

age of [eighteen years living at the death of such] 18 YEARS SURVIVING member, then to his OR HER dependent father or dependent mother as the board in its discretion [shall direct] DIRECTS to continue for life, a pension of [fifty per centum of his] 50 PERCENT OF HIS OR HER average final compensation. If [such] THE member at the time of [his] death [shall] DOES not leave a [widow] SPOUSE, child or children under the age of [eighteen] 18 years or dependent parent or parents, the ordinary death benefit shall be the only death benefit payable.

(c) [Provided, however, that the] THE cost of special death benefits provided herein, exclusive of benefits for members whose death arises out of or in the course of actual performance of duty, shall be paid as follows: The State of Maryland shall pay the cost of [such] THE special death benefits, including normal contribution rate and accrued liability rate, [provided such] IF THE cost is not in excess of the current employer's contribution rate for federal old age and survivors' insurance; any excess in cost of [such] THE special death benefits over the current rate for old age and survivors' insurance shall be paid by the members. [Provided further that the] THE State of Maryland shall pay the full cost of special death benefits applicable to members whose death arises out of or in the course of actual performance of duty.

(10) [Should a member cease] IF A MEMBER CEASES to be an employee except by death or by retirement under the provisions of this subtitle, he shall be paid the amount of his accumulated contributions.

(11) In lieu of the disability or service allowances payable under the aforesaid provisions, a member who at the time of retirement does not have a spouse who would be entitled to a benefit under § 53 (2) (c) may, prior to the first retirement allowance payment normally due, elect a reduced retirement allowance of equivalent actuarial value in one of the optional forms set out below. The election of the option shall be made on a form provided for that purpose and shall be filed with the board of trustees. [Should a member die] IF A MEMBER DIES prior to the expiration of [thirty] 30 days after the date of the filing of [such] THE election or prior to [thirty] 30 days after retirement, [such] THE election shall be void and of no effect, and the benefits payable on his account shall be the same as though [his] THE election had not been filed and [he] THE MEMBER had died in active service. A member who has elected an optional benefit may change such election by due notice to the board of trustees, but no change may be made after the first payment of [his] THE allowance becomes normally due.