

Beneficiary Form Instructions

There are **two** types of beneficiaries:

Lump-sum: *Return of Accumulated Total Deductions*: If you want your beneficiary or beneficiaries to receive your accumulated contributions and interest in a single, lump-sum amount, you should complete this section. There are no restrictions on who may be a lump-sum beneficiary and you may name more than one person or entity (for example, your estate or a charity) if you desire. If you do name more than one person or entity be sure to indicate the percentage of your benefit that each beneficiary should receive (the total must equal 100%). If you fail to indicate a percentage, we will distribute the balance equally among the beneficiaries.

Member Survivors: *Option D Beneficiary*: If you want your beneficiary to receive a monthly allowance instead of a lump-sum payment, you should complete this section. A member-survivor allowance provides your beneficiary with a monthly allowance based on four factors: your age, your salary average, your years of creditable service and the age of your beneficiary. The allowance is calculated as if you had retired on the date of your death. **A member-survivor beneficiary must be your parent, sibling, child, spouse, or former spouse who has not remarried.**

You may designate both a lump-sum beneficiary (ies) and a member-survivor beneficiary; however, **they may not be the same person**. If you should die while you are an active member of the WRB and you have designated both types, the System must pay the member-survivor beneficiary the entire survivor benefit. If, however the named member-survivor beneficiary is not alive at the time of your death or is your former spouse who has since remarried, we will allocate your accumulated contributions and interest to the named lump-sum beneficiary (ies). You may also designate a contingent lump-sum beneficiary (ies) to receive your benefit in the event that your named beneficiary (ies) is not alive at the time of your death.

A note about Special Spousal Benefits

A spouse, so long as he or she meets certain conditions, will always have the election of a member survivor allowance regardless of the designation of a different beneficiary for the member survivor benefit. For a spouse who qualifies, the minimum allowance is \$250 per month. In addition to this minimum payment, there are monthly payments of \$120 for the first minor child and \$90 for each additional child. To be eligible,

- * your spouse must have been living with you at the time of your death *and*
- * your spouse must have been married to you for at least one year *and*
- * you must have been a member in service at the time of your death *and*
- * you must have completed at least two full years of creditable service.

If your spouse meets the eligibility requirements and you have named him or her as your lump-sum beneficiary he or she will always have the option of choosing a lump-sum benefit or Special Spousal Benefit

Please note that if there is no surviving spouse, the guardian of the surviving dependent children may be entitled to the minimum payments.