



## **Teacher's Retirement System of Georgia (TRS)**

### **Program Highlights**

**What is TRS?** TRS is the retirement system for education professionals in the State of Georgia. TRS is a defined benefit plan, meaning participants are guaranteed a set monthly retirement income from the plan.

**Who Can Participate?** All personnel employed in a permanent position, working half-time or more, with the Board of Education are required to become members of TRS. Eligible positions include: Certified Teachers, Administrators, Clerical Staff, Paraprofessionals, Lead Custodians, and School Nutrition Managers.

**How Does It Work?** All TRS employees currently contribute 6% of gross salary to TRS through payroll deduction monthly. In addition, HCBE contributes 20.9% to each TRS employee's retirement account monthly.

TRS members are vested with 10 years of creditable service and eligible to receive a monthly retirement benefit at the:

- Completion of 10 years of creditable service and attainment of age 60.
- Completion of 30 years of creditable service, regardless of age.
- Completion of 25 years of service and before age 60, but with a permanently reduced benefit.

**What Will I Receive at Retirement?** The amount you receive in retirement is based on 2%, multiplied by your years of creditable service, multiplied by the average of your highest consecutive 24 months of pay.

Example:      2% x 30 years = 60%  
Average of highest 24 consecutive months of pay = \$ 70,000  
60% x \$ 70,000 = \$ 42,000/year

You may contact TRS at 1-800-352-0650 to request a benefit estimate be mailed to you. You may also generate a benefit estimate online by following the TRS Benefit Estimate Instructions found on the HCBE website.

**What Happens to My Unused Sick Leave?** TRS allows members to earn creditable service for unused sick leave. Members must have at least 60 days of accumulated unused sick leave at retirement in order to receive credit for unused sick leave. 170 days of unused sick leave equals 9 months of creditable service. 9 months of sick leave is equal to one year of additional service credit. There is no maximum number of sick leave days that can be accumulated for TRS purposes. However, you may only earn up to a maximum of 40 years of service credit.

**How Do I Transfer Years of Service from Another State?** If you previously taught in another state, contact TRS at 1-800-352-0650 to request a cost estimate for purchasing those years of service and moving them to Georgia.

**Contact Information:** Visit the TRS website at [www.trsga.com](http://www.trsga.com) for additional retirement information