

The only other changes are stylistic or technical.

4-415. VESTED ALLOWANCE.

(A) ANY MEMBER WHOSE SERVICE IS TERMINATED OTHER THAN BY DEATH OR RETIREMENT AFTER ATTAINING 5 OR MORE YEARS OF ELIGIBILITY SERVICE SHALL BE ELIGIBLE TO RECEIVE A VESTED ALLOWANCE. THE VESTED ALLOWANCE SHALL BE A DEFERRED ALLOWANCE THAT BEGINS AT AGE 62 AND SHALL BE COMPUTED AS A SERVICE RETIREMENT ALLOWANCE AS PROVIDED UNDER § 4-401(B) OF THIS SUBTITLE ON THE BASIS OF THE MEMBER'S AVERAGE FINAL COMPENSATION AND CREDITABLE SERVICE AT THE TIME THE MEMBER'S SERVICE IS TERMINATED. THE VESTED ALLOWANCE MAY BE IN ONE OF THE OPTIONAL FORMS SET FORTH IN § 4-409 OF THIS SUBTITLE.

(B) FOR ANY MEMBER WHO TERMINATES SERVICE PRIOR TO JULY 1, 1990, UNUSED SICK LEAVE REPORTED BY THE MEMBER'S EMPLOYER AT TERMINATION OF EMPLOYMENT SHALL BE CREDITABLE SERVICE FOR PURPOSES OF COMPUTING THE VESTED ALLOWANCE.

(C) IF, ON THE DATE OF TERMINATION, A MEMBER HAS COMPLETED 15 YEARS OF ELIGIBILITY SERVICE BUT HAS NOT REACHED AGE 55, WHEN THE FORMER MEMBER IS 55 YEARS OLD, THE FORMER MEMBER IS ELIGIBLE TO RECEIVE A VESTED ALLOWANCE, BEGINNING ON THE FIRST DAY OF THE MONTH NEXT FOLLOWING, IN A REDUCED AMOUNT WHICH SHALL BE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF § 4-402(B) OF THIS SUBTITLE.

(D) IF A FORMER MEMBER WHO IS ELIGIBLE FOR A VESTED ALLOWANCE REQUESTS THE RETURN OF THE FORMER MEMBER'S CONTRIBUTIONS IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 4-406 OF THIS TITLE, THE AMOUNT OF THE ACCUMULATED CONTRIBUTIONS SHALL BE RETURNED AND, WHEN THE FORMER MEMBER IS 62 YEARS OLD OR AN EARLIER DATE AS APPLICABLE UNDER THE PRECEDING PARAGRAPH, THE FORMER MEMBER SHALL RECEIVE A BENEFIT EQUAL TO THE STATE-PROVIDED PART OF THE VESTED ALLOWANCE.

(E) THE SECRETARY OF EACH PRINCIPAL DEPARTMENT OR THE HEAD OF EACH DEPARTMENT, OFFICE, OR OTHER UNIT OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT SERVING AT THE GOVERNOR'S PLEASURE WHO IS A MEMBER OF THIS PENSION SYSTEM HAS IMMEDIATE VESTING RIGHTS AS PROVIDED IN ARTICLE 41, § 1-207 OF THE CODE.

(F) (1) IN THIS SUBSECTION, "CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICER" MEANS:

- (I) THE ATTORNEY GENERAL OF THE STATE;
- (II) THE COMPTROLLER OF THE STATE;
- (III) THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR OF THE STATE;