

Estimating your MTRS retirement benefits

A step-by-step interactive guide for estimating superannuation (regular or RetirementPlus) benefits

Step 1: Read this disclaimer

Please note:

- This four-step estimator is provided solely as an illustration of certain benefit calculation formulas, and is intended to assist our members in estimating their benefits in different scenarios.
- This estimator will **not** produce estimates of disability, termination or Special Spousal benefits. If you are applying for these benefits, please stop here and contact us for the proper retirement application information.
- The results provided by this estimator should be considered as **approximations** and should not be considered as the final determination of your retirement benefit.
- The MTRS accepts no responsibility for any errors or defects in this estimator or in any data you may input.
- The MTRS retains no record of estimates produced by this estimator. Accordingly, no estimate produced by this estimator shall be in any way binding upon the MTRS, which has sole authority under the law to determine your retirement benefits.
- All data used in the actual calculation of your allowance at retirement is subject to audit, verification and possible recomputation if any subsequent errors are discovered.
- If you have any difficulty using the estimator, you may file a written request with the MTRS and the information will be sent to you.
- This estimator is not intended as a substitute for the Massachusetts General Laws nor will its interpretation prevail should a conflict arise between it and M.G.L. c. 32.

By using this estimator, you indicate that you understand and agree to the terms of this disclaimer.



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Estimating your MTRS retirement benefits Massachusetts Teachers' Retirement System

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Step 2: Understand the retirement basics

Eligibility

You are eligible to receive a regular (also known as "superannuation") retirement allowance when:

- you have 20 years of creditable service, regardless of your age, OR
- you are at least age 55 and you have at least 10 years of creditable service.

If you are participating in RetirementPlus, in order to be eligible to receive the enhanced RetirementPlus benefit, you must also have at least 30 years of creditable service, of which 20 years are teaching service with the MTRS or Boston Retirement System.

The formula

Your retirement allowance is based on three factors:

- your age,
- your years of creditable service, and
- the average of your three highest consecutive years' salaries.

Generally, the greater any of these factors, the greater your retirement allowance.

The three options

The Massachusetts retirement law (M.G.L. c. 32) regulates your retirement allowance and allows you to choose one of three benefit options. These options differ with regard to the amount paid and whether any benefits will be paid to someone else after your death. In brief:

Option	Monthly benefit amount	Survivor benefit			
Α	Maximum allowance Approximately 1% less than Option A amount	None			
В		One-time, lump-sum payment of balance, if any, remaining in member's annuity savings account [Note: There are no restrictions on who or how many individuals or entities may be named as beneficiary.]			
С	On or after July 1, 2004: Approximately 9–11% less than Option A amount	Monthly benefits paid to a survivor [Note: Beneficiary must be the member's parent, child, sibling, spouse or former spouse who has not remarried.]			



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Step 3: Enter your retirement data

Remember—this tool is to provide you with an **estimate** of your retirement benefits. For the purposes of this estimator, please enter your **best estimates** of your number of years of creditable service (Lines 5 and 6) and salary average (Line 7). The MTRS will verify your actual service and salary figures when you retire, but we will not know the final numbers until after we have received and reviewed your completed retirement application.

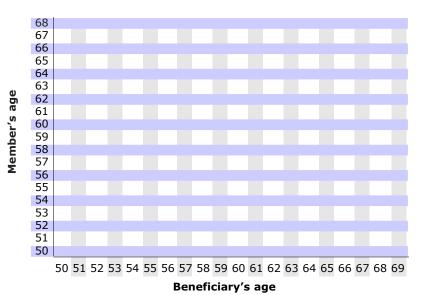
An asterisk (*) indicates that you must provide data in that field.

1) ENTER your projected date of retirement*		mm/d	d/yyyy
 SELECT your age on your projected date of retirement* This field also shows your retirement age factor. 			
3) Are you a military veteran?*	Yes	No	
4) Are you participating in RetirementPlus?*	Yes	No	
5) ENTER your estimated total number of years of creditable service, including any purchased service, as of your projected date of retirement* (for example, 21.0, 33.6)		years	
6) If you have any past creditable service that you may be eligible to purchase, ENTER the possible total number of years of service you may purchase (for example, 1.5, 8.0)		years	
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8) **OPTIONAL**: If you are interested in estimating your benefits under Option C, please **SELECT** the ONE circle where the factor for your age and your beneficiary's ageon your birthdays that are closest to your date of retirement—intersect. Reminder: Your Option C beneficiary must be your spouse, child, sibling, parent or former

spouse who has not

remarried.





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Step 4: Review your estimates

				Estimate as of retirement date		
				WITHOUT purchasable service, if any		WITH purchasable service of years
Option	Yo	our retirement age factor				
Α	x Ye	ears of creditable service	х		x	
	%	6 of salary average				
	+ R	etirementPlus %, if applicable	+		+	
	A	llowable % of salary average				
	x 3	-year salary average	х		x	
	0	option A annual allowance				
	+ V	eteran's bonus	+		+	
	E	stimated Option A annual allowance				

Option	Estimated Option A annual allowance				
В	x 99% (appr. 1% less than Option A)	х	99%	х	99%
	Estimated Option B annual allowance				

Option C	Option A annual allowance				
	x Option C factor	х		x	
	Option C annual allowance				
	+ Veteran's bonus	+		+	
	Estimated Option C annual allowance				
	x 2/3 (annual survivor portion)	х	2/3	x	2/3
	Estimated annual member-survivor benef	fit			