



IMPORTANT NOTICE

TO: EMPLOYER RETIREMENT LIAISON OFFICERS
EMPLOYEE And EMPLOYER ASSOCIATES

FROM: Dana Bilyeu, Operations Officer

DATE: October 24, 2002

SUBJECT: Public Employees' Retirement System's (PERS) Official Policy 9.1

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At their October 16, 2002, meeting, the Public Employees' Retirement Board approved the proposed amendment to PERS' official policy 9.1. The approved official policy 9.1 reads as follows:

9.1 Eligibility for survivor benefit is established if:

- a. The deceased member had two years of service in the two and one-half years immediately preceding the member's death.
- b. The deceased member was employed in a part-time position at the time of death and had two or more years of service credit in a part-time position and at least 1 day of service within the six months immediately preceding death.
- c. The deceased member had ten or more years of accredited, contributing service.
- d. The death of the member was caused by an occupational disease or an accident arising out of and in the course of his employment, regardless of service credit.
- e. The death of the member occurs within 18 months after termination of employment or commencement of leave without pay where a mental or physical condition required the termination or leave without pay.
- f. The death of member occurs while on leave of absence for training and the member met requirements of (a), (b), (c), or (d) at the time such leave began.
- g. In the case of survivor benefits for an unmarried member, the deceased member had properly completed, signed, dated, and filed the approved form with the System designating one individual for receipt of the benefit before his or her death. Such filing must be evidenced by the System's records related to the member's account. The System will accept an approved form if it has been mailed before the member's death, as evidenced by the date of the postmark dated by the post office on the envelop in which it was mailed. Benefits will not be paid unless eligibility is established in accordance with this provision.