Any employee who fails to exercise this option is not eligible to do so at a later date.

(j) Membership Groups and Eligibility.

Group C: Any member of Groups B, D, or E who is no longer able to perform assigned duties as the result of a disability and who transfers to another position normally covered under Group A.

Group E: The Chief Administrative Officer, the Director of the Council Staff, the County Attorney, and each head of a principal department, office or agency of the County Government, or a member having held such position on or before October 1, 1972. Any police officer, firefighter, rescue squadsman or public safety cadet appointed on or after August 15, 1965, before attaining the age of thirty, or who was eligible and elected to transfer from another membership group on or after July 1, 1970. Any Group E member who has reached elective early retirement date may retain membership in Group E in the event of transfer from the position which qualified the member for Group E.

- Requirements membership. (1)of specifically exempt from membership by the County Personnel Board, each qualified full-time employee of the County Government or a participating agency must become a member of this retirement system or forfeit employment. If the administrative head of a participating agency fails to enforce the provisions of this Section, new employees of the agency shall be ineligible to be enrolled as members of this retirement system. A qualified full-time merit system employee who refuses to enroll as a member shall be removed from the County payroll and the member's employment shall be terminated forthwith by the department head.
- (m) Entrance age for employees entering the County service during the period of August 15, 1965 through August 31, 1974. Any employee entering the service of the County or participating agency during the period of August 15, 1965 through August 31, 1974, who would have been qualified to become a member of this Retirement System, except for the entrance age requirement, shall be eligible to retroactively become a member as of the date of employment. Before receiving credit retroactively for this service, the member shall be required to pay the amount of money which would have been paid as an active member during such period with four and one half percent interest from the date of employment to June 30, 1970, and six and one half percent interest thereafter for each year from July 1, 1970 to the date of full payment.