



**Hidalgo County - TCDRS Retirement Summary Sheet**  
 For questions contact the Hidalgo County Treasurer's Office  
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**How your plan works**

- ★ 7% is deposited into your account and earns 7% annually.
- ★ Benefit your employer provides is based on your final account balance and employer matching. Current employer matching is **200%**.
- ★ You receive a lifetime monthly benefit when you become eligible and choose to retire.

**Naming a beneficiary**

- ★ You can designate/update beneficiaries by signing in to **www.tcdrs.org**.
- ★ If no beneficiary on file, we will pay benefit to spouse (if married) or estate.
- ★ A Will has no effect on how we pay out your TCDRS benefit.

**Survivor Benefit**

- ★ With four or more years of TCDRS service, your beneficiary is eligible for the Survivor Benefit should you pass away before retirement.
- ★ Your beneficiary has two payment options:
  - Lifetime monthly benefit (employer matching included)
  - Withdrawal of account balance (no employer matching, tax penalty)
- ★ You can remove the withdrawal option for your beneficiary.

**Leaving employment**

- ★ **Option 1: Keep Money With TCDRS**  
Account continues to earn 7% interest each year.
- ★ **Option 2: Rollover**  
Avoid paying tax penalties. Lose employer matching and lifetime benefit.
- ★ **Option 3: Withdraw**  
Significant tax consequences and possible penalty. Lose employer matching and lifetime benefit.

**Vesting: 8 years of service**

- ★ Once vested, you have a right to a lifetime monthly benefit that will include employer matching when you reach retirement eligibility.
- ★ Even if you leave your job, you can choose to get a lifetime monthly benefit when you become eligible to retire as long as you haven't taken your money out of your account.

**Retirement eligibility**

Age		Service
Age 60	and	8 Years
Age	plus	Years* = 75
Any Age	and	20 Years

\* Must be vested

**Other ways to earn service time**

- ★ Multiple TCDRS accounts
- ★ Proportionate Retirement Program
  - ERS (State of Texas)
  - JRS (Courts)
  - TRS (Schools)
  - TMRS (Select Cities)
  - COA (City of Austin)
- ★ Military or USERRA

## Benefit payment options

- ★ 7 options to choose from at retirement
- ★ All options provide a lifetime monthly benefit to the retiree
- ★ Difference in monthly amounts reflects possible payments to a beneficiary
- ★ Consider if someone will be dependent on your retirement income

### Single Life

- ★ Highest monthly amount; all payments stop when **retiree** passes away
- ★ Select multiple beneficiaries, change if needed

### Guaranteed Term

- ★ Select 10-Year or 15-Year Guaranteed Term
- ★ Retiree receives lifetime monthly benefit
- ★ Term **begins** on retirement date
- ★ If retiree passes away before the end of the term, beneficiary receives benefit for remainder of term
- ★ Select multiple beneficiaries, change if needed

### Dual Life

- ★ Select 50%, 75% or 100% of payment amount to continue for beneficiary's lifetime
- ★ Variation: 100% with pop-up option
  - If beneficiary passes away before retiree, the monthly payment amount “pops up” to the Single Life monthly payment amount.
- ★ Only select one beneficiary, no changes

## Applying for retirement

- ★ **Selecting a date**
  - Retirement effective last day of any month
  - Interest is pro-rated
- ★ **Receiving payment**
  - Direct deposit **last business day of following month**
  - Subject to income taxes
- ★ **Specify federal withholding**
  - Follow IRS tax tables
  - No income taxes withheld
- ★ **Forms available at [www.tcdrs.org](http://www.tcdrs.org) or call TCDRS Member Services for a packet.**

## Rules against return to work

- ★ Apply to returning to work for same employer
- ★ No prior agreement to be rehired
- ★ One calendar month break in service
- ★ Non-compliance results in suspension of benefit plus repayment
- ★ State and federal law requires signatures upon retiring certifying awareness and compliance

## Register online at [www.tcdrs.org](http://www.tcdrs.org)

- ★ Estimate your retirement benefit
- ★ Update your beneficiaries and contact information
- ★ Track your progress on the road to retirement

## Notes

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*Benefit effective as of summary date. Future benefits may change based on employer action or changes to law.*