



## Webinar Series for TRS Retirees

**This webinar will begin shortly. All attendees are muted. At the end of this short presentation you will be able to ask questions using the Q&A box on your screen.**

# TRS DEATH BENEFITS

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# What will be covered . . .

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- Beneficiaries
- Death Benefits
  - Unrecovered Pension Contributions
  - Survivor Benefits
- Claiming Death Benefits
- Questions

# Tier 1 or Tier 2

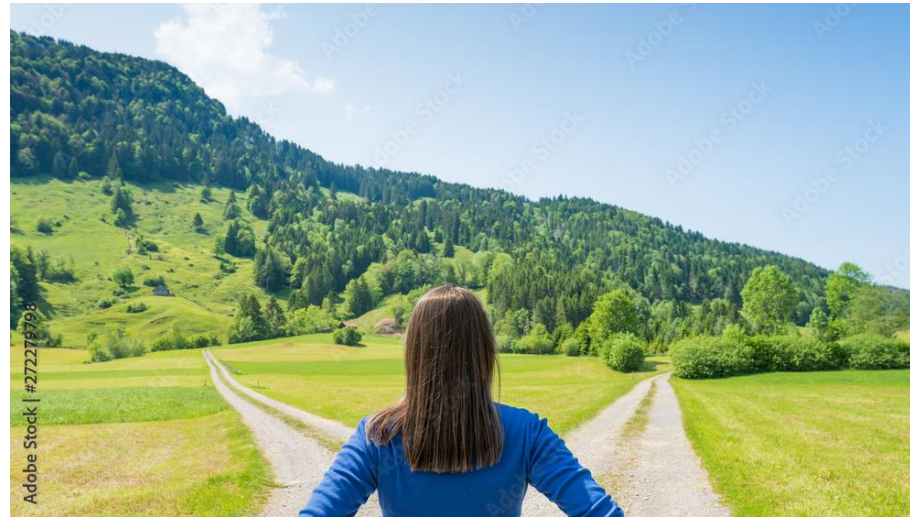
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## TIER 1

First contributed to TRS or reciprocal retirement system **prior to January 1, 2011**

## TIER 2

First contributed to TRS or reciprocal retirement system **on or after January 1, 2011**



# CONTRIBUTIONS

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# What is Automatic Designation?

<b>Section 1: Personal Information</b> Member First Middle Last Name: Member Address 1: Member Address 2: City State Zip:	Member ID: Home telephone number: Work telephone number: Cell phone number: Email address:
<b>Section 2: Marital Status</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Single <input type="checkbox"/> Married/civil union <input type="checkbox"/> Divorced <input type="checkbox"/> Widowed   Spouse's name:	
<b>Section 3: Automatic Designation</b> <i>(commonly selected by members with a spouse or civil union partner and/or minor children)</i> <input type="checkbox"/> I elect that my dependent beneficiaries, as determined at my death, receive a survivor benefit and/or a beneficiary refund. If no dependent beneficiary survives, benefits will be paid to my estate. <b>If the automatic designation is selected, do not complete the Survivor Benefit or Beneficiary Refund sections.</b>	

- Commonly selected by members who have a spouse and/or minor children
- No need to list any names
- Death benefit is automatically paid to a surviving spouse and/or minor children

# Survivor Benefits

Section 4: Survivor Benefit*				
Primary Beneficiary(ies) - receive survivor benefits first				
1	Name:			SSN: _____
	Address:			Birth date: _____
	City:	State:	Zip:	Relationship:
2	Name:			SSN: _____
	Address:			Birth date: _____
	City:	State:	Zip:	Relationship:
3	Name:			SSN: _____
	Address:			Birth date: _____
	City:	State:	Zip:	Relationship:
Alternate Beneficiary(ies) - receive survivor benefits if no primary beneficiary survives				
1	Name:	Birth date:	SSN: _____	
2	Name:	Birth date:	SSN: _____	
3	Name:	Birth date:	SSN: _____	



- Funded through survivor benefit contributions made while teaching (**1%** of annual salary)
- Tier I – 50% of monthly benefit to a dependent beneficiary
- Tier II – 66.67% of monthly benefit to a dependent spouse, 50% to other dependents
- Lump sum to any beneficiary
- Refundable in retirement if no dependent beneficiary

# Beneficiary Refund



Section 5: Beneficiary Refund*			
Primary Beneficiary(ies) - receive beneficiary refund benefits first			
1	Name:		SSN: _____
	Address:		Birth date:
	City:	State:	Zip: Relationship:
2	Name:		SSN: _____
	Address:		Birth date:
	City:	State:	Zip: Relationship:
3	Name:		SSN: _____
	Address:		Birth date:
	City:	State:	Zip: Relationship:
Alternate Beneficiary(ies) - receive beneficiary refund benefits if no primary beneficiary survives			
1	Name:	Birth date:	SSN: _____
2	Name:	Birth date:	SSN: _____
3	Name:	Birth date:	SSN: _____

- Lump-sum refund of 8% unrecovered **pension** contributions
- Paid only if you pass away before retirement or before recovering entire contribution



# CLAIMING DEATH BENEFITS

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# Reporting a Death

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## 1) Someone must report your death

- Date of Death
- Contact Person

## 2) TRS Requests Documents

- Death Certificate
- Beneficiary Demographic Info
- Proof of Dependency (marriage/birth certificate, if applicable)

## 3) TRS calculates available benefit and notifies applicant

- Monthly and lump sum option to dependent
- Lump sum only to non-dependent

# Frequently Asked Questions

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- 1) Does my spouse's benefit continue if they remarry?
- 2) Does my dependent beneficiary receive annual increases?
- 3) Can my surviving dependents get TRIP/TRAIL health insurance?
- 4) Do I have to list my spouse, or can I list my adult kids as beneficiaries?
- 5) How do I go about changing my beneficiaries?
- 6) If I take a refund of my Survivor Benefit contribution, can I pay it back if Cupid strikes?

# Contact TRS

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## Social Media



[members@trsillinois.org](mailto:members@trsillinois.org)



<https://trsillinois.org>



[Facebook.com/TRSillinois](https://www.facebook.com/TRSillinois)



@ILLTRS



@trsillinois

## Phone & Hours

Toll free: (877) 927-5877

M-F: 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

# Questions

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