



## CONGRATULATIONS on becoming a member of the Kansas City Public School Retirement System (KCPSRS)!

Your employment with a KC Charter School means you've taken an important step towards achieving financial security in your retirement years. We recognize that retirement may not be uppermost in your mind at this stage in your career, however we encourage you to understand the advantages of your membership in the Kansas City Public School Retirement System (KCPSRS) and the benefits you are entitled to receive.

Membership of the Retirement System is a condition of employment with any KCPSRS-covered employer\* and, as required by Missouri law, 9% of your pre-tax paycheck is deducted and placed into your individual KCPSRS account.

Your employer also makes contributions to the Retirement System. The employer contributions are not part of an individual's account. Employer contributions go into a general fund at KCPSRS used to help fund lifetime benefits for members when they retire from KCPSRS.

### Welcome to KCPSRS!

We encourage you to take time to register for [My Account](#) – on our website, [www.kcpsrs.org](http://www.kcpsrs.org). It is your online access to:

- learn the value of your KCPSRS account
- see estimates of your future benefits
- update your personal information such as your beneficiary

You may also want to follow [Kansas City Public School Retirement System on Facebook](#).

### KCPSRS is a defined benefit plan.

A defined benefit plan means, once you retire, the KCPSRS lifetime monthly benefit you will receive is predictable and stable because it is calculated using a formula established by Missouri law. Your years of service and salary are factors in determining the amount of your retirement benefit.

KCPSRS benefits are designed to supplement Social Security benefits and personal savings in retirement.

While you are working, KCPSRS offers financial protection for you or your family in the event of your death or disability.

As a member, you have this guarantee: *your contributions and accrued interest are always returned to you or your beneficiary in the form of monthly benefits or a lump-sum payment.*

\*KCPSRS-covered employers include: KC School District, all KC Charter Schools, and the KC Public Library.

## Benefits of Contributing to KCPSRS

**Automatic retirement savings:** Your KCPSRS contributions are automatically deducted from your paycheck and set aside for your retirement.

**Pretax deductions:** Your contributions reduce your taxable income.

**It's easy:** You don't have to choose investment options. You do not have to worry about investment market fluctuations. KCPSRS is not a defined contribution plan like a 401k or IRA. Your account is not subject to investment market losses. KCPSRS takes all the investment risk.

### Membership Rewards

#### Security

Your contributions are secure and earn annual interest.

#### Guaranteed benefit

Once you are eligible to retire, you will qualify for a monthly benefit payment for the rest of your life.

#### Safety Net

Death benefit – your beneficiary is eligible for a lump sum payment or may be eligible for a monthly benefit.

#### Disability benefit

Vested\* members may qualify for disability benefits, at any age.

#### Portability

If you change jobs and your new job is with a KCPSRS-covered employer, your KCPSRS coverage and service years continue.

If you start working for a non-KCPSRS employer, you may leave your money with KCPSRS or take a refund or roll over your KCPSRS account to another qualified tax deferred retirement plan.

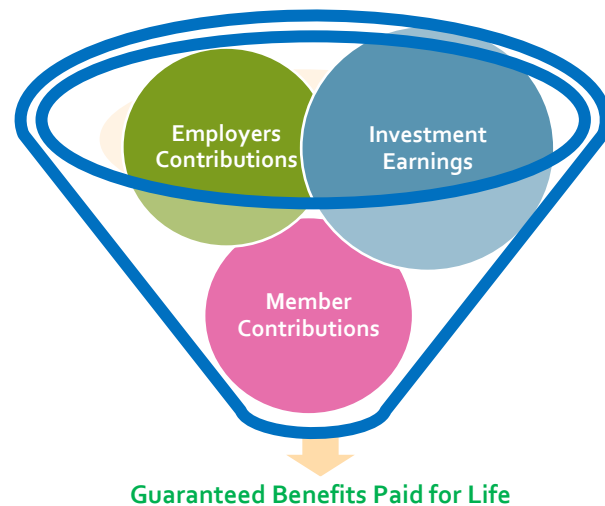
\*Vested means at least 5 years of KSPSRS service.

## How KCPSRS Retirement Benefits are Funded

KCPSRS funding comes from three sources:

- Member Contributions
- Employer Contributions
- Investment Earnings

Investment earnings are the primary source. On average, 60 cents of every dollar paid to KCPSRS retirees come from investment earnings.



## Your retirement office is here to serve you!

If you have questions or concerns, contact the KCPSRS office:

3100 Broadway, Suite 1211

Kansas City, MO 64111

816-472-5800

Fax 816-472-5909

Office Hours: 8:00 am - 4:30 pm (Monday-Friday)