



POLICE & FIRE DEPARTMENT RETIREMENT PLAN FIRE BENEFITS FACT SHEET FIRE

Contributions	
Employee	13.70% of Base Salary (as of 06/27/10)
City	44.16% of Base Salary (as 06/27/10)
Service Required To Leave Contributions In Retirement Plan	10 years (20 years must have elapsed from date of entry into system to collect pension)
Service Retirement	
Age/Years of Service	50 with 25 years service 55 with 20 years service 30 yrs service at any age (with reciprocity, must be 50 yrs of age) Mandatory retirement at 70 years of age
Early Retirement	50-54 with 20 years of service (Discounted pension) Allowance reduced pursuant to Municipal Code Section 3.36.810
Deferred Vested Retirement	55 with 10 years service only if 20 years have elapsed from date of membership. (You can begin receiving your benefits at age 50 if you have at least 25 years of service.)
Allowance	First 20 years of Service: 50% of final compensation (2.5% per year) Beginning of 21 st year of service: 3% per year of service X final Compensation (90% max) – All years convert to 3% after 20 years of service.
Disability Retirement - (Service-Connected)	
Minimum Service	NONE
Allowance	<20 yrs service: 50% of final compensation Beginning of 21 st year of service: 3% per year of service X final Compensation (90% max)
Disability Retirement - (Non-Service Connected)	
Minimum Service	2 years
Allowance	<20 years service: 32% of final compensation plus 1% for each full year in excess of 2. (50% max) Beginning of 21 st year of service: 3% per year of service X final Compensation (90% max)
Medical Benefits	
Eligibility	Retired for disability or service <u>directly</u> from active service with either 15 years of San José service or receive allowance that is at least 37.5% of final comp. Also eligible if member separates from service after 7/5/92 but prior to retirement with 20 years San José service and leaves contributions and former member receives allowance (i.e., applies & qualifies for retirement).
Premiums	Retirement System pays 100% of lowest cost plan that is available to active City employees. If member does not choose the lowest cost plan, member pays the difference between that premium and the premium of the lowest cost plan.
Dental Benefits	
Eligibility	Retired for disability or service <u>directly</u> from active service with either 15 years of service or receive allowance that is at least 37.5% of final comp. Also eligible if member leaves City service after 7/5/92 but prior to retirement with 20 years San Jose service and leaves contributions in retirement plan and former member receives allowance (i.e., applies for retirement).
Premiums	Fully paid by retirement fund
Reciprocity	
Reciprocity	As of September 30, 1994, the City of San José adopted a reciprocal agreement with CalPERS. This may result in improved benefits for members who transfer between CalPERS and this retirement plan. Please call the Retirement Department or CalPERS for more information.
Cost-of-Living Adjustments (COLA)	
Cost-of-living Adjustments	Retirees are eligible for a 3% annual cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) . Regular COLA's are compounded and paid each February. There is no proration of COLA.



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Death Before Retirement	
Service-Connected Death regardless of years of service	<p>To surviving spouse/domestic partner 37.5% to 45% of member's Final Compensation depending on the years of service [SJMC3.36.1200(F),1270(B)]</p> <p>and to surviving children :</p> <p>1 Child: Final Comp x 25% [SJMC 3.36.1200 (G), 1300 (B)] 2 Children: Final Comp x 50% [SJMC 3.36.1200 (G) , 1300 (D2)] 3 Children: Final Comp x 75% [SJMC 3.36.1200 (G) , 1300 (F2)]</p> <p>If no surviving spouse/domestic partner nor surviving children: Return of contributions, plus interest, to estate [SJMC 3.36.1200 (E), 1200(I)] or \$1,000 whichever is greater</p>
Nonservice-Connected Death with less than 2 yrs of service	<p>Return of contributions, plus interest, to surviving spouse/domestic partner, surviving children, or estate or \$1,000, whichever is greater [SJMC 3.36.1250 (C-E)]</p>
Nonservice-Connected Death with more than 2 yrs of service, but <u>not</u> eligible for a service retirement	<p><u>To surviving spouse/domestic partner :</u> 24% +.75% for each year in excess of 2 x Final Compensation (45% maximum) [SJMC 3.36.1210 (F), 1280 (B) (D)]</p> <p>and to surviving children:</p> <p>1 Child: Final Comp x 25% [SJMC 3.36.1210 (G), 1300 (B)] 2 Children: Final Comp x 37.5% [SJMC 3.36.1210(G), 1300 (D1)] 3 Children: Final Comp x 50% [SJMC 3.36.1210(G), 1300 (F1)]</p> <p>If no surviving spouse/domestic partner nor surviving children: Return of contributions, plus interest, to estate [SJMC 3.36.1210(E),1210(I)] or \$1,000 whichever is greater</p>
Death before retirement, but while eligible for service retirement – Non-service Connected death	<p><u>To surviving spouse/domestic partner</u> 37.5% to 45% of member's Final Compensation depending on the years of service [SJMC3.361200 (A),(F),1270(B)]</p> <p>For example: Member's benefit = 81% Survivorship benefit = 40.5% of Final Compensation Member's benefit = 84% Survivorship benefit = 42% of Final Compensation Member's benefit = 87% Survivorship benefit = 43.5% of Final Compensation Member's benefit = 90% Survivorship benefit = 45% of Final Compensation</p> <p>and to surviving children:</p> <p>1 Child: Final Comp x 25% [SJMC 3.36.1200 (G), 1300 (B)] 2 Children: Final Comp x 37.5% [SJMC 3.36.1200(G), 1300 (D1)] 3 Children: Final Comp x 50% [SJMC 3.36.1200(G), 1300 (F1)]</p> <p>If no surviving spouse/domestic partner nor surviving children: Return of contributions, plus interest, to estate [SJMC 3.36.1200 (E), 1200 (I)] or \$1,000, whichever is greater</p>



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Death After Retirement	
<p>Service Retirees</p> <p>Service-connected Disability Retirees</p>	<p>To surviving spouse/domestic partner: 37.5% to 45% of member's Final Compensation depending on the years of service [SJMC 3.36.1230, 1270(B)]</p> <p>and to surviving children: 1 Child: Final Comp x 25% [SJMC 3.36.1230(D), 1300(B)] 2 Children: Final Comp x 37.5% [SJMC 3.36.1230(D), 1300 (D1)] 3 Children: Final Comp x 50% [SJMC 3.36.1230 (D), 1300(F1)]</p> <p>If no surviving spouse/domestic partner nor surviving children: \$1,000 death benefit to estate [SJMC 3.36.1230(E)]</p>
<p>Non-service connected Disability Retirees</p>	<p>To surviving spouse/domestic partner:</p> <p>Final Comp x 24% + .75% for each year in excess of 2 (37.5% maximum) [SJMC 3.36.1240 (C), 1280(B)]</p> <p>and to surviving children: 1 Child: Final Comp x 25% [SJMC 3.36.1240(D), 1300(B)] 2 Children: Final Comp x 37.5% [SJMC 3.36.1240(D), 1300(D1)] 3 Children: Final Comp x 50% [SJMC 3.36.1240(D), 1300(F1)]</p> <p>If no surviving spouse/domestic partner nor surviving children: \$1,000 death benefit to estate [SJMC 3.36.1240(E)]</p>
Optional Settlements	
<p>Optional Settlements</p>	<p>Retiree may choose an optional settlement at retirement that reduces their allowance to provide a higher survivorship allowance to their spouse/domestic partner.</p>
Post-Retirement Marriage	
<p>Post-Retirement Marriage</p>	<p>If a retiree marries after retirement, the retiree can elect to take a reduction on their pension benefit in order to allow for a survivorship benefit to the surviving spouse/domestic partner.</p>
<p>Note: The maximum total combined benefit payable to a surviving spouse/domestic partner and surviving children is 75% of final compensation. The children's survivorship allowance will be reduced so that the total benefit does not exceed 75% of final compensation. For more information please contact the Department of Retirement Services at (408) 794-1000 or 1(800) 732-6477. Or, go online at www.sjretirement.com.</p>	