

FOR TEMPORARY EMPLOYEES ONLY

**STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK
College of Environmental Science and Forestry**

I hereby acknowledge that I have been informed by the SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry, my employer, that I have the right to join the retirement system of New York State. I further acknowledge that I must complete a Retirement System Membership Application which must be filed with the Retirement System in order to be effective. As a result of joining the Retirement System, I will be required to contribute 3% of my salary to the Retirement System throughout active membership.

If I join the system, my beneficiary may be protected by a death benefit should I die in service. Upon meeting eligibility requirements, I may be entitled to a lifetime pension or a disability pension if I become permanently and totally disabled from gainful employment.

I also understand if I do not elect to join, I may be unable to obtain credit at a later date for service rendered during the period I was not a member.

As a part-time and/or temporary employee, I elect NOT to join the Retirement System as an employee of New York State. I understand that if I wish to enroll in a retirement program in the future, that it is my responsibility to contact the Office of Human Resources ext. 6613 to enroll.

PRINT NAME

SIGNATURE

DATE

Summary of New York State Employees Retirement System

If you join the Employees' Retirement System (ERS) plan you will be **required to contribute 3% of your gross pay throughout active membership.**

There is a 10 year vesting period. This means you must be in the plan for the equivalent of 10 years of full-time service in order to have a pension benefit. Part-time service is prorated toward the 10 years of full-time service. If you leave state employment before 10 years of service you can request a refund of your contributions.

ERS is a defined benefit plan. This means that your pension is a calculation based on a formula which is: years of service *times* final average salary *times* a rate factor (1.66% for less than 20 years and 2% for 20 or more years). Final Average Salary is the average of wages earned in any consecutive 36 months of service when earnings were highest.

Eligibility for the benefit – You are eligible for a service retirement benefit when you reach age 55 or older. However for every year under age 62 there is a reduction in your benefit as the chart below indicates:

Age At Retirement	% of Reduction
55	38.33
56	33.33
57	28.33
58	23.33
59	18.33
60	13.33
61	6.67

This is only a brief summary of the retirement plan. If you have questions or need more information, contact Bev Gracz in the Human Resources Office at 315-470-6613.