



I'm ready to begin planning for my retirement, so what do I need to do?



Retirement Planning – Getting Started

Retirement Planning Information

- PASSHE has a majority of the information regarding retirement planning available on their website for employees to review and become familiar with.
- You can reach out to the IUP HR Benefits Services team for assistance as to where you can locate more in depth knowledge and you will be provided with the links to the PASSHE web, pre-retirement planning worksheets, retirement counselor contacts and other retirement planning resources available for your review.
- It is recommended that you begin retirement planning 6 months to 1 year in advance, but no less than 3 months prior to retirement (or sooner if you have other outside funds to take into consideration).
- Review this power point and the video provided by PASSHE for further details.

PASSHE/IUP Website Retirement Planning Resources

○ http://www.passhe.edu/inside/HR/syshr/prospective_retiree/Pages/Prospective-Retirees_NonRep.aspx

○ http://www.passhe.edu/inside/HR/syshr/prospective_retiree/Documents/AHCP_Retirement_Guide.pdf

○ Visit the IUP Benefits webpage and select your employment group, then select **Planning Your Retirement**.

○ (For example:
<https://www.iup.edu/humanresources/benefits/retirement/>

BENEFITS FOR NON-REPRESENTED EMPLOYEES

These employees hold professional and managerial positions including accountants, bursars, registrars, human resource generalists, maintenance managers, information technology specialists and academic deans.

- [Benefit Highlights](#)
- [Summary of Benefits](#)
- [Medical/Dental/Rx/Vision/Hearing](#)
- [Wellness/"Healthy U"](#)
- [Leave Plans](#)
- [Life/Accident/Disability Insurances](#)
- [Retirement and Savings](#)
- [Planning Your Retirement](#)
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- [Life Events](#)

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The screenshot shows the PASSHE website's navigation bar with logos for various institutions including Bloomsburg, CAL U, Cheyney University, Clarion University, ESU, Edinboro University, IUPUI, Kutztown, Lock Haven, Mansfield University, and Millersville University. The main navigation menu includes links for ABOUT, NEWS, OFFICES, UNIVERSITIES, STUDENTS, and EMPLOYEES. The page title is "Prospective Retirees - Nonrepresented Employees". Below the title, there is a breadcrumb trail: "Home > OOC > Prospective Retirees". The main content area states: "This page was developed to assist employees who are thinking about or nearing retirement. The checklist and guide will cover your eligibility and benefits as a retiree of the State System. For additional information, please contact your university human resources office." Below this text are two links: "- Retirement Checklist" and "- Retirement Guide". There are three buttons: "Medical Eligibility", "Leave Payout", and "Additional Benefits". At the bottom, under the heading "Annuity Requirements:", it states: "In order to be eligible for a sick leave payout upon your retirement, you must establish an annuity within 90 days. If you fail to finalize your annuity within 90 days you will forfeit your sick leave payout. You also must establish an annuity prior to enrollment in the retiree healthcare plan."

Prospective Retirees

[Home](#) > [OOC](#) > [HR](#) > [Employee Benefits](#) > Prospective



PROSPECTIVE RETIREES

[NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS](#)

[SUMMARY OF BENEFITS](#)

[RETIREES](#)

[EMPLOYEE BENEFITS](#)

For current retirement information, please select your employee group below.

For a description of the employee groups, view the [Labor Relations](#) page.

State System Retirement Definition

A separation from service in which you have attained the required age and/or years of service on your date of separation, to be eligible for at least one of the following retiree benefits :

- Retiree health insurance
- Sick leave payout

In order to enroll in the retiree health insurance or receive your sick leave payout you must begin to receive your monthly lifetime pension annuity from your retirement plan.

Monthly Annuity Definition

Definition - A pension payment you receive for your lifetime.

1. SERS and PSERS Participants:

Any of the monthly pension payment options meets the criteria of a lifetime monthly pension annuity.

2. Alternative Retirement Plan (ARP) Participants:

Must annuitize a minimum of \$10,000 in a lifetime annuity product with their ARP vendor(s).

Employees should consult with their ARP retirement vendor (TIAA and/or Fidelity) to confirm their qualifying lifetime annuity options.

State System/Commonwealth Definitions

Definition:

- 1. Credited service** includes service credited by the retirement plan, which may include purchased service such as:
 - Out of state educational service
 - Military service
 - Service earned with other employers that offer SERS and PSERS retirement plans (e.g. Penn State, community colleges, public schools)
- 2. State System/Commonwealth service** only includes employment service with the State System of Higher Education or the Commonwealth of PA
 - Employment with public schools (pre-K, K-12), community colleges, Penn State, Temple, etc., **ARE NOT** included

Superannuation

- **Normal Retirement Age** is the age at retirement determined by each Class of Service.
- **Superannuation age** for SERS and PSERS is the Normal Retirement Age plus additional criteria for each Class of Service.
- *SLP for faculty and coaches is not based on superannuation age, it's age 60 or above with 5 years of service as a faculty or coach.*
- Refer to the charts in the Retirement Guides for the type of service requirements (Credited, Commonwealth/State System, and service as a faculty member/coach). [Prospective Retirees | PA State System of Higher Education](#)

Superannuation Age Chart – Full Benefits

ARP – Age 60 with no additional criteria

SERS/PSERS – Based on class of service

Superannuation Age Chart

Retirement Plan	Class of Service	Superannuation
ARP	N/A	Age 60
SERS	A, AA	- SERS normal retirement age (age 60*) with 3 years of credited service - Any age with 35 years of service
	A3, A4	- SERS normal retirement age (age 65*) with 3 years of credited service - Any age if with 35 years of service and your years of service plus your age equals at least 92
	A5, A6	- Age 67 with 3 years of service - Rule of 97 with 35 eligibility points**
PSERS	TC/TD	- Age 62, or - Age 60 with 30 years of service, or 35 years of service regardless of age
	TE/TF	- Age 65 with 3 years of service credit, or - Any combination of age and service that totals 92 with at least 35 years of credited service
	TG	- Age 67 with a minimum of three years of service credit, or - Any combination of age and service that totals 97 with at least 35 years of credited service
	TH	Age 67 with a minimum of three years of service credit

* Normal retirement age differs for corrections officers, Delaware River Port Authority police officers, enforcement officers, legislators, psychiatric security aides, and state police officers.

** In most cases total service credit and eligibility points will match; there are limited instances when they will not. For instance, eligibility points for USERRA military leave can be earned for the leave time if the member purchases the service upon return from leave.

Step 1: Understand Retirement Eligibility

- In order to determine if it is the right time for you to begin planning for your retirement, you should understand the eligibility criteria and the benefits afforded to eligible PASSHE retirees.
- There are several employment groups and each may have different criteria, so you will want to also understand what employment group you are a part of. Are you Faculty (APSCUF), Manager (Non-represented), Staff (AFSCME, SCUPA, OPEIU, POA, etc.)?
- Know your date of hire. Do you know what your date of hire is? Did you have a break in service?
- What is your current age? What will your age be upon retirement?

Simple, right?

Step 1: Understand Retirement Eligibility (Continued)

**Use the applicable Pre-Retirement Checklist provided to you on the IUP HR Benefits Website (Planning for Retirement) or that was provided to you by a member of Benefits Services to determine your eligibility. *Contact Benefits Services to verify and confirm years of service.*

Eligibility requirements vary based on your employee group (i.e., AFSCME, Faculty, Non-represented, etc.)

Eligibility is based on:

- Current hire date
- Age at retirement
- Years of service
- Date of retirement

If eligibility is met, then the retiree is eligible for coverage in the appropriate retiree health plan, which provides medical benefits to retirees and their eligible dependents for the retiree's lifetime.

Managers

Eligibility Criteria for Receiving Full Retirement Benefit

☐ SERS

- ☐ Retirement at age 60 or above with at least 3 years of credited service
- ☐ Retirement under age 60 with at least 35 years of credited service
- ☐ Retirement at any age with an approved disability and at least 5 years of credited service

☐ PSERS

- ☐ Retirement at age 62 or above with at least 1 year of credited service
- ☐ Retirement at age 60 or above with at least 30 years of credited service
- ☐ Retirement at any age with 35 years of credited service
- ☐ Retirement at any age with an approved disability and at least 5 years of credited service

☐ ARP (TIAA/Fidelity)

- ☐ Retirement at any age

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ON RETIREMENT BENEFITS: In addition to meeting the age and service criteria for the Majority Paid Annuitant Health Care Coverage and the Sick Leave Payout, employees must retire and begin drawing a lifetime annuity from one of the PASSHE retirement plans (SERS, PSERS, or the ARP).

Eligibility Criteria for Majority Paid Annuitant Health Care Coverage

☐ Hired Prior to July 1, 1997

- ☐ Retirement at age 60 or above with at least 10 years of credited service
- ☐ Retirement under age 60 with at least 25 years of credited service
- ☐ Retirement at any age with an approved disability retirement and at least 5 years of credited service

☐ Hired On or After July 1, 1997 but Before July 1, 2004

- ☐ Retirement at age 60 or above with at least 15 years of Commonwealth/State System service
- ☐ Retirement under age 60 with at least 25 years of Commonwealth/State System service
- ☐ Retirement at any age with an approved disability and at least 5 years of Commonwealth/State System service

Pre-Retirement Eligibility Checklist (Example-Manager)

Step 2: Determining Eligibility:

Depending on which employment group you are a part of will be a determining factor in eligibility. Following your review of the pre-retirement eligibility checklist for your employment group, you should be able to determine your eligibility for Retirement, Majority Paid Annuitant Health Care coverage and/or the Sick Leave Payout.

For example, as a Manager (Non-represented employee), my hire date is 4/22/1985, I am a SERS participant, & my DOB is 6/15/1958, therefore the criteria I must meet to be eligible for retirement is as follows (as laid out on the pre-retirement eligibility checklist and also on the PASSHE website):

Eligibility Criteria for Receiving Full Retirement Benefit

SERS



Retirement at age 60 or above with at least 3 years of credited service

- Retirement under age 60 with at least 35 years of credited service
- Retirement at any age with an approved disability and at least 5 years of credited service

Eligibility Criteria for Majority Paid Annuitant Health Care Coverage

Hired Prior to July 1, 1997



Retirement at age 60 or above with at least 10 years of credited service

- Retirement under age 60 with at least 25 years of credited service
- Retirement at any age with an approved disability retirement and at least 5 years of credited service

Hired On or After July 1, 1997 but Before July 1, 2004

- Retirement at age 60 or above with at least 15 years of Commonwealth/State System service
- Retirement under age 60 with at least 25 years of Commonwealth/State System service
- Retirement at any age with an approved disability and at least 5 years of Commonwealth/State System service

Hired On or After July 1, 2004 but Before January 1, 2016

- Retirement at age 60 or older with at least 20 years of Commonwealth/State System service
- Retirement under age 60 with at least 25 years of Commonwealth/State System Service
- Retirement at any age with an approved disability and at least 5 years of Commonwealth/State System Service

Hired On or After January 1, 2016

- Not eligible

Determining Eligibility

(Manager continued)

Eligibility Criteria for the Sick Leave Payout



Retirement at age 60 or above with at least five years of credited service

- Retirement under age 60 with at least 25 years of credited service
- At any age with an approved disability retirement

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ON AHCP Costs

- Contributions for eligible management employees who retire on or after July 1, 2008 continue to be paid on the same basis throughout retirement as follows:
- The annuitant shall contribute at the same base contribution percentage paid by active employees and this percentage will change as it changes for active employees. For example, the contribution percentage will change to 15% on July 1, 2010. Note that the additional contributions paid by active employees who do not participate in the Wellness Program (Healthy U) do not pertain to annuitants. The contribution percentage is applied to the active employee health care plan premium rate in effect on the annuitant's retirement date for the chosen health care plan and coverage tier (single, two-party or family). **This premium rate upon which the contribution percentage is applied remains the same throughout retirement.**

Pre-Retirement Eligibility Checklist (Faculty example)

Faculty

Eligibility Criteria for Receiving Full Retirement Benefit

☐ SERS

- ☐ Retirement at age 60 or above with at least 3 years of credited service
- ☐ Retirement under age 60 with at least 35 years of credited service
- ☐ Retirement at any age with an approved disability and at least 5 years of credited service

☐ PSERS

- ☐ Retirement at age 62 or above with at least 1 year of credited service
- ☐ Retirement at age 60 or above with at least 30 years of credited service
- ☐ Retirement at any age with 35 years of credited service
- ☐ Retirement at any age with an approved disability and at least 5 years of credited service

☐ ARP (TIAA/Fidelity)

- ☐ Retirement at any age

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ON RETIREMENT BENEFITS: In addition to meeting the age and service criteria for the Majority Paid Annuitant Health Care Coverage and the Sick Leave Payout, employees must retire and begin drawing a lifetime annuity from one of the PASSHE retirement plans (SERS, PSERS, or the ARP).

Eligibility Criteria for Majority Paid Annuitant Health Care Coverage

☐ Hired Prior to July 1, 1997

- ☐ Retirement at age 60 or above with at least 10 years of credited service
- ☐ Retirement under age 60 with at least 25 years of credited service
- ☐ Retirement at any age with an approved disability retirement and at least 5 years of credited service

☐ Hired On or After July 1, 1997 but Before July 1, 2004 (Includes faculty members who began employment with the Fall 1997 semester)

- ☐ Retirement at age 60 or above with at least 15 years of Commonwealth/State System service
- ☐ Retirement under age 60 with at least 25 years of Commonwealth/State System service
- ☐ Retirement at any age with an approved disability and at least 5 years of Commonwealth/State System service

Determining Eligibility:

Depending on which employment group you are a part of will be a determining factor in eligibility. Following your review of the pre-retirement eligibility checklist for your employment group, you should be able to determine your eligibility for Retirement, Majority Paid Annuitant Health Care coverage and/or the Sick Leave Payout.

For example, as a Faculty member), my hire date is 8/22/1992, I am an ARP participant, & my DOB is 10/09/1952, therefore the criteria I must meet to be eligible for retirement is as follows (as laid out on the pre-retirement eligibility checklist and also on the PASSHE website):
http://www.passhe.edu/inside/HR/sys/hr/prospective_retiree/Pages/default.aspx

Eligibility Criteria for Receiving Full Retirement Benefit

ARP

- ARP (TIAA-CREF, ING, Fidelity, VALIC)
- 😊 Retirement at any age

Eligibility Criteria for Majority Paid Annuitant Health Care Coverage

- Hired Prior to July 1, 1997
 - 😊 Retirement at age 60 or above with at least 10 years of credited service
 - Retirement under age 60 with at least 25 years of credited service
 - Retirement at any age with an approved disability retirement and at least 5 years of credited service
- Hired On or After July 1, 1997 but Before July 1, 2004
 - Retirement at age 60 or above with at least 15 years of Commonwealth/State System service
 - Retirement under age 60 with at least 25 years of Commonwealth/State System service
 - Retirement at any age with an approved disability and at least 5 years of Commonwealth/State System service
- Hired On or After July 1, 2004
 - Retirement at age 60 or older with at least 20 years of Commonwealth/State System service
 - Retirement under age 60 with at least 25 years of Commonwealth/State System Service
 - Retirement at any age with an approved disability and at least 5 years of Commonwealth/State System Service

Eligibility Criteria for the Sick Leave Payout

- 😊 Retirement at age 60 or above with at least five years of Commonwealth/State System service as a faculty member
- Retirement under age 60 with at least 25 years of **Commonwealth/State System** service. Service need not all be as a faculty member
- Retirement at any age with an approved disability retirement

So now that you understand & have determined that you meet the eligibility criteria, do you have a retirement date in mind?

Step 3: Decide if it is time to retire/Choose a retirement date.



What's next?

- Follow along with the PASSHE Pre-retirement checklist for guidance on what to do next. *(This checklist can be obtained from Benefits Services).*

**Pre-Retirement Checklist for
PASSHE Alternative Retirement Plan (ARP) Enrollees
(TIAA & Fidelity Investments)**

	DATE COMPLETED
☐ 1. View the retirement Power Point: http://www.passhe.edu/inside/HR/sysh/prospective_retiree/Pages/default.aspx	1. ____/____/____
☐ 2. Election of a Monthly Annuity: Meet with your ARP representative to complete the documents to establish your retirement annuity. ARP participants must annuitize at least \$10,000 in order to be eligible for any sick leave payouts and Annuitant Health Care Program (AHCP) enrollment. This final paperwork must be completed no later than two weeks prior to your retirement date. Failure to meet this deadline may result in the delay of processing your healthcare enrollment and/or your sick leave payout.	2. ____/____/____
☐ 3. Decide if you want to defer all or a portion of your payout Deferred Compensation 457 account. If you elect to defer, you must complete and sign a Salary Deferral Agreement designating the specific dollar amount you wish to defer. You must have at least \$5 deducted from your paycheck to defer. You must receive your signed Salary Deferral Agreement designated by your Employer representative before the first day of your leave payout.	3. ____/____/____
☐ 4. If you elect to defer, you must first enroll in the Deferred Compensation Plan. You must have at least \$5 deducted from your paycheck to defer. You must receive your signed Salary Deferral Agreement designated by your Employer representative before the first day of your leave payout. Contact Payroll Services, (724) 457-1234.	4. ____/____/____

INDIANA UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA

RETIREMENT COUNSELING SCHEDULE

Plan representatives will be available for appointments with employees at the dates listed below. Unless otherwise noted, appointments will be in Sutton Hall, Room G-2A.

Detailed information on the Pennsylvania State System is available on the [State System website](#).

TIAA

Chad Firmstone from TIAA will be on campus for individual counseling sessions:

- Wednesday, May 1, 2019
- Tuesday, May 14, 2019
- Tuesday, June 11, 2019
- Wednesday, June 26, 2019

To schedule an appointment with Firmstone, contact the TIAA scheduling center at 877-209-3136 or at 412-365-3012 or cfirmstone@tiaa-cref.org.

FIDELITY INVESTMENTS

George Maccarelli from Fidelity Investments will be on campus for individual counseling sessions:

- Tuesday, May 7, 2019
- Friday, June 14, 2019

To schedule an appointment call 800-642-7131.

STATE EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM (SERS)

- Then, meet with your designated retirement counselor(s) [Retirement Counseling Schedule - Office of Human Resources - IUP](#)

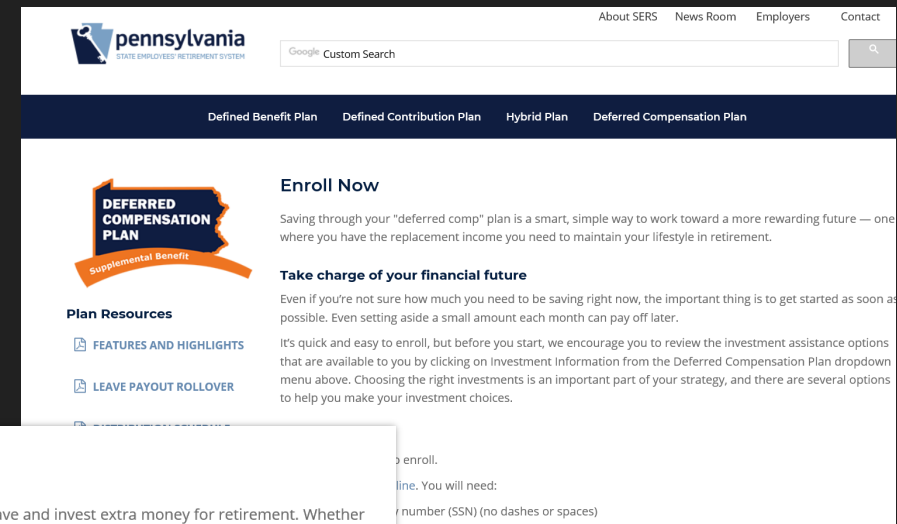
Sick Leave Payout

If you meet the eligibility criteria upon retirement:

⦿ You may elect to take your sick leave payout in one lump sum payment

Or

⦿ Choose to enroll in the Deferred Compensation Plan through Empower Retirement and/or enroll in the TSA – 403(b) plan



Voluntary Retirement Plans

The State System offers two additional options to save and invest extra money for retirement. Whether you are supplementing your group retirement plan or you are not eligible to enroll in the group retirement plan, the voluntary retirement plans are available to all employees upon their date of hire. Employees can choose to contribute up to the annual IRS limits in both plans. There are no employer contributions for these plans.

• [Deferred Compensation/TSA Comparison](#)

Deferred Compensation - 457 Plan

Your 457 Plan offers a simple, flexible way for you to save for retirement. With its powerful pretax and Roth saving features, investment options and planning resources, you can work toward replacing your working income in retirement - for life. Review your 457 Plan highlights document to see how your 457 Plan can help you save, invest and prepare for retirement.

[Read More](#)

Tax-Sheltered Annuity - 403(b) Plan

Employees are able to choose from TIAA and/or Fidelity as their TSA vendor and choose from the same core investment lineup as the ARP retirement plan, offering the lowest possible fee structure. A brokerage window is available for employees who desire investment choices outside the core lineup.

[Read More](#)

Voluntary Retirement Plans

[Home > OOC >](#)

[Deferred Compensation/ TSA Comparison](#)

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[- Enroll Now](#)

[- Plan Highlights](#)



Deferred Compensation Plan: 457(b)

“Deferred comp” makes it easy to set aside more money for retirement by allowing you to have some of your pay automatically deducted on a pre-tax basis and invested.

Defer From Your Leave Payout:

According to the IRS, leave payouts are eligible for deferral into deferred comp accounts. Current IRS limits affect the actual amount you can defer.

If you do not yet participate in deferred comp, there may be time to establish a new account; however, ***you must be enrolled and have begun your first payroll deduction in the month prior to the first 1st of the month in which you will be retiring.***

Empower Retirement Deferred Compensation Plan (457)

- Employees planning for an upcoming retirement can [schedule a virtual Retirement Readiness Review online](#).
- For employees interested in enrollment, all instructions and required codes can be found on the [SERS Deferred Compensation enrollment website](#).
- For more information on the 457 plan, go to the [Deferred Compensation Program website](#).

- Contact the Empower Retirement Counselor for more information or review more information at the following websites:

[Voluntary Retirement Plans | PA State System of Higher Education \(passhe.edu\)](#)
sers.pa.gov/DeferredCompensationPlan.html

Deferred Compensation

Deferring Into the 457 plan

Current DCP Participants: If you are currently enrolled in the Deferred Compensation Plan, you must complete and sign another Salary Deferral Agreement designating the specific dollar amount you wish to defer. Empower Retirement Services must receive your signed Salary Deferral Agreement designating the sick leave payout amount approved by your Empower Retirement representative 45 days prior to your last day of employment and/or date of retirement.

Non-DCP Participants: If you are not currently enrolled in the Deferred Compensation Plan, you must first enroll in the DCP which will require additional processing time. You must have at least \$5 deducted from your pay prior to the pay in which you defer your payout in order to meet the IRS requirements. Refer to the [Deferred Compensation Website](#) for more information and to enroll. You must then complete and sign another Salary Deferral Agreement designating the specific dollar amount you wish to defer. Empower Retirement must receive your signed Salary Deferral Agreement designating the sick leave payout amount approved by your Empower Retirement representative 45 days prior to your date of retirement.

For more information on the 457 plan and to enroll online, go to the [Deferred Compensation Program website](#). Review the information available and then schedule a [Virtual Retirement Readiness Review](#) online. You can also contact Customer Service at 1-800-633-5461, Option 1. To provide the final salary deferral amount on the Sick & Annual Salary Deferral Agreement form, you will need to know the dollar amount of the payout. An estimate can be requested from Benefits Services of the Office of Human Resources at benefit-services@iup.edu.

TSA Deferring Leave Payouts

Employees who are retiring can contribute a portion of their final payout and leave payouts into the Tax-Sheltered Annuity (TSA) 403b Plan, within IRS limits. By making a pre-tax deferral into the TSA, employees can reduce taxes withheld from the final paycheck and boost their retirement savings. Employees must have an active TSA account with TIAA and/or Fidelity or have established an account by enrolling through TIAA and/or Fidelity. To open an account, navigate to [Tax-Sheltered Annuity \(TSA\) 403b \(passhe.edu\)](#) and click on the [Retirement@Work](#) link. To view more details of the plan navigate to [Voluntary Retirement Plans | PA State System of Higher Education \(passhe.edu\)](#).

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Voluntary Retirement Plans [Home > OOC >](#)

Deferred Compensation/ TSA Comparison

Deferred Compensation - 457 Plan

Your 457 Plan offers a simple, flexible way for you to save for retirement. With it's powerful pretax and Roth saving features, investment options and planning resources, you can work toward replacing your working income in retirement - for life. Review your 457 Plan highlights document to see how your 457 Plan can help you save, invest and prepare for retirement.

- [Enroll Now](#)
- [Plan Highlights](#)



TSA (Tax Sheltered Annuity) 403 (b) Deferring Into the TSA 403b

Employees who are retiring can contribute a portion of their final payout and leave payouts into the Tax-Sheltered Annuity (TSA) 403b Plan, within IRS limits. By making a pre-tax deferral into the TSA, employees can reduce taxes withheld from the final paycheck and boost their retirement savings. Employees must have an active TSA account with TIAA and/or Fidelity or have established an account by enrolling through TIAA and/or Fidelity. To open an account, navigate to www.passhe.edu/enrollTSA and click on the [Retirement@Work](#) link. To view more details of the plan navigate to www.passhe.edu/enrollTSA.

Employees should ask HR for a leave payout estimate in order to help them determine how much they may be able to defer. Any questions about your TSA account or eligible amounts to defer should be directed to your TSA vendor representative. Employees who do not have an existing account will need to establish an account with TIAA and/or Fidelity.

Submit your completed [TSA Leave Deduction Agreement](#) directly to tsadeferral@passhe.edu or by fax to 717-720-4162. To make sure enrollment and forms are received, it is recommended to complete the process 30 days in advance of your retirement date.

Tax-Deferring Your Leave Payouts

[Home](#) > [OOC](#) > [HR](#) > [Enrollment](#)

The State System allows you to defer in both the [TSA](#) and [Deferred Compensation plans](#), up to the applicable IRS limits. By making pre-tax deferral into the TSA, employees can reduce taxes withheld from the final paycheck and boost their retirement savings. Prior to meeting with your representative, you should obtain a sick/annual leave payout estimate from your HR office. This will help the representative to estimate the correct deferral amount.

Deferring Into the TSA 403b

Employees must have an active TSA account with TIAA and/or Fidelity or have established an account by enrolling through TIAA and/or Fidelity. To open an account, navigate to www.passhe.edu/enrollTSA and click on the [Retirement@Work](#) link.

Submit your completed [TSA Leave Deduction Agreement](#) directly to tsadeferral@passhe.edu or by fax to 717-720-4162. To make sure enrollment and forms are received, it is recommended to complete the process 30 days in advance of your retirement date.

To view more details of the plan, navigate to www.passhe.edu/enrollTSA.

[TSA Deferral Handout](#)

Deferring Into the Deferred Compensation 457

The State Employees' Retirement System contracts with Empower Retirement as the administrator for the deferred compensation 457 plan.

Sick Leave Payout

1. Employees who have an accrued sick leave balance may be eligible for a payout of a portion of this balance at retirement.
2. Employees must begin to draw their monthly pension **within 90 days** of separation, otherwise the sick leave payout is forfeited.

Service requirements and payout calculations vary for different employee groups – more information is available in the retirement guide applicable to your employee group (available on the State System website)

http://www.passhe.edu/inside/HR/syshr/prospective_retiree/Documents/AHCP_Retirement_Guide.pdf

**AFSCME/SPFPA/POA/OPEIU – Requires attainment of “superannuation age”, which is determined by the retirement plan and class of service in which the employee is enrolled. It is age 60 for ARP participants and, in many cases, age 60 for SERS, and age 62 for PSERS.*

Payment Schedule:

<i>Days Available at Retirement</i>	<i>Percentage Buy-Out</i>	<i>Maximum Days Paid</i>
0-100	30%	30
101-200	40%	80
201-300	50%	150
Over 300 (earned in last year of employment)	100% of days over 300	15

Nonrepresented

Retirement Age	Years of Service	Type of Service
60 or above	5	Credited Service
Prior to 60	25	
Any with Approved Disability Retirement	5	

Payment Schedule:

<i>Days Available at Retirement</i>	<i>Maximum Days of Unused Sick Leave Paid</i>
10-74	10
75-149	20
150-224	30
225-299	40
300 and over	50

APSCUF Faculty

Retirement Age	Years of Service	Type of Service
60 or above	5	Commonwealth/State System service as a faculty member
Prior to 60	25	Commonwealth/State System
Any with Approved Disability Retirement	5	

Sick Leave Payout (Faculty)

Payment Schedule:

<i>Days Available at Retirement</i>	<i>Percentage Buy-Out</i>	<i>Maximum Days Paid</i>
0-100	30%	30
101-200	40%	80
201-300	50%	150
Over 300 (earned in last year of employment)	100% of days over 300	13

Leave balances are reported on ESS as the number of hours an employee has accrued. To convert hours to days, divide the number of leave hours accrued by 7.5 hours (SCUPA employees) or 8.0 (OPEIU and SPFPA employees).

**Sick Leave Payout
(SCUPA, SPFPA/Police,
OPEIU)**

OPEIU Nurse, SPFPA Security/Police, SCUPA

Enrolled in SERS/PSERS		
Retirement Age	Years of Service	Type of Service
Superannuation age	5	Credited Service
Prior to Superannuation age	25	
Any with Approved Disability Retirement	5	

OPEIU Nurse, SPFPA Security/Police, SCUPA

Enrolled in ARP		
Retirement Age	Years of Service	Type of Service
Age 60 with ARP	5	Commonwealth/State System Service
Prior to age 60 with ARP	25	
Any with Approved Disability Retirement	5	

APSCUF Coaches

Retirement Age	Years of Service	Type of Service
60 or above	5	Commonwealth/State System service as a coach
Prior to 60	25	Commonwealth/State System
Any with Approved Disability Retirement	5	

Payment Schedule:

<i>Days Available at Retirement</i>	<i>Maximum Days of Unused Sick Leave Paid</i>
10-74	10
75-149	20
150-224	30
225-300	40

Leave balances are reported on ESS as the number of hours an employee has accrued. To convert hours to days, divide the number of leave hours accrued by 7.5 hours.

Request a Leave Payout Estimate

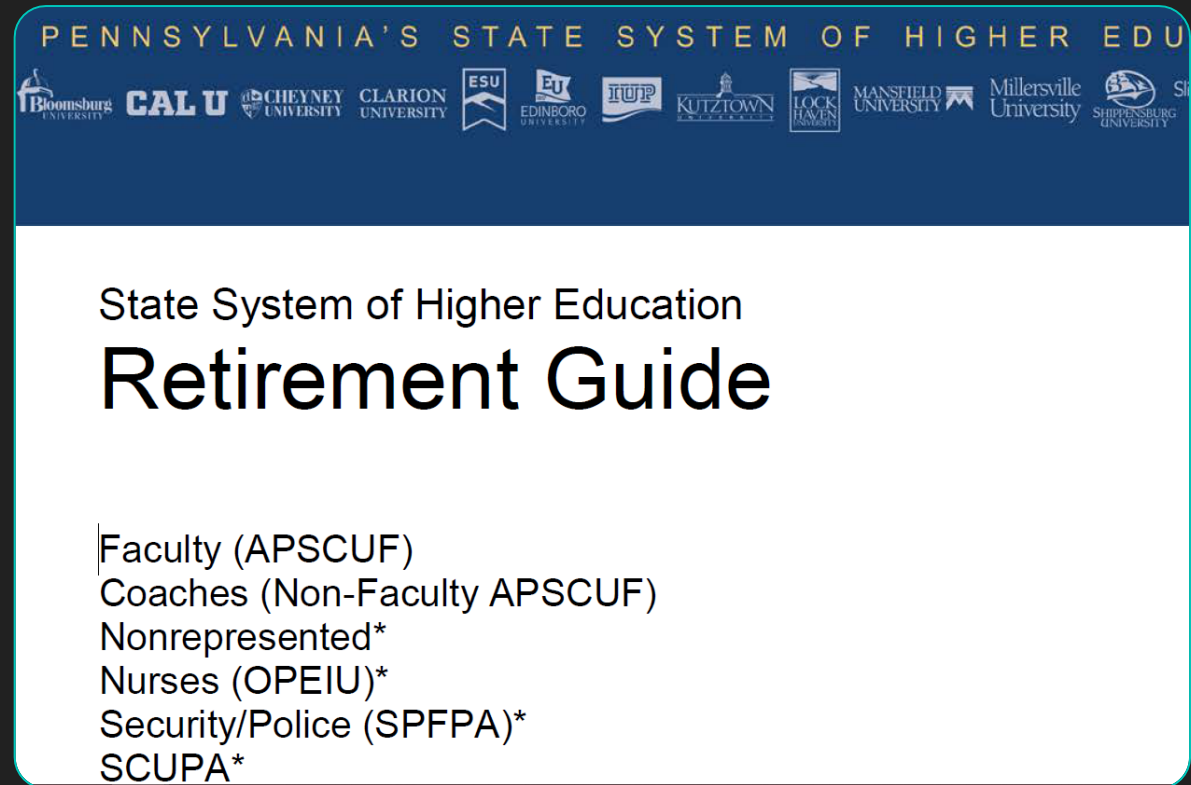
Once you have determined a date of retirement and established that you meet the eligibility criteria to receive a sick and/or annual leave payout,

- Contact Kyle Schons in Benefits Services to request a Leave Payout Estimate: Benefit-Services@iup.edu.
 - If applicable, employees are also eligible to have any remaining annual, compensatory, holiday or personal leave paid out.
 - Kyle will email you confidentially within a few days and include the estimated figures that you can expect to receive upon retirement for any remaining leave that you may be eligible to be paid out.
 - *If you are participating in the Deferred Compensation program, you must then complete and sign another Salary Deferral Agreement designating the specific dollar amount you wish to defer. Empower Retirement must receive your signed Salary Deferral Agreement designating the sick leave payout amount approved by your Empower Retirement representative **before the first day of the month in which you will receive your leave payout.***

Retiree Health Insurance: AHCP

(Annuitant Health Care Plan - Retiree Health Insurance administered by the State System)

- Eligible retirees, spouses and eligible dependent children will be enrolled in the State System Annuitant Health Care Plan (AHCP)
- Provides coverage for the lifetime of the retiree (survivor spouse coverage available)
 - Eligible dependents (spouse/children) may be added or removed at open enrollment or upon a qualifying life event
- Dependent children eligibility rules differ from the active employee plan:
 - Children eligible up to age 19, or age 25 if a full-time student
- Retiree premium contributions will vary based upon employee group, tier of coverage and date of retirement.
- Further details available in the applicable Retirement Guide:
http://www.passhe.edu/inside/HR/syshr/prospective_retiree/Documents/AHCP_Retirement_Guide.pdf



Nonrepresented/SCUPA

Current Hire Date	Retirement Age	Years of Service	Type of Service*
Prior to July 1, 1997	60	10	Credited Service
	Any	25	
	Any with Approved Disability Retirement	5	
July 1, 1997 to June 30, 2004	60	15	Commonwealth/State System Service
	Any	25	
	Any with Approved Disability Retirement	5	
On/After July 1, 2004	60	20	Commonwealth/State System Service
	Any	25	
	Any with Approved Disability Retirement	5	
On/After January 16, 2016	No retiree health coverage available		

APSCUF Faculty

Current Hire Date	Retirement Age	Years of Service	Type of Service*
Prior to Fall Semester 1997	60	10	Credited Service
	Any	25	
	Any with Approved Disability Retirement	5	
Fall Semester 1997 to June 30, 2004	60	15	Commonwealth/State System Service
	Any	25	
	Any with Approved Disability Retirement	5	
On/After July 1, 2004	60	20	Commonwealth/State System Service
	Any	25	
	Any with Approved Disability Retirement	5	

APSCUF Coaches

Current Hire Date	Retirement Age	Years of Service	Type of Service*
Prior to July 1, 1997	60	10	Credited Service
	Any	25	
	Any with Approved Disability Retirement	5	
July 1, 1997 to July 31, 2005	60	15	Commonwealth/State System Service
	Any	25	
	Any with Approved Disability Retirement	5	
On/After August 1, 2005	60	20	Commonwealth/State System Service
	Any	25	
	Any with Approved Disability Retirement	5	

OPEIU Nurses/SPFPA Security/Police

Current Hire Date	Retirement Age	Years of Service	Type of Service*
Prior to July 1, 1997	60	15	Credited Service
	Any	25	
	Any with Approved Disability Retirement	5	
July 1, 1997 to June 30, 2004	60	15	Commonwealth/State System Service
	Any	25	
	Any with Approved Disability Retirement	5	
On/After July 1, 2004	60	20	Commonwealth/State System Service
	Any	25	
	Any with Approved Disability Retirement	5	
On/After January 16, 2016	No retiree health coverage available		

Rate Information

APSCUF Faculty

Under age 65 or over age 65 and enrolled in the active Highmark PPO:

Retirement Date - 07/01/24 – 06/30/25		
Single	Two-Party	Family
\$148.49	\$329.21	\$403.46

Retirement Date - 07/01/25 – 06/30/26		
Single	Two-Party	Family
\$174.30	\$386.43	\$473.58

APSCUF Coaches

3.00% of their salary when they retire. (3.00% x final salary/12 months = monthly contribution rate)

Nonrepresented, Nurses, Security/Police, and SCUPA

Under age 65 or over age 65 and enrolled in the active Highmark PPO:

Retirement Date - 07/01/24 – 06/30/25		
Single	Two-Party	Family
\$146.36	\$324.47	\$397.65

Retirement Date - 07/01/25 – 06/30/26		
Single	Two-Party	Family
\$171.86	\$381.01	\$466.94

AHCP Details

Retiree Premium Contributions

- If you are a SERS member, your retiree health premium contributions will be deducted from your monthly annuity payment.
- If you are an ARP or PSERS member, your retiree health premium contributions will be directly debited from the account that you provide on the Direct Authorization Form upon retirement, one-time (AHCP).

Delaying Enrollment

If you don't need retiree health coverage immediately after retirement, you may delay your enrollment to a future date. This is a one-time waiver.

AHCP Details

Medicare Enrollment

Medicare-eligible retirees and spouses (generally those age 65+) must enroll in Medicare Part A and B in order to be enrolled in Freedom Blue Advantage Plan (effective 1/1/2025).

**If your spouse has active health coverage, it is in your best interest to remain in active coverage vs. enrolling in Medicare A&B for as long as possible. Example: A faculty member is married to another faculty member or manager/staff; upon retirement the retired faculty member should be added to the actively working spouse's plan.*

AHCP

Two different health plans, depending upon age of retiree:

1. Retirees/spouses/children under age 65 (not Medicare eligible)
 - Highmark PPO medical plan, with prescription drug card program
 - *If you are under age 65 or non-Medicare eligible, you will have the same prescription coverage that you did as an active employee.*
 - Same plan design as active employees receive
2. Retirees/spouses age 65+ (Medicare-eligible)
 - Medicare supplement plan [Highmark Freedom Blue PPO Medicare Advantage Plan](#)
 - Freedom Blue compliments Medicare Parts A (Hospital Coverage) & B (Medical Coverage)
 - More information, including a Welcome Member Guide: [AHCP | PA State System of Higher Education](#)

Freedom Blue PPO Medicare Advantage Plan

- Age 65 and older
- Enrollment is contingent upon the retiree/dependent enrolling in Medicare Part A and Medicare Part B.
- This private Medicare plan bundles all the coverage provided with Medicare Part A (facilities), Medicare Part B (providers) and Medicare Part D (prescription drug) into a single Medicare Advantage Plan (also known as Medicare Part C).
- Once enrolled, retirees/dependents will only be required to present their Freedom Blue PPO ID card for all your services and keep your original Medicare ID card at home.

Freedom Blue PPO Medicare Advantage Plan



Medicare-eligible Retirees **MUST** have enrolled in Medicare Parts A&B the 1st of the month following the date of retirement.



Retiring employee must provide a copy of Medicare ID card(s) to Benefits Services when submitting AHCP enrollment form. Scan and email to benefit-services@iup.edu.



Learn more here:

[AHCP | PA State System of Higher Education Medicare-advantage-benefit-overview.pdf Booklet](#)



2025 Benefit Summary

Group Name: Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education

Group Number: 0198418	Freedom Blue PPO	
Medical Benefits	In-Network	Out-of-Network
Deductible	Medicare Part B Deductible	
Coinsurance (see specific benefits for cost sharing)	0%	0%
Combined In and Out-of-Network Member Out-of-Pocket Maximum Amount (This is the most the member will pay out-of-pocket for their Medicare-covered services, not including Part D drugs)	Medicare Part B Deductible	
Physician and other Health Professional Services	In-Network	Out-of-Network
Office Visits - Primary Doctor	\$0	\$0
Office Visits - Specialist	\$0	\$0
Radiation Therapy	\$0	\$0
Emergency Room (waived if admitted within 3 days)	\$0	\$0
Urgent Care	\$0	\$0
Ambulance (Emergent)	0%	0%
Ambulance (Non-Emergent)	0%	0%
Routine Transportation Combined 24 one-way trips. Transportation related to continued acute care after discharge does not apply towards the trip limit.	\$0	50%
More than 20 Preventive Services	In-Network	Out-of-Network
Includes screenings and vaccines such as Flu, Pneumonia, Covid 19, Hepatitis, etc	Covered in Full	Covered in Full
Hospital, Home Health Care, and Skilled Services	In-Network	Out-of-Network
Hospital (Inpatient)	0%	0%
Observation Room/Outpatient Surgery (Hospital)	0%	0%
Outpatient Surgery (Ambulatory Center)	0%	0%
Home Health Care	0%	0%
Skilled Nursing Facility (100 days per benefit period)	0%	0%
Dialysis	\$0	\$0
Mental Health/Chemical Dependence Services	In-Network	Out-of-Network
Mental Health (Inpatient, 190-day lifetime limit)	0%	0%
Mental Health (Outpatient)	\$0	\$0
Mental Health (Outpatient with Psychiatrist)	\$0	\$0
Alcohol Substance Abuse (Inpatient)	0%	0%
Alcohol Substance Abuse (Outpatient)	\$0	\$0
Laboratory and X-ray Services	In-Network	Out-of-Network
Laboratory Testing (Physician Office/Free Standing Lab)	0%	0%
Laboratory Testing (Outpatient Facility)	0%	0%
X-rays	0%	0%
Advanced Radiology (MRI, MRA, PET, and CT)	0%	0%
Rehabilitation Services	In-Network	Out-of-Network
Physical, Occupational, and Speech Therapy	\$0	\$0

Vision	In-Network	Out-of-Network
Medical Vision Exam	\$0	\$0
Routine Vision Exam (Offered through Davis Vision)	\$0	\$50
Allowance (lenses and frames) Offered through Davis Vision	\$0 for Davis VisionFashionCollection frames and standard lenses or \$150 benefit maximum for all others	\$150 benefit maximum towards the purchase of frames and lenses.
Hearing	In-Network	Out-of-Network
Diagnostic Hearing Exam	\$0	\$0
Routine Hearing Exam (TruHearing)	\$0	\$0
Hearing Aid Benefit (TruHearing)	TruHearing: You pay a \$499 copay for the Advanced or a \$799 copay for the Premium hearing aid. Up to 2 hearings aids per year. There is a \$500 allowance every 3 years for any other hearing aids through TruHearing.	OON: \$500 allowance for hearing aids every 3 years from any other provider
Dental	In-Network	Out-of-Network
Routine Dental	Not Covered	
Supplies, Equipment, and Devices	In-Network	Out-of-Network
Durable Medical Equipment	0%	0%
Prosthetics	0%	0%
Oxygen	0%	0%
Diabetic Supplies (Part B)	0%	0%
Fitness Program	In-Network	Out-of-Network
Fitness and Wellness Program	Covered	
Part B Drugs	In-Network	Out-of-Network
Immunosuppressive Drugs	0%	0%
Oral Chemotherapy Drugs	0%	0%
Physician Administered Injectibles	0%	0%
Nebulizer Inhalation	0%	0%
Part B drugs (other)	0%	0%
Value Added Rider	In-Network	Out-of-Network
Routine Chiropractic and Podiatry - These are routine/not medically necessary services that are not covered by Original Medicare. Chiropractic visits are limited to 8 per calendar year. Podiatry visits are limited to 10 visits per calendar year.	\$0	\$0
Meal Plan - 2 meals per day up to 14 days upon discharge from an Inpatient Hospital, Inpatient Physyc or SNF Stay.	Covered in Full	Not Applicable
Over the Counter Drug Allowance	\$25 Allowance per Quarter	Not Applicable

Additional Freedom Blue PPO Benefits

Vision Benefits

- [Vision Benefit Details](#)
- [Vision Benefit Comparison](#) – PA Retired Faculty (PARFAC – APSCURF)
- [Vision Benefit Comparison](#) – PA Retired State Employees (PARSE)
- [Vision Provider Lookup](#)



Hearing Benefits

- [Hearing Information](#)



Additional Benefits

- [SilverSneakers](#) - Learn about the gym benefit and how to locate participating gyms.
- [Meals After Hospital Discharge](#)
- [Over-the-Counter Product Benefit](#) – Learn about \$25 allowance per quarter per enrolled member for OTC products, call to order a catalog, or order online from the catalog.
- [Personalized Wellness Plan / Wellness Rewards](#)
- [House Call Program](#)
- [Blue Neighbor Program](#) - A volunteer program that creates memorable experiences and improves the health of our communities.

Enrollment in AHCP Guidance

Those employees that choose a mid-month retirement date - active employee coverage still ends **on** retirement date, however

Upon PASSHE's verification of your annuity and receipt of completed AHCP enrollment form(s), PASSHE will:

Non SCUPA Retiring Employees – Will be re-enrolled in the *Active* PPO plan through end of month which retired in. PASSHE will enroll the retiring employee and eligible dependents the *First* of following month:

- Medicare-eligible individuals - Freedom Blue Medicare Advantage PPO
- Non-Medicare eligible – enrolled in *retiree* under age 65 PPO plan

SCUPA Retiring Employees- Will be enrolled in under age 65 (State System) retiree PPO plan. PASSHE will enroll the retiring employee and eligible dependents the *First of the following* month:

- Medicare-eligible individuals - Freedom Blue Medicare Advantage PPO
- Non-Medicare eligible – remain on under age 65 retiree PPO plan

AHCP/Medicare Enrollment

- Employees/spouses who are age 65+ must contact Social Security prior to retirement to enroll in Medicare Part A and Part B (if not already enrolled).
- Medicare enrollment must be effective the **first of the month following the month** in which you will retire.
- Medicare will pay primary and AHCP will pay secondary on claims. For more details on benefits and coverage, visit the Medicare benefits summary:
http://www.passhe.edu/inside/HR/syshr/current_re_tiree/Documents/Medicare_Benefit_Summary.pdf
- A number of ways to enroll:
 - Online – www.medicare.gov
 - Phone - 1-800-772-1213
 - Visit your local Social Security office

PENNSYLVANIA STATE SYSTEM OF HIGHER EDUCATION 2019 MEDICARE BENEFIT SUMMARY			
BENEFITS AND COVERAGE	MEDICARE (PARTS A & B)*	BLUE SHIELD SIGNATURE-65	MAJOR MEDICAL
Hospitalization Room and Inpatient Services	Pays for first 60 days after Part A deductible of \$1,364 for each benefit period; pays after coinsurance for days 61-150	Pays \$1,364 Part A deductible plus coinsurance for days 61-150 plus 30 additional days for in-hospital care for covered services	80% excess
Outpatient Hospital Services Surgery, Diagnostic Services, Rehabilitation Facility Services and Therapy	Pays 80% of approved charges after \$185 annual Part B deductible	Pays 20% of Medicare approved charges after \$185 Part B deductible which may be submitted to Major Medical	80% excess
Emergency Services Urgently Needed Care and Ambulance Services	Pays 80% of approved charges after \$185 annual Part B deductible	Pays 20% of Medicare approved charges after \$185 Part B deductible which may be submitted to Major Medical	80% excess
Skilled Nursing Facility Services	Pays fully for first 20 days; pays after coinsurance for days 21-100; beyond 100 days there is no coverage	Pays coinsurance for days 21-100; if skilled care is still required, you may use 2 days for each of the 30 additional unused in-hospital days	80% excess
Physician Services Office Visits, Surgery, Doctor Services, and Laboratory Services	Pays 80% of approved charges after \$185 annual Part B deductible	Pays 20% of Medicare approved charges after \$185 Part B deductible which may be submitted to Major Medical	80% excess
Prescription Drugs/Medications	Not covered	Not covered under Blue Shield Signature-65; however, members are must utilize their Highmark ID Card to receive the discounted prescription drug price and then submit to Major Medical for reimbursement	80%
Durable Medical Equipment	Pays 80% of approved charges after \$185 annual Part B deductible	Pays 20% of Medicare approved charges after \$185 Part B deductible which may be submitted to Major Medical with any remaining balance	80% excess

- You will be required to complete your portion of the Employer Verification form (CMS-L564 form) and have Benefits Services complete the remaining portion of the Medicare form as part of the Medicare Part B enrollment process.
- This form cannot be completed by Benefits Services until a notice of retirement has been submitted.

AHCP Enrollment Process

Upon submitting your notice of retirement, Benefits Services of the Office of Human Resources, will provide you with a retirement letter that includes an overview of relevant details pertinent to your retirement. Included with the retirement letter will be an AHCP enrollment form.

- To enroll in AHCP you must complete this form and return it to Benefits Services.
- Once received, your enrollment form is submitted to the PASSHE Retiree Benefits Office.
- Retirees will not be enrolled in AHCP until the PASSHE Central Office has verified that the annuity has been established.
- Highmark ID card(s) will be received after your enrollment into the AHCP has been processed (approximately 7-14 days). *It is strongly recommended to not schedule visits with your provider until two weeks after your retirement date in the event of any delays.*

****Once you enroll, if you choose to drop coverage, you cannot re-enroll in the AHCP.***



Name _____

Signature _____

Date _____

Supplemental Benefits: Vision/Dental

Dental/Vision Insurance:

- The **under age 65 AHCP** does not offer dental or vision coverage to retirees. There are several options that may be available to you:
- If you are a **retired faculty** member, vision and dental coverage may be available through **APSCURF**: <http://www.apscurf.org/members/apscurf>. *(The PA Faculty Health & Welfare Fund administers the vision and dental plans. Faculty will need to contact PAFHWF with specific questions: 844-865-1137)*
- If you are receiving a pension or eligible to receive a pension from the Commonwealth/State System, vision and dental coverage may be available through **PARSE**: www.parseofpa.org.
- If you are eligible for **COBRA**, you can elect to continue the same vision and/or dental plan or both at a cost that is only 2% higher than the rate that was paid as an active employee, for a period of 18 months (sometimes longer depending on circumstances). You will be sent COBRA information & election forms from the 3rd Party Administrator.
- NVA/United Concordia will provide you with the option to purchase a plan directly from them.
- Pay eye doctor or dentist directly.



It is up to you to compare the plans, the costs, and take your personal circumstances into consideration when making a choice.

Vision Benefits: AHCP Age 65 Freedom Blue Advantage Plan

Vision Insurance:

- The age 65 AHCP (Freedom Blue Advantage Plan) does offer some vision coverage to retirees.
- View details on the Vision Benefits under the Freedom Blue Medicare Advantage Plan here: [vision-information.pdf](#)

VISION PLAN BENEFIT DETAILS

Service or Product	Entitlement	Patient Responsibility
Annual Eye Exam inclusive of Refraction	Included	\$0
Frame: Plan-supplied	A "Fashion" Frame from the Davis Vision Collection ¹ is covered in full	\$0
Frame: Provider-supplied	\$150 credit, plus a 20% discount for a provider-supplied frame, every calendar year. Member is responsible for amount over \$150.	Patient is responsible for the amount over \$150, after 20% discount on overage.
Single Vision Lenses	Members are entitled to 1 pair of eyeglasses with lenses of standard plastic, oversize, or tinted lenses every calendar year.	\$0
Bifocal Lenses		
Trifocal Lenses		
Aphakic/Lenticular Lenses		
Contact Lens Evaluation	(Every calendar year) \$60 allowance plus 15% off balance	Patient responsible for the amount over \$60 allowance plus 15% of balance
Premium Contact Lenses Collection (Plan 1) ¹	Annual (every calendar year) in lieu of eyeglasses	\$0
Planned Replacement Disposable		
OR		
Visually required Contacts:		
	Two boxes/multi-packs* Four boxes/multi-packs* *Number of contact lens boxes may vary based on manufacturer's packaging.	
Provider-supplied Contact Lenses	\$150 credit, plus a 15% discount (every calendar year)	Patient is responsible for the amount over \$150, after 15% discount on overage.

VISION CARE OPTIONS (tints, coatings, non-standard lens materials, etc.) - Available at a Discounted Patient Cost per pair - see below:	
Davis Vision Designer Frame (from the Tower Collection in most providers' offices) (Red tag)	\$15
Davis Vision Premier Frame (from the Tower Collection in most providers' offices) (Blue tag)	\$35
Scratch-resistant coating	Included
Ultraviolet coating	\$12
Progressive addition lenses (PAL) - Standard type ²	\$50
Progressive addition lenses (PAL) - Premium type ²	\$90
Progressive addition lenses (PAL) - Ultra type ²	\$140
Anti-reflective coating (ARC) - Standard type	\$35
Anti-reflective coating (ARC) - Premium type	\$48
Anti-reflective coating (ARC) - Ultra type	\$60
Polycarbonate lenses ³	\$30
Polarized lenses	\$75
High index (thinner and lighter lens material)	\$55
Photosensitive plastic lenses	\$65
Scratch Protection Plan: Single Vision Multifocal Lenses	\$20 \$40

Hearing Benefits

Hearing Insurance:

The **under age 65** AHCP does not include hearing coverage for retirees.

1. If you are receiving a pension or eligible to receive a pension from the Commonwealth/State System, hearing coverage may be available through **PARSE**: visit www.parseofpa.org or call 1-800-286-6149.
2. Pay Hearing Specialist directly.

It is up to you to compare the plans, the costs, and take your personal circumstances into consideration when making a choice.

Hearing Benefits: AHCP Age 65 Freedom Blue Advantage Plan

Hearing Benefits:

- The age 65 AHCP (Freedom Blue Advantage Plan) does offer some hearing coverage to retirees.
- View details on the Hearing Benefits under the Freedom Blue Medicare Advantage Plan here: [hearing-information.pdf](#)



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Hours:

Additional Benefits After Retirement

Additional Benefits:

- To learn more about benefits after retirement, visit: [Additional Benefits After Retirement](#)
 - Meals After Hospital Discharge
 - Over the Counter Product Catalog



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For more information, call **1-888-201-5716**.

Other Benefits: Tuition Waiver

○ Continuation of the Tuition Waiver is dependent upon the criteria within your employment group.

○ Please visit:
<https://www.iup.edu/humanresources/benefits/tuition-waiver/eligibility-and-benefit/>

○ A Summary chart of benefits and eligibility can be viewed here:
<https://www.iup.edu/humanresources/benefits/tuition-waiver/eligibility-and-benefit/eligibility-and-benefit-grids/>

TUITION WAIVER ELIGIBILITY AND BENEFIT DETAILS BY EMPLOYEE GROUP

Tuition Waiver Eligibility and Benefit Verification Portal

This tool provides personalized eligibility and benefits by answering a few simple questions.

To print your final results, right click and select Print or Print Preview.

OR

Click on group name for detailed tuition waiver eligibility and benefits:

[AFSCME](#)

[APSCUF Faculty](#)

[Management \(Non-represented\)](#)

[Coaches \(Non-Faculty\)](#)

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Other Benefits

State Employee Assistance Program (SEAP)

SEAP benefits continue upon enrollment in the AHCP. SEAP is the free assessment and referral service for commonwealth employees and their family members; this includes everyone who lives in your house, as well as your parents, adult children, and siblings regardless of where they live. SEAP provides counseling for a wide variety of personal, financial, and legal services. This is no cost to you for this benefit.

Group Life Insurance

Your employer-paid group life insurance coverage will cease on the last day of the month in which your employment ends. You will receive a conversion notice in the mail directly from MetLife. You have the option to convert the same or a lesser amount of your current group coverage into an individual insurance policy purchased at your own expense. **You will have 15 days from the date the notice is received to make a decision.**

Voluntary Benefits After Retirement

Voluntary Group Life (VGLIP) and Accidental Death and Dismemberment (ADD) Insurance

Your VGLIP/ADD coverage will cease on your last day of employment. You can convert your coverage to an individual whole life insurance policy, or you can port your group term life coverage. You will receive a letter from MetLife and a follow up call from Barnum Financial Group (MetLife's third-party financial professionals) to discuss your options. You have 31 days from the date of your retirement to elect conversion or port options.

Long Term Disability (LTD)

LTD insurance will cease upon retirement.

Tax-Sheltered Annuity 403(b) (TSA)

Money can be withdrawn 30 days after separation. Contact your financial advisor or vendor representative for more information.

Deferred Compensation 457(b)

Money can be withdrawn at any time after separation. Contact your Empower representative for more information.

Flexible Spending Account (FSA)

Remember to submit qualified expenses incurred prior to your date of separation. Reimbursement from your medical account will not be permitted for expenses incurred after your last day worked, unless you elect COBRA coverage for FSA.

What if I don't meet the eligibility criteria for health insurance but still want to retire?

- Employees that don't meet the eligibility requirements for health insurance but otherwise meet all other requirements to be considered a PASSHE retiree are still eligible to retire and may meet the requirements for the sick leave payout.
- In some cases, employees that don't meet the years of service requirement for AHCP may be eligible for AHCP Partial Pay (\$5 share). The Central Office will contact employees that meet these requirements.

So you meet the eligibility criteria for the Annuitant Majority Paid Health Care and for the Sick Leave Payout, but now what?

What do I need to do to ensure that I receive these benefits?

In addition to meeting the age and service criteria for the Majority Paid Annuitant Health Care Coverage and the Sick Leave Payout, employees must retire and begin drawing a lifetime annuity from one of the PASSHE retirement plans (SERS, PSERS, or the ARP).

1. Establish your retirement date.
2. Meet with your designated Retirement Counselor. It is strongly recommended to meet with your vendor representative to complete the annuity paperwork and understand the options available in setting up your annuity. You should contact your vendor representative no less than 90 days prior to your retirement. (**ARP participants must annuitize a minimum of \$10,000**).
3. Schedule a retirement planning meeting with the Assistant Director of HR to ensure that you understand and are comfortable with your decision to retire and to assist you with any additional questions. Work with Benefits Services for assistance and guidance.
4. Submit your notice of retirement appropriately as indicated on the PASSHE pre-retirement checklist.

Things to Know

- If an employee moved from out of state and had an ARP plan that was rolled into the PASSHE plan, upon retirement this may slightly delay the process as you may need to work with retirement vendor representatives from out of state to assist you with your annuity and retirement funds. Please allow ample time in establishing your annuity and contact your retirement vendor for assistance.
- If you choose to continue working after your retirement from IUP/PASSHE, in general, if your retirement plan was SERS or the ARP, you **MAY** work after retirement from the State System with any employer that is **NOT** affiliated with the State System or the Commonwealth of PA. If your retirement plan was PSERS, PSERS has established rules that are different from SERS regarding working after retirement. Retirees should consult PSERS for additional clarification.
- Working in retirement may have tax implications – consult your tax advisor.



