

SECTION I
Explanation of Provisions of Optional Membership in MainePERS

The following explanations reference the Optional Membership choice in the Employee Section 4 which the employee must complete and Employer Section 5 a.-d. which the employer must complete.

- a. Substitute teachers who were MainePERS members on September 20, 2007, may choose to terminate their membership in the System. Additionally, substitute teachers hired after September 20, 2007 may elect not to join the Retirement System when hired.
- b. Membership in the State Employee and Teacher Retirement Program is optional for elected officials or officials appointed for a fixed term. Such an employee who declines membership on their date of hire may choose to become a member at any time.
- c. MainePERS membership is optional for individuals employed in certain positions within the Maine Community College System (MCCS).
- d. MainePERS membership is optional for individuals who have been on active State service for more than 5 consecutive days after July 30, 2004. Those who elect not to join must participate in the Social Security Administration. Once an individual makes an election to join or not to join, that election remains in force for the entire time that the individual is part of the Maine National Guard. The election is irrevocable.

SECTION II
Information Regarding Effective Date of Membership

For all employees, the effective date on which an employee is joining MainePERS, to be provided in Section 2 on the reverse, is the first day for which contributions will be deducted from the employee's earnable compensation; it is not the payday on which the first payroll check will have deductions for MainePERS. For example, consider a payroll period from January 1 through January 14, with a payday of January 19. An employee becomes eligible to join MainePERS on January 8 and chooses to do so. The effective date of membership is January 8, and contributions should be deducted accordingly.