

Hazardous Duty Information

For County Deputy Sheriffs and Jailers



What is House Bill (HB) 1068?

- All deputy sheriffs and county jailer members are required to participate in the OPERS Hazardous Duty plan starting November 1, 2024.
- This allows employers to purchase prior service

Members Eligible To Participate

Department of Corrections Personnel*:	County Deputy Sheriffs
Correctional Security Officers	County Jailers
Correctional Security Managers	Licensed Emergency
Correctional Chiefs of Security	Medical Personnel (first
Probation and Parole Officers	hired on or after November
Fugitive Apprehension Agents	1, 2024)
Grand River Dam Authority	
Lake Patrol Officers	
Oklahoma Military	
Department Firefighters	

Member Provisions

Contribution Rate
Retirement Eligibility
Computation Factor

Contribution Rate

- First 20 years: Contribute at the 8% hazardous duty rate.
- After 20 years: Contribute at the non-hazardous duty rate

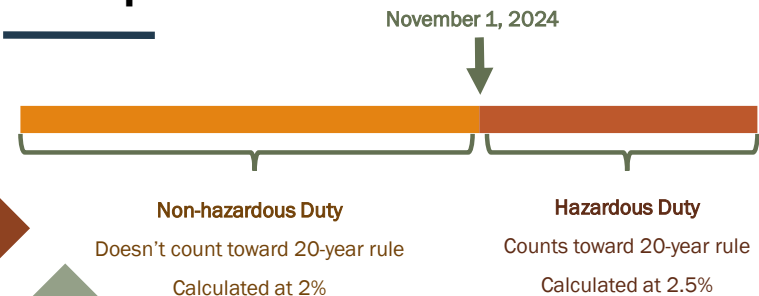
Computation Factor

- During **whole** years: 2.5%, up to 20 years of hazardous duty service.
- All other service types and partial years of hazardous duty service: 2% non-hazardous duty rate:

Retirement Eligibility

- Retirement: after 20 full years of full-time-equivalent employment in the hazardous duty plan.
- Must retire from a hazardous duty eligible position to qualify under the 20-year rule.
- This eligibility option is in addition to the regular age and service requirements.

Example of Service



How Do I Calculate My Benefit?

$$\frac{\begin{array}{l} \text{Final Average Salary} \\ \text{Service Credit} \end{array} \times \text{Computation Factor}}{\text{Lifetime Annual Benefit}}$$

Split Calculation

Non-Hazardous Service		Hazardous Service			
	\$30,000		\$30,000		
x	11	x	4		
x	0.02	x	0.025		
=	\$6,600 Annually	=	\$3,000 Annually		\$550
÷	12	÷	12	+	\$250
=	\$550	=	\$250	=	\$800 Monthly

Purchasing Prior Service

What is Purchasing Prior Service?

- County deputy sheriffs and jailers can purchase prior service credit at actuarial cost.
- This will convert your previous service as a county deputy sheriff or jailer to hazardous duty service.

Deadlines to Purchase Prior Service

- This is a limited time opportunity
- Must make the election to purchase by July 1, 2026
- Anyone who is not employed as a county deputy sheriff or jailer on November 1, 2024, but reemployed later:
 - Six months from rehire date

Why Purchase Service?

- Purchased service credit is calculated at 2.5%, instead of the normal 2.0% rate.
- Counts towards the 20-year rule – you may be able to retire at a younger age.

Do You Have To Purchase Prior Service?



- You will still receive credit for your prior service at 2.0%
- Only your Hazardous Duty service will be 2.5%.
- Only your Hazardous Duty service will count toward the 20-year rule.

What is an Actuarial Purchase?

The amount required to fund an increase in future lifetime benefits you would receive.

- Considers
 - the loss of missed earnings for the time funds were not invested,
 - the member's age, and
 - current salary.

Example Costs – Example 1

- Current Age: 61
- Current Eligibility: 65
- Prior Service: 8 years
- Annual Salary: \$37,000
- Estimate cost: \$13,000
- New Eligibility: 65
- Benefit increase: 4% of final average salary

Example Costs – Example 2

- Current Age: 36
- Current Eligibility: 56
- Prior Service: 6 years
- Annual Salary: \$35,900
- Estimate cost: \$74,000
- New Eligibility: 50
- Eligible to start benefit 6 years sooner

Service Purchase Calculator

Use the online calculator to estimate the cost (Coming soon!)

opers.ok.gov/hb1068



How to start purchase

1. Estimate your cost using online calculator.
2. Complete *Member Request for Service Credit Purchase* form.
3. Your employer completes a *Certification of Prior Service* form.
4. OPERS works up file and confirms actual cost.
5. You will receive the costs and the *Election to Purchase Service* form

Ways to Pay for your Purchase

Ways to pay for your purchase:

- Check
- Qualified Rollover Plan
- Installment by Payroll Deduction

Additional Information and Resources

Step-Up Plan & Hazardous Duty Members

- Hazardous Duty members are not eligible to participate in Step-Up while contributing at the 8% hazardous duty rate.
- If you are in Step-Up, you will pause participating in Step-Up on November 1, 2024

Step-Up Plan & Hazardous Duty Members

After 20 years of Hazardous Duty service:

- If you previously were in Step-Up you must participate in Step-Up again.
- If you were not previously in Step-Up, you may not choose to participated.

Attending A Seminar or Webinar

- Hazardous Duty Webinars
- Pre-Retirement Seminars/Webinars

opers.ok.gov

Resources

- Frequently asked questions
- Sign-up for email updates
- Hazardous Duty webpage

opers.ok.gov/HB1068

Questions



Thank You!

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