

Sec. 146.01. As used in sections 146.01 to 146.19 of the Revised Code:

(A) "Fire department" means a volunteer fire department, a fire department of a political subdivision or fire district of this state, or a private volunteer company that has elected to participate in the volunteer fire fighters' dependents fund pursuant to section 146.02 of the Revised Code.

(B)(1) "Volunteer firefighter" means both of the following, subject to division (B)(2) of this section:

(a) A duly appointed member of a fire department on either a nonpay or part-pay basis who is ineligible to be a member of the Ohio police and fire pension fund, or whose employment as a firefighter does not in itself qualify any such person for membership in the public employees retirement system, or who has waived membership in the public employees retirement system;

(b) Firefighters drafted, requisitioned, or appointed to serve in an emergency.

(2)(a) A volunteer firefighter who is a member of the public employees retirement system shall be considered a volunteer firefighter for purposes of this chapter, and in particular, for purposes of divisions (A) and (B) of section 146.12 of the Revised Code until the firefighter has at least one and one-half years of Ohio service credit for purposes of division (B) of section 145.45 of the Revised Code;

(b) A volunteer firefighter who is a member of the public employees retirement system shall be considered a volunteer firefighter for purposes of this chapter and, in particular, for purposes of division (C) of section 146.12 of the Revised Code until the firefighter has at least five years of total service credit for purposes of sections 145.35 and 145.36 or section 145.361 of the Revised Code.

(C) "Private volunteer fire company" means a company of trained volunteer firefighters having a contract to furnish fire protection or emergency service or both to a political subdivision or fire district of this state.

(D) "Member of the fund" includes a political subdivision or fire district of this state that maintains in whole or in part a volunteer fire department or employs volunteer firefighters, and a private volunteer fire company that has elected to participate in the volunteer fire fighters' dependents fund.

~~(E) "Dependent" means the surviving spouse or child under eighteen years of age of a volunteer firefighter regardless of financial status.~~

~~(F) "Volunteer fire fighters' dependents fund" means the fund established by section 146.07 of the Revised Code.~~

~~(G)(E) "Totally and permanently disabled" means that a volunteer firefighter is unable to engage in any substantial gainful employment for a period of not less than twelve months by reason of a medically determinable physical impairment that is permanent or presumed to be permanent.~~