

# Reciprocity

### **Key Facts**

- Reciprocity allows you to count service in other state retirement systems toward vesting and service requirements.
- Reciprocity must be established prior to retirement.

#### **About Reciprocity**

Reciprocal service is actual service credit in two or more recognized state retirement systems. It is a way to link your service so that actual service in all systems is counted for things like vesting and minimum actual service for retirement.

Your service does not move from one system to another. Service remains in the system in which it is earned. When you retire, you will apply to receive separate annuities from each retirement system.

#### How to Establish Reciprocity

To establish reciprocity, contact AJRS, and we will provide you with the necessary form. After you sign the form, you will forward it to the reciprocal system. After all systems have completed their portion of the form, a copy will be returned to you.

#### **Your Responsibilities**

It is your responsibility to make the request if you choose to establish reciprocity. It is also your responsibility to understand each system's individual requirements to receive a benefit. Each system is governed by its own laws and rules.

#### **Reciprocal Systems**

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These systems are recognized under reciprocity.

- Arkansas Public Employees' Retirement System (APERS)
- Arkansas Teacher Retirement System (ATRS)
- Arkansas State Highway Employees Retirement System (ASHERS)
- Arkansas State Police Retirement System (ASPRS)
- Arkansas District Judges Retirement System (ADJRS)
- Arkansas Local Police and Fire Retirement System (LOPFI)
- Arkansas colleges and universities with plans administered by TIAA, VALIC, and/or Fidelity.

## **Additional Information**

If you have any questions about reciprocity, please contact our Member Services section at APERS@arkansas.gov.

Reference: A.C.A. § 24-2-402