

AVERAGE FINAL COMPENSATION EXCEEDS THAT OF THE AVERAGE OF THE PREVIOUS 2 YEARS' COMPENSATION BY MORE THAN 20 PERCENT, THE AMOUNT IN EXCESS OF 20 PERCENT MAY NOT BE INCLUDED IN THE COMPUTATION OF AVERAGE FINAL COMPENSATION. IF, IN ANY PERIOD INCLUDED IN THE COMPUTATION OF AVERAGE FINAL COMPENSATION, THE TEACHER HAS COMPLETED LESS THAN THE NORMAL NUMBER OF HOURS FOR A FULL-TIME TEACHER SIMILARLY EMPLOYED, HIS EARNABLE COMPENSATION FOR THAT PERIOD SHALL BE ADJUSTED TO A FULL-TIME BASIS FOR THE PURPOSES OF THE COMPUTATION. IF THE PERIOD USED TO DETERMINE FINAL AVERAGE COMPENSATION IS THE PERIOD THAT IMMEDIATELY PRECEDES THE DATE OF RETIREMENT, ANY MONTHS (NOT IN EXCESS OF 12) THAT OTHERWISE WOULD BE INCLUDED IN COMPUTING AVERAGE FINAL COMPENSATION BUT DURING WHICH THE TEACHER WAS ON AUTHORIZED LEAVE OF ABSENCE AT PARTIAL PAY OR WITHOUT PAY MAY NOT BE INCLUDED IN THE COMPUTATION OF AVERAGE FINAL COMPENSATION AND THE MONTH OR AN EQUAL NUMBER OF MONTHS IMMEDIATELY PRECEDING THE PERIOD SHALL BE SUBSTITUTED INSTEAD.

(15) "ANNUITY" MEANS THE PAYMENTS FOR LIFE DERIVED FROM THE ACCUMULATED CONTRIBUTIONS OF A MEMBER. ALL ANNUITIES SHALL BE PAYABLE IN EQUAL MONTHLY INSTALLMENTS.

(16) "RETIREMENT ALLOWANCE" MEANS THE PAYMENTS FOR LIFE OR ANY OPTIONAL BENEFIT THAT IS PAYABLE INSTEAD. ALL RETIREMENT ALLOWANCES SHALL BE PAYABLE IN EQUAL MONTHLY INSTALLMENTS.

(17) "RETIREMENT" MEANS THE WITHDRAWAL FROM ACTIVE SERVICE WITH A RETIREMENT ALLOWANCE GRANTED UNDER THIS SUBTITLE.

(18) "ACTUARIAL EQUIVALENT" MEANS A BENEFIT OF EQUAL VALUE WHEN COMPUTED ON THE BASIS OF THE MORTALITY TABLES AND INTEREST RATE LAST ADOPTED FOR THE PARTICULAR PURPOSE BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES.

(19) "TAXABLE WAGE BASE" MEANS, WITH RESPECT TO EACH CALENDAR YEAR, THE MAXIMUM AMOUNT OF ANNUAL EMPLOYEE EARNINGS SUBJECT TO TAX UNDER THE FEDERAL INSURANCE CONTRIBUTIONS ACT, AS AMENDED.

(20) "SOCIAL SECURITY INTEGRATION LEVEL" MEANS, WITH RESPECT TO THE CALENDAR YEAR IN WHICH A MEMBER RETIRES OR OTHERWISE TERMINATES EMPLOYMENT, THE AVERAGE ANNUAL AMOUNT OF EARNINGS FOR WHICH OLD AGE AND SURVIVORS BENEFITS WOULD BE PROVIDED UNDER TITLE II OF THE FEDERAL SOCIAL SECURITY ACT FOR A MALE EMPLOYEE 65 YEARS OLD IN THAT CALENDAR YEAR, COMPUTED AS THOUGH FOR EACH YEAR BEFORE THE CALENDAR YEAR ANNUAL EARNINGS ARE AT LEAST EQUAL TO THE MAXIMUM AMOUNT OF ANNUAL EARNINGS SUBJECT TO TAX UNDER THE FEDERAL INSURANCE CONTRIBUTIONS ACT. THE AVERAGE ANNUAL AMOUNT OF EARNINGS SHALL BE ROUNDED TO THE NEXT LOWER MULTIPLE OF \$100.

(21) "COUNTY" INCLUDES BALTIMORE CITY.

141. NAME AND DATE OF ESTABLISHMENT; PARTNERSHIP TO HOLD SECURITIES.