

RETIREMENT 101

Retirement Options



When you apply for retirement, you will have **five retirement options** to select from. Each provides a lifetime benefit to you, the SBCERA member, but they vary in how your benefits are passed on to your eligible survivors once you pass away.

	Benefits to You	Benefits to Your Beneficiary	Ability to Change Beneficiary
Unmodified Option	A maximum lifetime retirement benefit.	Lifetime monthly continuance of 60% of the amount you were receiving to your eligible spouse or registered domestic partner. A minor child receives the benefit until age 18 or marriage; or up to age 22 if they are unmarried full-time student at an accredited school. If there is more than one minor child, the benefit may be split between them.	Eligible beneficiaries include a surviving spouse or a surviving minor child . An eligible surviving spouse or registered domestic partner must have been married to you for at least one year prior to your effective date of retirement. Someone can become an eligible spouse or domestic partner after retirement, if you are married or in a registered domestic partnership for at least two years prior to your death and they are at least 55 years old at the time of your death. You may still elect this option if you do not have an eligible spouse, registered domestic partner, or minor child.
Option 1	A reduced lifetime benefit to you based on your life expectancy.	A lump sum of your undistributed refundable contributions (if any) will be payable to your designated beneficiary(ies). Note: Your designated beneficiary must have an insurable interest in your life. This is the only option where you can name your estate .	You can change your designated beneficiary at any time after you retire.
Option 2	A reduced lifetime benefit to you based on your age and your beneficiary's age.	A 100% continuance of your reduced benefit amount will be payable to your designated beneficiary. Note: Your designated beneficiary must have an insurable interest in your life.	This option is irrevocable . You cannot change your designated beneficiary.
Option 3	A reduced lifetime benefit to you based on your age and your beneficiary's age.	A 50% continuance of your reduced benefit amount will be payable to your designated beneficiary. Note: Your designated beneficiary must have an insurable interest in your life.	This option is irrevocable . You cannot change your designated beneficiary.
Option 4	A reduced lifetime benefit to you based on your age, the number of beneficiaries, and the ages of your beneficiaries.	A customized continuance will be payable to your designated beneficiary(ies). An Option 4 Election requires the completion of an actuarial study by SBCERA's actuary for a fee of \$200. If you select Option 4, please contact SBCERA to request the Option 4 forms and pay this fee. Note: Your designated beneficiary must have an insurable interest in your life.	This option is irrevocable . You cannot change your designated beneficiary.