Sec. 3309.46. Upon application for retirement as provided in section 3309.34 of the Revised Code, the retirant may elect to receive a single lifetime retirement allowance, or the retirant may elect, on a form provided by the retirement board, to receive the actuarial equivalent of his single lifetime retirement allowance in a lesser amount payable for life and continuing after death to a beneficiary under one of the following optional plans, provided the amount payable to such beneficiary shall not exceed the amount payable to the retirant, and is certified by the actuary engaged by the retirement board to be the actuarial equivalent of his retirement allowance and is approved by the retirement board.

- (A) Option 1. His lesser retirement allowance shall be paid for life to his sole beneficiary, designated at the time of his retirement.
- (B) Option 2. One-half or some other portion of his lesser retirement allowance shall be paid for life to his sole beneficiary, designated at the time of his retirement.
- If the beneficiary designated at retirement is the spouse of the retirant and ceases to be the spouse by death or by divorce, the lesser retirement allowance in division (A) or (B) of this section shall be increased to the single lifetime retirement allowance equivalent as determined by the board the. THE retirant may elect a new optional plan under this section following remarriage.
- (C) Option 3. Upon his death before the expiration of a certain period from the retirement date and as elected by him, and approved by the retirement board, his lesser retirement allowance shall be continued for the remainder of such period to, and in such order, the beneficiaries as he has nominated by written designation and filed with the retirement board.

Monthly benefits shall not be paid to joint beneficiaries, but they may receive the present value of any remaining payments in a lump sum settlement. If all beneficiaries die before the expiration of the certain period, the present value of all such payments yet remaining in such period shall be paid to the estate of the beneficiary last receiving.

- (D) Until the first payment of any retirement allowance is made, as provided in sections 3309.36 and 3309.38 of the Revised Code, the retirant may change his selection of a payment plan.
- (E) If the retirement allowances due and paid under the above provisions of this section are in a total amount less than (1) the accumulated contributions, (2) the deposits for additional credit as provided by section 3309.31 of the Revised Code, (3) the deposits for additional annuities as provided by section 3309.47 of the Revised Code, (4) the deposits for repurchase of service credit as provided by section 3309.26 of the Revised Code, and (5) the accumulated contributions provided by section 3309.65 of the Revised Code, (6) the deposits for purchase of military service credit provided by section 3309.021 of the Revised Code, and (7) the deposits for the purchase of service credit provided by section 3309.351 of the Revised Code, standing to the credit of the member at the time of his retirement, then the difference between the total amount of the allowance ALLOWANCES paid and the accumulated contributions and other deposits shall be paid to the beneficiary provided under division (C) of section 3309.44 of the Revised Code.

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