

Instructions for Completing Form 46

TO THE MEMBER:

To apply to be placed on a qualifying approved leave of absence, complete the identification boxes at the top of the form, including social security number, phone number, name and address.

Check the type of qualifying leave you are requesting and complete the boxes for the beginning and ending dates. It is important to sign and date at the bottom of the Type of Qualifying Leave section.

Attach explanation and all supporting documentation.

If you are notifying the Maryland State Retirement Agency of military service entry, please enter the date you report for service. It is important to sign and date the form at the bottom of the Notification of Military Service Entry section. The Retirement Coordinator section does not need to be completed when reporting a military service entry date.

TO THE RETIREMENT COORDINATOR:

Check the appropriate system for the applicant for a qualifying approved leave of absence. Enter the date the leave was approved. Enter the employing agency code, input the Agency Name, then sign and date the form. A phone number is requested should questions arise.

When Form 46 is used for notification of military service entry, you do not need to complete the Retirement Coordinator section.

Service Credit for a Qualifying Leave of Absence

A member may be entitled to receive eligibility and creditable service for certain periods of employer approved leave of absence from employment, if the leave of absence meets the criteria for a "qualifying leave of absence" pursuant to the Board of Trustees' regulations, set forth at Code of Maryland Regulations 22.05.01. To receive service credit for a qualifying leave of absence, a member:

- Must properly complete and submit this application to the Retirement Agency (signed by both the member and the member's employer) before the member commences a qualifying leave of absence;
- Must supply supporting explanation and documentation of leave, and promptly provide additional information at the request of the Retirement Agency;
- Must not be otherwise entitled to receive eligibility and creditable service credit during the period of the member's absence under State Personnel and Pensions Article, Division II or III, Annotated Code of Maryland; and
- Must pay the required member contributions with regular interest before retirement, as provided in this regulation.

If a member separates from employment, any eligible service credit for a qualified leave of absence must be purchased within 60 days of the expiration of the leave of absence.

Notification of Military Service Entry

If you are called to active military duty or active/inactive duty for training during your membership, you should file Form 46 before leaving employment. The filing of this form serves only to give the Maryland State Retirement Agency notice of your absence.

You may claim up to five years of military credit upon returning to work, provided:

- you return to work with a participating employer within one year of your discharge from active duty or training; and,
- you do not accept other permanent employment between your date of discharge and your return to work

For additional information, refer to the following form/pamphlet. Print forms on-line at sra.maryland.gov.

SRA Form 43 – Claim of Retirement Credit for Military Service

SRA Pamphlet – Guide to Military Service

Mail completed form to:

Maryland State Retirement Agency • 120 East Baltimore Street • Baltimore, MD 21202-6700

Need help? Call a retirement benefits specialist at 410-625-5555 or 1-800-492-5909.