

Rhode Island Public Retirement Plans

Plan/System	Who is Covered	Authority	Management
State Employees	All state employees except: Judges, State Police and certain non-classified employees of the Boards for Higher Education and Elementary and Secondary Education	RI General Law	ERSRI
Judicial	All judges hired after January 1, 1990 excluding magistrates	RI General Law	ERSRI
Judicial – Pay-Go	All judges hired before January 1, 1990 are covered by this plan which is a pay as you go expense	RI General Law	N/A – annual appropriation
State Police	All sworn members of the Rhode Island State Police hired after January 1, 1987	RI General Law	ERSRI
State Police- Pay-Go	All sworn members of the Rhode Island State Police hired before January 1, 1987 which is a pay as you go expense	RI General Law	N/A – annual appropriation
Teachers	Most Rhode Island certified public school teachers, superintendents, principals, business agents and other administrators	RI General Law	ERSRI
Municipal Employees Retirement System (MERS) –General Employees	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Employees of those municipal governments or entities that participate in a standard program administered by the state • There are 67 distinct units including municipal workers, non-certified education staff and housing and water authorities 	RI General Law	ERSRI
Municipal Employees Retirement System (MERS) –Police and Fire	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Employees of those municipal governments or entities that participate in a standard program administered by the state • There are 43 distinct units including municipal police and fire and fire districts 	RI General Law	ERSRI
Independent Municipal Plans also known as “Non-MERS”	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Employees of those municipal governments that do not participate in the standard program administered by the state • There are 36 plans in 24 cities and towns primarily covering public safety employees 	Collective Bargaining and/or Local Ordinance	Local Government
Board of Governors Alternate Retirement Plan	403(B) defined contribution plan for most non-classified employees (professors, administrators) of the Board of Governors for Higher Education	Board Policy and Collective Bargaining	Individual defined contribution plans like TIAA-CREF controlled by employee
Quasi-Public Agencies	There are 12 quasi-public agencies offering 17 plans including both defined benefit and defined contribution plans	Policy and/or Collective Bargaining	Individual or agency depending on plan type