

## Chronological Highlights of State-Administered Retirement & Pension Systems

- 1885** — The Confederate Pension Fund was created to pay benefits to Confederate soldiers and sailors who were unfit for manual labor as a result of wounds received during the Civil War.
- 1923** — The Supreme Court Justices' Pension Fund was created to provide pensions for members of the Judiciary of Florida.
- 1927** — The Noncontributory Retirement Plan for State Employees was created to provide pensions for all state employees.
- 1931** — The Incapacitated Teachers' Special Pension was created to provide pensions for incapacitated teachers who had taught at least 20 years.
- 1939** — The Teachers' Retirement System was created to provide pensions for teachers.
- 1941** — The National Guard Pension Fund was established for guardsmen serving in the organized militia of the State.
- 1945** — The State Officers and Employees' Retirement System was created.  
— The County Officers and Employees' Retirement System was created.  
— The Highway Patrol Pension Fund was established.  
— The Teachers' Retirement System added Plans B & C.
- 1947** — The Teachers' Retirement System added Plan D.
- 1953** — The Noncontributory Retirement Plan for State Employees was closed to new members.
- 1955** — The Supreme Court Justices' Pension Fund and the Circuit Judges' Retirement Fund were combined to create the Supreme Court Justices and Circuit Court Judges' Retirement System.  
— The State Officers and Employees' Retirement System and County Officers and Employees' Retirement System were combined to create the State and County Officers and Employees' Retirement System.  
— The Teachers' Retirement System added Plan E and closed Plans A, B, C, and D to new members.
- 1957** — The Supreme Court Justices and Circuit Court Judges' Retirement System was expanded to include District Court of Appeal Judges.  
— Survivor benefits provisions were added to the Teachers' Retirement System.  
— The State and County Officers and Employees' Retirement System was split into two divisions: Division A (closed to new members) and Division B (with social security coverage).
- 1963** — The Supreme Court Justices and Circuit Court Judges' Retirement System was split into three Divisions: Divisions A and B were closed to new members and Divisions B and C provided social security coverage.  
— The High Hazard Classification was added to the State and County Officers and Employees' Retirement System.
- 1970** — The Florida Retirement System — a defined benefit plan — was created, consisting of the Regular Class and Special Risk Class.  
— The Teachers' Retirement System was closed to new members.  
— The State and County Officers and Employees' Retirement System was closed to new members.  
— The Highway Patrol Pension Fund was closed to new members.
- 1972** — The Elected State Officers' Class was created as part of the Florida Retirement System (FRS).

- 1974** — The Elected State Officers' Class was expanded to include County Court Judges.  
— Special Risk Class annual retirement credit was increased from 2% to 3%, effective October 1, 1974.
- 1975** — The FRS became employee-noncontributory for regular and special risk members.  
— The State Retirement Commission was created.
- 1977** — The Elected State Officers' Class was expanded to include Public Defenders.
- 1978** — The FRS 30-year retirement plan was enacted.  
— Special Risk annual retirement credit was reduced from 3% to 2%.
- 1979** — Public Service Commissioners were removed from the Elected State Officers' Class to become regular members.  
— The Elected State Officers' Class became employee-noncontributory for judges, state attorneys, and public defenders.
- 1980** — Annual cost-of-living adjustments were provided to all retirees upon retirement equal to the cost-of-living index (but no more than 3%).  
— The minimum service credit requirement for regular disability retirement eligibility was increased from 5 to 10 years.
- 1981** — Elected county officers were given the option to transfer to the Elected State Officers' Class.  
— Certain retirees were granted a supplemental cost-of-living adjustment based on years of service and years retired.
- 1982** — The Special Risk Administrative Support Class was created.
- 1983** — The State University System Optional Retirement Program (a defined contribution plan) was created, effective July 1, 1984.
- 1984** — Certain retirees were granted a supplemental cost-of-living adjustment based on years of service and years retired.  
— A supplemental retirement plan was created for the Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences (IFAS), effective July 1, 1985.
- 1985** — FRS members first entering covered employment on or after January 1, 1987, were excluded from provisions of law allowing purchase of wartime military service at special rates.
- 1986** — The Senior Management Service Class and the Senior Management Service Optional Annuity Program (a defined contribution plan) were created, effective February 1, 1987.
- 1987** — The Health Insurance Subsidy was established for all eligible retirees.  
— The annual cost-of-living adjustment was set at 3% per year.
- 1989** — Special Risk annual retirement credit was increased from 2% to 3%, phased in over a 5-year period (1989-1993).
- 1990** — Renewed membership for reemployed retirees was established, effective July 1, 1990, for elected officers covered by the Elected Officers' Class and effective July 1, 1991, for all other members.
- 1994** — Members became eligible to purchase service credit for out-of-state public service, effective January 1, 1995.
- 1995** — Cities, special districts, and hospitals were given a one-time opportunity to withdraw from the FRS for future employees, effective January 1, 1996.  
— An Optional Retirement Program (a defined contribution plan) for the State Community College System was created, effective January 1, 1996.

- 1996** — Federal maximum compensation limits were adopted, effective July 1, 1996.
- Certain retirees without Social Security were granted a supplemental cost-of-living adjustment based on their years of service and years retired.
- 1997** — The Deferred Retirement Option Program (DROP) was established, to be implemented effective July 1, 1998.
- Cities and special districts already participating in the FRS for their elected officials were given an opportunity to designate their elected officials for membership in the Elected Officers' Class.
  - Members became eligible to purchase service credit for in-state, non-FRS public service, effective January 1, 1998.
- 1999** — The FRS Preservation of Benefits Plan was established, effective July 1, 1999.
- 2000** — The Public Employee Optional Retirement Program (also referred to as the FRS Investment Plan) was established to become implemented in 2002.
- Special risk annual retirement credit was upgraded to 3% for all years between October 1, 1978, and January 1, 1993 for members retiring on and after July 1, 2000.
  - Minimum special risk in-line-of-duty disability benefits were increased from 42% to 65%, effective July 1, 2000.
  - The vesting requirement was reduced to 6 years for all FRS membership classes, beginning July 1, 2001.
  - The vesting requirement for regular disability retirement was reduced to 8 years, beginning July 1, 2001.
- 2001** — A one-time special 12% benefit increase was provided, effective January 1, 2002, for FRS retirees with special risk service between October 1, 1978, and December 31, 1992, for members retiring before July 1, 2000.
- Cities and special districts already participating in the FRS for their elected officials were given a second opportunity to designate their elected officials for membership in the Elected Officers' Class.
- 2002** — A uniform employer contribution rate structure was created effective July 1, 2002, for members of the defined benefit plan (FRS Pension Plan) and members of the Public Employee Optional Retirement Program (FRS Investment Plan).
- A 90-day window was provided to allow members to convert their Senior Management Service Optional Annuity Program service to creditable service under the FRS Pension Plan.
- 2003** — Participants of the Community College Optional Retirement Program were provided a one-time opportunity to transfer to the FRS.
- 2005** — Local government service managers who withdrew from the FRS were given a one-time opportunity to transfer to the FRS between January 1, 2006 and June 30, 2006.
- 2007** — Participants of the State University System Optional Retirement Program were provided a one-time opportunity to transfer to the FRS between January 1, 2008 and December 31, 2008.
- The Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences Supplemental Retirement Program was consolidated as a closed-retirement system under the Regular Class of the FRS, effective July 1, 2007.