>36 months</p>

**JUDICIAL EMPLOYEES 2 RETIREMENT PLAN CHARACTERISTICS**

The Judicial Employees 2 retirement plan includes judges only. At retirement, members of this plan must select one of the seven regular retirement options (for a full description of the seven retirement options, refer to [Chapter 9: Retirement Options & Cost-of-Living Adjustments](#)). The Judicial Maximum option is not applicable to members of this plan. Upon retirement, members of this plan must select a retirement option and a beneficiary(ies). At retirement, the member’s monthly benefit will be based upon the option selected. Upon the retiree’s death, benefits will be paid to the named beneficiary(ies) based on the option chosen. If a married member selects an option that does not leave at least 50 percent of a monthly benefit to his or her current spouse, the spouse must sign [Form 04-04: Spousal Consent](#) in the presence of a Notary Public and submit the notarized form to LASERS.

**JUDICIAL EMPLOYEES 3 RETIREMENT PLAN CHARACTERISTICS**

The Judicial Employees 3 retirement plan includes judges only. At retirement, members of this plan must select one of the seven regular retirement options (for a full description of the seven retirement options, refer to [Chapter 9: Retirement Options & Cost-of-Living Adjustments](#)). The Judicial Maximum option is not applicable to members of this plan. Upon retirement, members of this plan must select a retirement option and a beneficiary(ies). At retirement, the member’s monthly benefit will be based upon the option selected. Upon the retiree’s death, benefits will be paid to the named beneficiary(ies) based on the option chosen. If a married member selects an option that does not leave at least 50 percent of a monthly benefit to his or her current spouse, the spouse must sign [Form 04-04: Spousal Consent](#) in the presence of a Notary Public and submit the notarized form to LASERS.

Judicial Employees 2 Retirement Plan Characteristics	
<b>Retirement Eligibility</b>	<p><b>Eligibility for Regular Retirement, DROP and IBO:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ 5 years at age 60</li> </ul> <p><b>Eligibility for Regular Retirement with an Actuarially Reduced Benefit:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ 20 years of service credit at any age - <i>the actuarial reduction is based on the number of months that the member is away from unreduced Judicial Employees 2 retirement eligibility.</i></li> </ul>
<b>Benefit Accrual</b>	2.5% plus an additional 1.0% for all years served as a Judge
<b>FAC Period</b>	60 months

Judicial Employees 3 Retirement Plan Characteristics	
<b>Retirement Eligibility</b>	<p><b>Eligibility for Regular Retirement, DROP and IBO:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ 5 years at age 62</li> </ul> <p><b>Eligibility for Regular Retirement with an Actuarially Reduced Benefit:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ 20 years of service credit at any age - <i>the actuarial reduction is based on the number of months that the member is away from unreduced Judicial Employees 3 retirement eligibility.</i></li> </ul>
<b>Benefit Accrual</b>	2.5% plus an additional 1.0% for all years served as a Judge
<b>FAC Period</b>	60 months

## Disability Benefits for Judicial Plan Members

### JUDICIAL EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT PLAN

If a member of the Judicial Employees retirement plan becomes physically or mentally incapacitated and cannot perform his or her job duties, then he or she may apply for Disability retirement. There is no minimum service requirement for a judge or court officer to apply. If approved for Disability retirement, the monthly retirement benefit would be the greater of:

- ❖ 50% of the salary that the member was receiving immediately prior to Disability retirement
- or
- ❖ The Judicial Maximum retirement benefit

### JUDICIAL EMPLOYEES 2 & JUDICIAL EMPLOYEES 3 RETIREMENT PLANS

Members of the Judicial Employees 2 and Judicial Employees 3 retirement plans have the same Disability eligibilities and benefits as members of the Regular Employees plans. For information on who is eligible for Disability retirement, refer to the section *What is Disability Retirement?* in [Chapter 13: Disability Retirement](#).

### THE APPLICATION PROCESS

To apply for Disability retirement, Judicial plan members must submit the three-part Disability application. For information on the Disability application process and a complete listing of forms and required documents, refer to the sections *The Disability Process* and *Required Documents* in [Chapter 13: Disability Retirement](#).

## Survivor Benefits for Judicial Retirement Plan Members

This section outlines the steps to be taken when a member of a Judicial plan dies. Depending upon eligibility, survivor benefits may be payable to the deceased member's surviving spouse, minor child(ren), and physically handicapped or mentally disabled child(ren), *whether the member was active, inactive, or*

*retired*. If it is determined that no survivor benefits are due, then a refund of contributions will be paid to the last name beneficiary(ies) or the estate of the deceased member. For information on survivor terminology and reporting the death of a member, refer to [Chapter 6: Survivor Benefits](#).

### JUDICIAL EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT PLAN

The member's employment status (active, inactive, or retired) at the time of death will determine how the survivor benefit is calculated. The eligibility of the survivor depends upon the member's years of service at the time of death. For detailed eligibility requirements, please contact LASERS at 800.256.3000 or 225.922.0600.

### JUDICIAL EMPLOYEES 2 & JUDICIAL EMPLOYEES 3 RETIREMENT PLANS

Members of the Judicial Employees 2 and Judicial Employees 3 retirement plans have the same survivor eligibilities and benefits as members of the Regular Employees 3 and Regular Employees 4 retirement plans. For eligibility information, charts, and checklists pertaining to survivor benefits, refer to [Chapter 6: Survivor Benefits](#).

### GUIDELINES FOR SURVIVOR PAYMENTS

Eligible survivor benefits for the Judicial Employees retirement plan become effective on the member's date of death. For the Judicial Employees 2 and Judicial Employees 3 retirement plans, eligible survivor benefits become effective on the first of the month following member's death. However, no benefits will be paid until all required forms are received by LASERS.

A monthly survivor benefit is not payable if there is no qualified surviving spouse or qualified surviving minor children for active, inactive, or retired members. In these cases, a lump sum payment of the *active or inactive* member's contributions will be issued to the last named beneficiary on file or to the member's estate. If the member was *retired at the time of death* and no qualified survivors exist, then a lump sum payment of the member's remaining contributions will be issued to the last named beneficiary on file or to the member's estate.

## THE APPLICATION PROCESS

The survivor application process for active, inactive, and retired Judicial Employees retirement plan members is the same as the process for Regular Employees plan members. For information and checklists pertaining to the survivor application process, refer to [Chapter 6: Survivor Benefits](#).

**NOTE:** *The surviving spouse must submit a copy of his or her marriage license along with all other necessary documents in order to be eligible for survivor benefits.*

## Frequently Asked Questions

- 1. If a court officer is hired on or after January 1, 2011, is he or she eligible to be enrolled in a Judicial Employees retirement plan?**

*Any court officer hired on or after January 1, 2011, with no prior service in one of the four state retirement systems, must be enrolled in either Regular Employees 3 or Regular Employees 4 retirement plan (for more information on this topic, refer to the section of this chapter Who is Eligible for the Judicial Plan?).*
- 2. If a judge has time in the Regular Employees retirement plan, does he or she receive an extra 1.0% accrual rate for the years worked as a member of the Regular plan?**

*A judge or court officer enrolled in the Judicial Employees retirement plan will only receive the extra 1.0% accrual rate based on the time worked as a judge or court officer. A judge or court officer enrolled in the Judicial Employees retirement plan can pay to upgrade any non-judicial service credit to judicial service credit (for information on judicial upgrades, refer to the section Upgrading Service into the Judicial Employees Retirement Plan in this chapter).*
- 3. Is a judge or court officer (enrolled in the Judicial Employees retirement plan) required to select the Judicial Maximum retirement benefit option?**

*No, the member can select the Judicial Maximum retirement option or any one of the six regular plan retirement options, excluding the Regular retirement plan maximum option. However, if the member selects an option other than Judicial Maximum, benefits will only be paid to the last named beneficiary based on the option selected.*
- 4. Can members of the Judicial Employees retirement plan retire or enter DROP under Regular Employees plan retirement eligibilities?**

*Based on their date of hire, Judicial Employees retirement plan members can retire or enter DROP under Judicial eligibilities, Regular Employees retirement plan eligibilities, or Regular Employees 2 retirement plan eligibilities. Members of the Judicial Employees 2 and Judicial Employees 3 retirement plans have the same eligibilities as members of Regular Employees 3 and Regular Employees 4 retirement plans, respectively.*
- 5. For a judge retiring or entering DROP under Regular Employees retirement plan eligibilities, can a Regular retirement/DROP application be submitted to LASERS?**

*No, a Judicial retirement application or DROP application must be submitted to LASERS (for a list of acceptable forms, refer to the Reference Material section of this chapter).*



## Reference Material

### APPLICABLE FORMS

- [01-01: Membership Registration](#)
- [01-10: Certification of Membership in a State System Prior to July 1, 2015](#)
- [02-13: LASERS Acceptance Letter of Rollover Assets](#)
- [02-15: Judicial Upgrade Invoice Request](#)
- [04-04: Spousal Consent](#)
- [08-01: Judicial Application for Retirement](#)
- [08-02A: Judicial Application for Retirement with Initial Benefit Option \(IBO\) \*\(complete if eligible to retire after 01/01/2004, if retiring from the Judicial Plan, and if the first eligible date from membership in one of the four state retirement systems occurred prior to 01/01/2011\)\*](#)
- [08-02B: Judicial Application for Retirement with Initial Benefit Option \(IBO\) \*\(complete if eligible to retire on or before 01/01/2004\)\*](#)
- [08-03: Judicial Application for DROP](#)
- [08-06: Judicial Certification of Employment After DROP](#)
- [08-04: Judicial Disability Retirement Application](#)

### APPLICABLE LAWS & RULES

(Note: this list is not exhaustive)

- [La R.S. 11:441](#) Eligibility for Retirement
- [La R.S. 11:441.1](#) Early Retirement and Payroll Reduction Act of 2006
- [La R.S. 11:442](#) Application for Retirement; Effective date; Cancellation; Suspension of Benefits
- [La R.S. 11:444](#) Computation of Retirement Benefits
- [La R.S. 11:551](#) Eligibility for Membership
- [La R.S. 11:552](#) Effect of Failure to Exercise Option
- [La R.S. 11:553](#) Eligible Judges and Court Officers
- [La R.S. 11:554](#) Exercise of Option
- [La R.S. 11:555](#) Membership and Credit; Approved

- [La R.S. 11:556](#) Exercise of Option; Additional Time Granted
- [La R.S. 11:557](#) Additional Benefits
- [La R.S. 11:558](#) Eligibility of Retirement
- [La R.S. 11:558.1](#) Credits Resulting from Certain Delays
- [La R.S. 11:558.2](#) District Court Judges' Benefits; Service Credit; Calculation
- [La R.S. 11:559](#) Transfer of Creditable Service; Purchase of Credit for Service
- [La R.S. 11:560](#) Contributions
- [La R.S. 11:561](#) Disability Retirement Pay
- [La R.S. 11:562](#) Survivor Benefits
- [La R.S. 11:562.1](#) Continued Eligibility for Survivor Benefits or Minor Children and Handicapped or Mentally Retarded Children
- [La R.S. 11:563](#) Additional Creditable Service
- [La R.S. 11:564](#) Credit for Service with Indigent Defender Program
- [La R.S. 11:565](#) Credit for Service with Legal Aid Bureau
- [La R.S. 11:565.1](#) Credit for Service as Full-time Law Clerk
- [La R.S. 11:566](#) Assigned Judges
- [La R.S. 11:567](#) Existing Members of System
- [La R.S. 11:568](#) Vesting
- [La R.S. 11:569](#) Payments of Benefits; Source
- [La R.S. 11:570](#) Exemption from Execution
- [La R.S. 11:571](#) Applicability of Other Law

### APPLICABLE CHAPTERS IN MEMBER'S GUIDE TO RETIREMENT

- [Chapter 31: Judges and Court Officers \(Elected or Hired Prior to January 1, 2011\)](#)
- [Chapter 32: Judges \(Taking office on or after January 1, 2011\)](#)

### APPLICABLE LASERS VIDEOS

- [What is your Retirement Plan and Retirement Eligibility?](#)
- [Judicial Retirement Plan](#)



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