

subsection (3) of this section, shall become members of the retirement system as a condition of their employment, [but] UNLESS THAT TEACHER [[EFFECTS]] ELECTS TO PARTICIPATE IN AN OPTIONAL RETIREMENT PROGRAM AS PROVIDED IN SECTION 217 OF THIS ARTICLE. HOWEVER, this section shall not apply to veterans of World War II who are not eligible to become members of the retirement system because of some physical disability which disqualifies them for membership, and [such] THOSE veterans who have completed the courses of study required for teaching and have passed the required examinations shall be eligible for teaching positions in the State regardless of their ability to become members of the retirement system. Any person, employed during the period July 1, 1970 through June 30, 1972, who elected not to join the retirement system, [must] SHALL become a member on the two year anniversary date of his employment. The rate of contribution of [such] THAT employee shall be determined at the time he actually joins the system, and [will] MAY not be reduced for reason of service prior to joining[, provided, however, that]. HOWEVER, any such employee may purchase credit for service before joining by paying the contributions due, based on the rate determined pursuant to § 198 (1) (a) for his age at the date of membership without regard to the maximum rate of five percentum of earnable compensation, plus interest on [such] THOSE contributions. [Such] THIS purchase may be made at any time prior to retirement.

208.

[No] EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SECTION 217 OF THIS ARTICLE, NO other provision in any other statute which provides wholly or partly at the expense of the State of Maryland for pensions or retirement benefits for teachers of the State, their surviving spouses or other dependents, shall apply to members or beneficiaries of the retirement system established by this subtitle, their spouses or other dependents, except benefits from social security.

210.

(A) Should the board of regents of the University of Maryland elect, by resolution, approved by the board of trustees of the retirement system, to have the members of the faculty and staff of [such] THAT institution, hereinafter called the staff, eligible for participation in the retirement system, the trustees of the retirement system shall set a date subsequent hereto, as of which date participation may begin for members of the staff in service on [such] THAT date, and after which participation shall be required of new entrants in positions on the staff of [such] THE University. Any