Reemployment Rules for Investment Plan Members

Returning to work or providing services to a Florida Retirement System (FRS) employer (see the definition of “FRS employment”) too soon after retirement could be a costly mistake. Read this brief flyer to be sure you don’t shortchange yourself in retirement.

What You Need to Know

If you return to FRS employment after retiring from the Investment Plan but before satisfying the required waiting period (termination requirements), any distributions you’re receiving may be temporarily suspended and you may have to repay any distributions you have already received.

When do I become an Investment Plan retiree?

You become an Investment Plan retiree once you terminate FRS employment with all FRS employers and you take a distribution of any kind from the Investment Plan. Distributions include employee contributions, lump-sum payouts, annuities, and rollovers to other retirement plans.

Caution!

The FRS termination law is very complex, and returning to FRS employment too soon after you’ve retired may have significant financial consequences.

Before taking any distribution from your Investment Plan account or returning to FRS employment, we strongly recommend you call the MyFRS Financial Guidance Line at 1-866-446-9377, Option 2.

FRS Employment Defined

FRS employer: Any agency that participates in the Florida Retirement System.

FRS employment:

• Being actively employed by any FRS employer in any capacity; and/or
• Providing any service to any FRS employer that may create an employment relationship through any arrangement (paid or unpaid), including OPS, adjunct, election poll work, temporary employment, or working through a third party that provides service to an FRS employer, etc.

FRS-covered employment: A position that is eligible to be reported for FRS contributions.

Continued on next page.
When can an Investment Plan retiree return to FRS employment?
You can return to FRS employment at any time; however, returning within 6 calendar months of becoming an Investment Plan retiree may have significant financial consequences and require you to repay any distributions received, as described below.

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<th>If you are an Investment Plan retiree and return to FRS employment:</th>
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<td><strong>Within 6 Calendar Months</strong></td>
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<td><strong>After 6 Calendar Months</strong></td>
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You must notify the Investment Plan Administrator of your FRS employment during this period by calling the MyFRS Financial Guidance Line at 1-866-446-9377, Option 4.

Want to know when you’ll reach the 6-calendar-month waiting period?
View or download the comprehensive reemployment tables by visiting MyFRS.com. On the home page, click Retirees > Reemployment After Retirement > Reemployment Tables.

Can I join the Investment Plan again after I have retired from the FRS?
Yes. If you return to FRS-covered employment after taking an Investment Plan distribution (effective for reemployed service on or after July 1, 2017), you are considered a “reemployed retiree” or “renewed member.” As an Investment Plan renewed member, you are required to participate in the FRS Investment Plan.² Renewed members are not eligible to participate in the Pension Plan or DROP, receive disability benefits, or use the 2nd Election to switch to the Pension Plan.

Do these reemployment rules apply if I am hired by a non-FRS employer?
No. After becoming an FRS retiree, being hired by a private employer (must not provide any services to an FRS employer) or a non-FRS public employer³ will have no impact on your Investment Plan distributions (except for disability retirement — see below).

Would being rehired affect my FRS disability benefits?
Yes. You cannot receive FRS disability benefits if you are employed. Your FRS disability benefits will be terminated upon returning to work for any employer (includes private, non-FRS, and FRS employers).

¹ Retirees may provide volunteer services with an FRS employer without violating the termination requirements (must comply with Section 121.091(15), Florida Statutes).
² Unless you are reemployed in a position eligible to participate in the State University System Optional Retirement Program (SUSORP) or the State Community College System Optional Retirement Program (SCCSPORP). See Section 121.122, Florida Statutes.
³ If you are retiring from an employer that no longer offers FRS membership to new employees and you plan to return to employment with this same employer after termination, please call the Division of Retirement at 1-866-446-9377, Option 3, to determine what reemployment restrictions apply.

This publication is a summary of the termination provisions for the Florida Retirement System Investment Plan and is not intended to include every program detail. Complete details can be found in Chapter 121, Florida Statutes, the rules of the State Board of Administration of Florida in Title 19 and the Department of Management Services, Division of Retirement, in Chapter 60-S, Florida Administrative Code, applicable provisions of the Internal Revenue Code (IRC), and in the Investment Plan Summary Plan Description. In case of a conflict between the information in this publication and the statutes, rules, and IRC, the provisions of the statutes, rules, and IRC will control.

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