



**Purchasing Retirement System Credit
for a Period of Out-of-State Employment**

Please print or type in black ink. Please do not staple pages.

Section A. Tell us about yourself.

FIRST NAME	MI	LAST NAME		SUFFIX
MAILING ADDRESS				SSN
CITY	STATE	ZIP CODE	TELEPHONE NO.	MEMBER ID
E-MAIL ADDRESS				DATE OF BIRTH

Section B. Please indicate the Retirement System into which you last contributed.

This purchase type is available to you if you are not retired but you have maintained credit in one of the following Systems:

- ☐ Teachers' and State Employees' Retirement System (TSERS)
☐ Local Governmental Employees' Retirement System (LGERS)

LAST EMPLOYER IN THIS SYSTEM

Section C. Please review the eligibility requirements specified by law for this purchase.

Before completing this form to purchase service, you should obtain a cost estimate using the service purchase estimator in your personal ORBIT account, accessible at www.myncretirement.com. See Guide A for instructions on how to log in to ORBIT.

The following requirements must be met to purchase retirement credit for public service with certain out-of-state employers:

- (1) Your employer, during the eligible period of out-of-state service, must have been one of the following:
- a state or political subdivision of a state other than North Carolina
 - a United States territory or a political subdivision of it
 - also allowable if you are a member of TSERS: a federal school, and overseas dependent school, military

- dependent school, United States Public Health Service, the Merchant Marines (only if you were in the United States Naval Reserve and the Merchant Marines simultaneously)
- (2) All work during the eligible period must have been classified as permanent and full-time.
- (3) You must have five years of membership service in the system listed in Section B.
- (4) No benefit is allowable in another public retirement system as a result of the eligible out-of-state service. If you do have membership in an out-of-state retirement system, you may be eligible to rollover your contributions to make the purchase for the same service in this Retirement System.
- You are required to be a current contributing member of the System in Section B. The purchase must be made prior to retirement. If you do not meet all of these requirements, do not submit the form.

Section D. Please list any periods of out-of-state service that meet the above requirements.

1	For what employer were you working during your period of out-of-state service? A separate form is required for each employer.	EMPLOYER	
2	What is the start date and end date of the period that meets the eligibility requirements given in Section C? What was your position title and last name?	START DATE	END DATE
	POSITION TITLE	LAST NAME DURING THIS PERIOD	
3	Is there an additional period with this same employer that meets the eligibility requirements given in Section C? What was your position title and last name?	START DATE	END DATE
	POSITION TITLE	LAST NAME DURING THIS PERIOD	

Please continue to the next page.



Section E. Please authorize the preparation of a cost statement with your signature.

I certify that I have read the Guides. I certify that the period(s) I gave in Section D meets the eligibility requirements stated in Section C. I certify that the information I have provided herein is accurate to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Signature _____ Date _____

Please give this form to the employer for whom you worked during your eligible out-of-state public employment period. This employer will complete Sections F and H and submit it to the out-of-state retirement system in which you may have participated. Your previous retirement system will complete Sections I and J and forward it to the Retirement Systems Division of North Carolina. When the Retirement Systems Division has received the form from your previous retirement system, you will receive a cost statement with further instructions.

Section F. Employer, please verify the employee's period of service.

Employer, review the periods given in Section D and the requirements in Section C. Please provide the start date and end date of the period(s) that meets the requirements in Section C. (A start date is not necessarily a hire date, and an end date is not necessarily a termination date.)

NOTE: Retirement credit to be purchased will be counted based on each month a member renders eligible service and receives pay. For *retirement service period*, report the actual beginning month and ending month of the employee's regular term of annual employment. For *retirement service type*, report the total of all months during the retirement service period. Certain community college, school system, and university employees have retirement service periods that are less than 12 months annually. For example, a teacher with a retirement service period beginning in August and ending in June is an 11-month retirement service type employee.

4	ELIGIBLE PERIOD:	START DATE	END DATE	POSITION TITLE		
	RETIREMENT SERVICE TYPE:	☐ 9-MONTH ☐ 11-MONTH	☐ 10-MONTH ☐ 12-MONTH	RETIREMENT SERVICE PERIOD:	BEGINNING MONTH	ENDING MONTH
5	ELIGIBLE PERIOD:	START DATE	END DATE	POSITION TITLE		
	RETIREMENT SERVICE TYPE:	☐ 9-MONTH ☐ 11-MONTH	☐ 10-MONTH ☐ 12-MONTH	RETIREMENT SERVICE PERIOD:	BEGINNING MONTH	ENDING MONTH
6	ELIGIBLE PERIOD:	START DATE	END DATE	POSITION TITLE		
	RETIREMENT SERVICE TYPE:	☐ 9-MONTH ☐ 11-MONTH	☐ 10-MONTH ☐ 12-MONTH	RETIREMENT SERVICE PERIOD:	BEGINNING MONTH	ENDING MONTH

Section G. Employer, please certify the information you have provided.

I hereby certify that the information provided about the employee named in Section A is true and correct to the best of my knowledge. If any of this information changes, I will notify the Retirement Systems Division.

Employer Contact's Signature _____ Date _____

CONTACT FIRST NAME	CONTACT LAST NAME	POSITION TITLE	
EMPLOYER/AGENCY			UNIT NO.
E-MAIL ADDRESS		TELEPHONE NO.	FAX NO.

Please continue to the next page.

REV 20220204

MEMBER LAST NAME	MEMBER SSN
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Section H. Employer, please identify the employee's retirement system.

8 Employer, who administers the employee's retirement system?

- ☐ The United States Civil Service Commission (applicable to federal schools, overseas dependent schools, or military dependent schools)
Bureau of Retirement, Insurance, and Occupational Health
U.S. Civil Service Commission
Washington, D.C. 20415
- ☐ The retirement system given below

NAME OF NON-NORTH CAROLINA RETIREMENT SYSTEM

MAILING ADDRESS

CITY

STATE

ZIP CODE

TELEPHONE NO.

Employer, please forward this form to the retirement system named above.

Section I. Retirement System, please certify the employee's membership or withdrawal.

Retirement System, please review the information in Sections A, C, and F, and complete the remainder of the form.

9 Has the member withdrawn from this Retirement System? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If yes, what was the date of withdrawal?

10 Is the member receiving a benefit from your system based on the service shown in Section D? ☐ Yes ☐ No

11 Does our member have credit in your system for service creditable in another retirement system? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If yes, please list the systems and years below.

From	To	System

12 Comments

Section J. Retirement System, please certify the information you have provided.

I hereby certify that the information provided about the employee named in Section A is true and correct to the best of my knowledge. If any of this information changes, I will notify the Retirement Systems Division.

Retirement System Contact's Signature _____ Date _____

CONTACT FIRST NAME	MI	CONTACT LAST NAME	POSITION TITLE
NON-NORTH CAROLINA RETIREMENT SYSTEM			
E-MAIL ADDRESS		TELEPHONE NO.	FAX NO.

Please submit this form by mail to the address below or fax it to (919) 855-5800. Thank you.

*N.C. Department of State Treasurer, Retirement Systems Division
3200 Atlantic Avenue, Raleigh, North Carolina 27604
1-877-NCSECURE (1-877-627-3287) toll-free
www.myncretirement.com*

MEMBER LAST NAME

MEMBER SSN

REV 20220204

455

Page 3 of 3

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REV 20201208

Form 455 Guides

Purchasing Retirement System Credit for a Period of Out-of-State Employment

Page 1 of 2

Guide A. How do I obtain a cost estimate?

The Retirement Systems Division encourages you to obtain a purchase cost estimate through your personal ORBIT account if you wish to purchase service credit.

You must carefully weigh your options when considering the purchase of retirement credit. There are situations where a purchase of retirement credit may be advantageous and other situations where it may be cost prohibitive, depending on your individual circumstance. The Retirement Systems Division makes available a retirement purchase estimator through ORBIT where you can obtain an estimate of the cost before submitting a request for the actual cost to the Retirement System.

To obtain a Service Purchase Estimate

1. Visit www.myncretirement.com
2. Click on the "ORBIT" button

3. You will be directed to the log-in page to register, or log-in if you have already registered
4. Once logged in to your ORBIT account, click on "Create Service Purchase Estimate"
5. Fill-in the boxes for
 - a. Service Status
 - b. Type of Service to be Purchased
 - c. Retirement Plan (at the time the leave was taken)
 - d. Start and End dates for the period of leave being purchased

****If you are unsure of what to enter in any of the boxes, make your best effort. The estimator will then provide a cost estimate for purchase.**

Guide B. Why should I purchase retirement credit?

The amount of your retirement benefit is directly related to how much retirement credit you have. Most retirement credit is earned by making contributions to the Retirement System while working and receiving pay from an employer covered by the Retirement System, but some circumstances exist where a purchase of credit is allowed by North Carolina retirement law and may be to your advantage. Form 455 addresses the purchase which may be allowable if you served a state other than North Carolina, a territory, or a political subdivision of another state, or certain other federal or military employers, and you do not have credit for this service in any other retirement system (see G.S.135-4(l2) and 128-26(j3)). For other circumstances, see Guide E.

If this period of service meets the requirements given in Section C of this form, you may be interested in purchasing this retirement service credit. In some cases, the increase in retirement credit from a purchase will result in an increase to your retirement benefit. In other cases, a purchase of additional service will allow you to retire at an earlier age. It could also eliminate or reduce reduction factors that cause your retirement benefit to be reduced because of retirement at too young an age.

If you make a purchase, you are guaranteed that the cost of

the purchase (less the \$25 administrative fee for making the purchase) will be refunded to you if you decide to withdraw all of your service and contributions from the Retirement System at a later date. Similarly, if you die before retiring, or you die in retirement but before receiving benefits equaling the contributions and purchases you made, your beneficiary(ies) will be entitled to the undistributed contributions and purchases. (No contributions or purchase amounts provided by your employer will be refunded to you.)

The Retirement Systems Division requires that every member who wishes to purchase this type of service obtain an estimate through their personal ORBIT account. Undertaking this process enables the member to understand what the costs may be before completing and submitting a form to make the purchase.

Once you have obtained a cost estimate, attach the estimate to your completed form and return both to the Retirement Systems Division. A completed service purchase form submitted without a cost estimate attached will be returned to you.

To obtain a Service Purchase Estimate

1. Visit www.myncretirement.com
2. Click on the "ORBIT" button

Guide C. How do I get a cost statement? What will it say?

You should obtain a service purchase cost estimate using the service purchase estimator in your personal ORBIT account available at www.myncretirement.com. If the estimate meets your expectations, you should complete this form to request an official purchase cost statement.

Complete Sections A through E of this form. Next, route it to your former employer to complete Sections F through H. This

employer should submit the form to the out-of-state retirement system who should submit the completed form to the Retirement Systems Division to verify your eligibility to purchase and then prepare a cost statement. The cost statement gives the cost of the purchase, how much credit it represents, and whether the law permits you to purchase part or all of the eligible period.

Please continue to the next page.

**Purchasing Retirement System Credit
for a Period of Out-of-State Employment**

Page 2 of 2

Guide C. Continued.**Amount of Cost**

North Carolina law specifies the methods for determining the cost of credit for an eligible period. The cost of this purchase depends on when you became a member of the Retirement System. The cost of this purchase is the actuarial cost, which is calculated under the same assumptions of interest rates and salary progression as used in the actuarial valuation of the System's liabilities, also taking into account the larger retirement benefit as a result of the purchase starting at the earliest age a member could retire on an unreduced retirement benefit. Additionally, this purchase requires a \$25 administrative fee, which is itemized on the cost statement.

Amount of Credit

North Carolina law specifies that you may purchase one year of out-of-state service for each year of contributing membership service in TSERS or LGERS with a maximum of 5 years of credit allowable for this type of purchase. Within these conditions, the amount of credit you receive depends upon the *retirement service type* in which you were employed. The retirement service type is determined by counting the total

number of months in the regular term of annual employment for an eligible position. Certain community college, school system, and university personnel work under a regular term of annual employment other than the typical 12-month period; they spend a length of time spent working that is shorter than one calendar year, but it is regarded as one year of credit.

- If you were under a 12-month regular term of annual employment, you will be awarded 1/12 years of service credit for each month of the eligible period.
- If you were under a different regular term of annual employment, you will receive the amount of credit for that month (1/9, 1/10, or 1/11 years of service) that you would have received had you been contributing to the Retirement System during your eligible period.

Expiration Date of Statement

All cost statements have an expiration date. If you do not make the purchase by that date, the cost of the purchase will have to be recalculated based on the cost method specified by law for the purchase.

Guide D. After I receive my cost statement, how do I make a purchase?

Study the impact this purchase may have on your retirement benefit. You may visit www.myncretirement.com to use a web benefits estimator and/or refer to your online member handbook to estimate your retirement benefits with and without the purchase. Or, you may request that the Retirement Systems Division prepare an estimate of retirement benefits for you, a process that generally takes 60 days.

If you choose to make the purchase, you may use pre-tax money from an eligible retirement plan or IRA to make the

purchase (see and prepare Form 398 available at www.myncretirement.com). In that case, your plan administrator will give you a check to forward to the Retirement Systems Division. Otherwise, you will provide a check to the Retirement Systems Division. All checks for one purchase must be received together. Under certain and limited circumstances, your beneficiary(ies) may complete the purchase process if your death occurs while you are waiting for or evaluating a cost statement.

Guide E. What other types of purchases may be available?

North Carolina retirement law recognizes that you, a participant in one of North Carolina's Retirement Systems, may not have had the opportunity to make contributions and receive credit for certain periods in your public service career. The following list generally describes other circumstances for which a purchase may be allowed.

- Your employer was not eligible to participate in a Retirement System, but you have public service (federal, federally-funded, military, or out-of-state service) that you may be eligible to purchase.
- Your employer did not participate in a System, although it was eligible.
- Your employer did participate in a Retirement System, but

your position was not eligible for participation at the time.

- You are or were participating in the Retirement System with your employer, but a life or career event caused your service to be interrupted over a period during which you did not work and make contributions.
- You withdrew your service credit and contributions from the Retirement System, but you wish to restore that credit following a return to contributing service for five years.

Not all purchase types are available in all systems.

Visit www.myncretirement.com to download the appropriate form, or contact us at the address or telephone number below for further guidance.

These guides are subject to and governed by the General Statutes of the State of North