# **ERFC 2001 Member Retirement Benefit Statement**

Educational Employees' Supplementary Retirement System of Fairfax County (ERFC)

#### Dear Member,

This annual statement is an updated summary of your ERFC 2001 estimated retirement benefits as of July 1, 2022.

The ERFC 2001 benefit structure was designed to provide a level lifetime benefit to supplement your Virginia Retirement System (VRS) and Social Security benefits in retirement. The benefit amount is based on your age, your years of service, and your final average salary.

You and your beneficiaries must apply in writing to ERFC to receive benefits. If you or your beneficiary do not apply for benefits on the date at which you or your beneficiary become eligible, benefits will not commence until ERFC receives the application. Benefits can be paid retroactively but may not exceed 90 days from the date that you or your beneficiary apply for benefits.

This statement and the other resources ERFC offers are intended to help you make well-informed retirement decisions. You may want to consult with your own financial advisor to determine the right time for you to begin receiving benefits from ERFC.

**Note to Deferred Vested Members:** Projected benefit payments do not increase for a deferred vested member after they leave employment. Please review the <u>ERFC 2001 Plan Handbook</u> for detailed plan information or contact us for more information.

#### **Your Personal Information Profile**

The top portion of your statement shows your personal information and the date you became an ERFC 2001 covered member. If you left covered employment and elected to receive a refund, the date you were rehired in a covered position is your membership date.

#### **Your Benefit Payment Options**

Selecting a payment option can be complicated. We recommend taking a few minutes to watch the 2001

<u>Plan Payment Options video</u>, and then reaching out to us if you have questions. Members are encouraged to contact us at least one year prior to retirement.

#### ERFC 2001 Tier 1\* Full-Service Benefit:

- Any age with 30 or more years of credited service
- Age 60 with five or more years of credited service

\*hired on or after 7/1/2001 but before 7/1/2017

#### ERFC 2001 Tier 2\*\* Full-Service Benefit:

- When your age + service = 90 (Rule of 90)
- Full Social Security age with a minimum of five years of credited service

\*\*hired on or after 7/1/2017

#### **ERFC 2001 Benefit Estimates**

ERFC offers this annual profile of your membership data to help you keep track of your retirement benefit under ERFC 2001. You can also project your own retirement benefits by using the benefit estimator provided on <u>ERFCDirect</u> (ERFC.Direct). When calculating your benefit estimate, if you wish to consider a survivor benefit payment option, you may enter the eligible survivor's name and birth date. If you're not sure who can be named as a survivor, please watch this short video explanation.

## Your Payment Choice May Impact your VRS Benefit

To access your individual VRS account information, register online at <u>myVRS</u> (myvrs.varetire.org/login/). You can also project your own VRS retirement benefits by using the benefit estimate provided in your myVRS account. For more information about your VRS benefits, visit the <u>VRS website</u>

(<u>www.varetire.org</u>) or contact VRS toll free at <u>888-</u> <u>827-3847</u>.

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### Your Payment Choice May Impact Your Social Security Benefits

You can access your individual Social Security information and estimate your future benefits using the <u>retirement estimator</u>. For questions, call Social Security toll free at <u>800-772-1213</u>.

#### **Glossary of ERFC 2001 Terms**

#### **Accumulated Contributions**

For ERFC 2001, "Accumulated Contributions" is defined as a member's contributions and the applicable interest paid on all such amounts.

#### Interest

Interest is credited annually at the rate of 4 percent each fiscal year on all member contribution amounts that have been on deposit for a full fiscal year.

#### **Final Average Salary**

**For 2001 Tier 1 members:** The average of your three highest consecutive years of salary in eligible FCPS employment.

**For 2001 Tier 2 members:** The average of your five highest consecutive years of salary in eligible FCPS employment.

# ERFC*Direct* Is the Portal to Your Pension

Log in to access all your retirement information. If you need assistance, select the "Help Contents" link on the left side of your login page. You can also call ERFC Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at <u>703-426-3900</u> or toll free at <u>844-758-3793</u>. Or email us anytime at <u>ERFCRetirement@fcps.edu</u>.

#### **ERFC 2001 Plan Handbook**

The ERFC 2001 Plan Handbook provides important information about your benefit. View the latest version of the <u>plan handbook</u> for detailed plan information.

#### **ERFC Webpage**

2001 Tier 1 members can visit the <u>Tier 1 page</u> and 2001 Tier 2 members can go to the <u>Tier 2 page</u> to access a variety of helpful resources and information.

## Email Use and Your Contact Information

Please don't send confidential or personal information, such as a Social Security number, via email. To protect our members' privacy, ERFC does not provide personal data via telephone, fax, or email, and will send only non-confidential email replies.

To ensure that you receive your annual benefit statements, please make certain that you keep your ERFC*Direct* account active with your current email address. This is especially important for those members who may leave active FCPS employment while retaining contributions on account with ERFC.

Please also let ERFC know of any changes in your mailing address following your termination of FCPS employment.

#### **ERFC Contact Information**

8001 Forbes Place, Suite 300 Springfield, VA 22151-2205

703-426-3900 1-844-758-3793 (toll free) 703-426-3984 (fax) erfcoffice@fcps.edu

www.fcps.edu/erfc

ERFC.Direct

Disclaimer: This retirement statement is not a legal document but is intended only to provide summary information to members. It is based on information available to ERFC at the time of publication. The description of plan benefits in this retirement statement is a much-abbreviated summary of the rules governing benefits. If there is any conflict between this abbreviated summary and the applicable laws, official plan document, and rules and regulations, all of which govern the operation of ERFC, the applicable laws, plan document, and rules shall govern.