



Thinking of Retiring and Wondering What You Need To Do?

Follow these steps...

If you are eligible to retire, or getting close and thinking about it, research all your options by using the resources available:

1. Take advantage of the free-of-charge financial guidance services through Ernst & Young, provided to you by the Florida Retirement System. Log on to www.myfrs.com or call the Financial Guidance line toll-free at 1-866-446-9377. Ernst & Young certified financial planners are available to help you with retirement planning in general and to answer questions on your FRS benefits, including the DROP program.

One of the most important issues you will face is deciding whether to retire now, retire later, or join DROP. With DROP, in effect, you do both—retire now, but continue to work for up to 5 years, allowing your retirement benefits to accumulate into a “nest egg” to enhance your retirement benefit. This is a highly personal decision and will depend on your own particular circumstances.

2. If you are enrolled in the County's Deferred Compensation Program, discuss your retirement plans and options with your Deferred Compensation account representative. If you are not enrolled and are planning to retire later or join DROP, learn how participation in this program can boost your personal retirement savings. Go to the [Deferred Compensation](#) webpage of this Retirement section.
3. Call Employee Benefits at 464-4570 to discuss options and request a benefit estimate. If you decide to join DROP or retire, you will be given an appointment to complete paperwork. You may start the paperwork approximately 90 days in advance of your FRS retirement date.

Enroll for retirement health/dental/life benefits. You will be provided a Retiree Benefits package for review. Plan design and premiums can be changed at any time with Board approval.

You must meet the definition of a Retired Employee per [Personnel Rule I](#) to enroll in the retiree plans. Your enrollment paperwork must be received by Employee Benefits within 31 days after leaving County employment. **If it is not received within 31 days, you will not be eligible to enroll.**

4. Notify your department in writing of your termination of employment date. The Florida Retirement System (FRS) retirement date is usually the first of a month following your termination of employment. For example, if you terminate employment June 24, your FRS retirement date will be July 1.