

September 2009 – Summary

After July 1, 2010, you will **not** be eligible for a second retirement. There is now a six (6) month waiting period before you can return to a FRS employer. Extension of DROP to eight years is dependent on the employer not the legislature. The SBBC did **not** allow the extension for teachers in 2009-2010. Reemployment is **not** guaranteed. When you enter DROP, you have retired and in five (5) years you may be unable to work at your current position.

Start planning six months before you enter DROP or separate from the SBBC. At least 30 days, probably 60 days, before you actually leave the SBBC make a retirement appointment at the SBBC Benefits Department (754) **321-3100**. (Located in the Central Area Office (1st Floor of the Bank of America Building on Oakland Park Boulevard and University Drive)

Legislative Update

House Bill 479 was enacted during the 2009 Legislative session and signed into law by Governor Charlie Crist on June 18, 2009.

Termination

The definition of termination was changed:

- For FRS Investment Plan members who retire on or after July 1, 2009, termination is six calendar months (instead of the current three calendar month requirement).
- For FRS Pension Plan members who retire without participating in DROP with retirement effective on or after July 1, 2010, or for members who retired through DROP with a termination date on or after July 1, 2010, termination is six calendar months (instead of the current one calendar month requirement).

Working for an FRS participating employer in any employment relationship during the required termination period will result in voiding retirement and all FRS benefits paid, including a DROP payout, must be repaid and a new application filed in order to retire at a future date. If DROP participation is voided, future program participation will be based on the member's eligibility at that time.

Effective July 1, 2010: If you retire without participating in DROP and your effective retirement date is on or after July 1, 2010, or if your DROP termination date is on or after July 1, 2010, the reemployment limitation period is six calendar months after meeting the definition of termination. There are no reemployment exceptions during this six month reemployment limitation period. None of the current exceptions to reemployment restrictions will apply to these retirees effective July 1, 2010.

Renewed Membership in FRS

If you establish renewed membership before July 1, 2010, you are covered by renewed membership until you retire again. Renewed members who have had a break in service and return to FRS-covered employment after July 1, 2010, are still covered by renewed membership. Retirees of a state-administered retirement system who initially return to FRS-covered employment on or after July 1, 2010, will not earn another retirement benefit. This closing of renewed membership includes retirees of the FRS Pension Plan, the FRS Investment Plan, the State University System Optional Retirement Program, the State Senior Management Optional Annuity Program, the State Community College System Optional Retirement Program, and local government senior managers covered by a separate arrangement with their employers.