



Beneficiaries

Retirement Orientation and Education
Fiscal year 2025

Serving those who serve South Carolina

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Intended audience

This presentation is focused on the eligibility requirements and plan provisions for Class Three members. Class Three members are those whose earned service began on or after July 1, 2012.

Class Two members, those whose earned service began before July 1, 2012, are encouraged to review the summary flyers for Class Two on our [Navigating Your Benefits](#) webpage and retirement publications at peba.sc.gov/publications for more information.

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Types of beneficiaries for SCRS, PORS benefits

- Upon your death, primary beneficiary may receive either:
 - Refund of contributions plus interest; or
 - Lifetime monthly benefit payments, if eligible.
- Contingent beneficiaries¹ receive survivor benefits if:
 - You and primary beneficiary die at the same time; or
 - Primary beneficiary dies before you, and you do not name another primary beneficiary before death.
 - All primary beneficiaries must be deceased at the time of your death for a contingent beneficiary to receive a benefit.
- Incidental death benefit beneficiary may receive a payment equal to your current annual earnable compensation if you die in service.

¹Contingent beneficiary cannot be the same as primary.
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Beneficiaries for State ORP

- Must name primary and contingent beneficiaries for your retirement account directly with your selected service provider.
 - Upon your death, your beneficiary may be entitled to receive the cash value of your account but must file a claim with your service provider.
- Must name an incidental death beneficiary with PEBA, because your beneficiary might qualify for the active member incidental death benefit payment upon your death.

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How to name your beneficiaries

- Easiest way to name beneficiaries with PEBA is online using Member Access.
 - Refer to the Designating Active Member Beneficiaries flyer.
 - To designate a trust as your beneficiary, you must complete Form 1103.
- You can also complete the appropriate form, but forms require a notary signature and additional processing time:
 - Active Member Beneficiary Form (Form 1102).
 - Beneficiary/Trustee Designation Form (Form 1103); trust must already exist.
 - State ORP Active Incidental Death Benefit Beneficiary Designation (Form 1106).
- You can name multiple beneficiaries.
 - Benefits are split equally if multiple beneficiaries are named.

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When beneficiary defaults to estate

- Occurs when:
 - PEBA and/or your State ORP service provider does not receive a beneficiary designation online or via a beneficiary form;
 - A section of beneficiary form is left blank or is not completed properly; or
 - All named beneficiaries predecease employee, and you do not name a new beneficiary.
- Ensure you receive a confirmation letter from PEBA and/or your State ORP service provider listing your beneficiaries.

It is good practice to review and update your beneficiary information periodically, especially if you have had an important life event.

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Disclaimer

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