

annual salary shall be determined using five years of contributions.

(C) A member of the fund determined to be eligible for a disability benefit under division (D)(4) of section 742.38 of the Revised Code shall be paid annual disability benefits, payable in twelve monthly installments, in an amount to be fixed by the board. The board may increase or decrease the benefits whenever the board determines that the impairment of the member's earning capacity warrants an increase or decrease based on the standards adopted under division (C) of section 742.38 of the Revised Code applicable to the determination, but in no event shall a benefit paid to the member exceed sixty per cent of the member's average annual salary.

(D) Each of the following persons who on July 1, 1999, is receiving annual benefits of less than six thousand six hundred dollars shall have the benefits increased to that amount effective July 1, 1999:

(1) A person receiving annual benefits described in division (A) of this section;

(2) A person receiving annual benefits described in division (C) of this section based on an award made prior to September 16, 1998.

(E) Benefits payable under this section continue until death unless adjusted under division (D)(5) of section 742.38 of the Revised Code or adjusted or terminated under division (C)(3) of section 742.40 of the Revised Code.

Sec. 742.44. Except as provided in section 742.14 of the Revised Code, at any time prior to filing an application for retirement under division (C)(1) of section 742.37 of the Revised Code, a member who has attained the requisite age and is eligible to retire under that division may elect to participate in the deferred retirement option plan established under section 742.43 of the Revised Code.

To make an election, an eligible member shall complete and submit to the Ohio police and fire pension fund a form prescribed by the fund. At this time the member may, but is not required to, elect under section 742.3711 of the Revised Code to have the member's monthly pension calculated as a retirement allowance payable throughout the member's life or a retirement allowance under option 2 in division (A) of section 742.3711 of the Revised Code. Unless rescinded during a period specified in rules adopted under section 742.43 of the Revised Code, the election is irrevocable from the date it is received by the fund until the employee ceases to participate in the plan as provided in section 742.444 of the Revised Code.

A member is not required to specify the number of years or portion of a year the member will participate in the plan but must agree to terminate active service in a police or fire department and begin receiving the

member's pension not later than the date that is eight years after the effective date of the election to participate in the plan or be subject to the forfeiture provisions of division (C) of section 742.444 of the Revised Code.

The effective date of an election made under this section is the first day of the employer's first payroll period immediately following the board's receipt of the notice of election.

Sec. 742.442. For each member who elects to participate in the deferred retirement option plan, the Ohio police and fire pension fund shall determine under division (C)(1) of section 742.37 of the Revised Code the monthly pension amount that would be payable to the member had the member elected to receive a pension under that division. In determining the pension amount, the fund shall use the member's total service credit and average annual salary as of the last day of the employer's payroll period immediately prior to the effective date of the member's election to participate in the plan. The pension amount shall be calculated as a retirement allowance payable for the member's life, except that, if at the time of electing to participate in the plan the member selected the plan of payment in option 2 of division (A) of section 742.3711 of the Revised Code, the pension shall be calculated using that plan of payment.

A member who participates in the plan is not eligible to make an election under division ~~(B)~~(D) of section 742.3716 of the Revised Code.

Sec. 742.443. (A) During the period beginning on the effective date of an election to participate in the deferred retirement option plan and ending on the date participation ceases, a member's monthly pension amount determined under section 742.442 of the Revised Code shall accrue to the member's benefit. ~~To~~ If the member is eligible for increases under section 742.3716 of the Revised Code, to this amount shall be added any benefit increases the member would be eligible for under ~~division (C) of that section 742.3716 of the Revised Code~~ had the member, on the effective date of the member's election, retired under division (C)(1) of section 742.37 of the Revised Code.

(B)(1) The amounts contributed under section 742.31 of the Revised Code by a member ~~participating~~ who, before July 2, 2013, elects to participate in the deferred retirement option plan shall accrue to the member's benefit as follows:

(a) During the period beginning on the first day of the first payroll period after the election's effective date and ending on the earlier of the date that is two years thereafter or the date the member ceases participation in the plan, fifty per cent of the member's contributions for that period;

(b) During the period beginning on the date that is two years and one