



# MICHIGAN OFFICE OF RETIREMENT SERVICES

Big Plans. Small Steps.

P.O. Box 30171 · Lansing, MI 48909-7671

www.michigan.gov/ors

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## Beneficiary Nomination – For State Police Troopers/Officers hired on or after 7/1/2006

MEMBER'S NAME (LAST, FIRST, M.I.)	DATE OF BIRTH	MEMBER ID OR SSN
MAILING ADDRESS	BIRTH PLACE (CITY, STATE)	HOME PHONE NUMBER
CITY, STATE, ZIP CODE	MARITAL STATUS: <input type="checkbox"/> SINGLE <input type="checkbox"/> MARRIED <input type="checkbox"/> DIVORCED	
EMAIL ADDRESS		

As an active State Police Trooper/Officer use this form or to go [www.michigan.gov/orsmiaccount](http://www.michigan.gov/orsmiaccount) to nominate one pension beneficiary and one or more refund beneficiaries. Whichever method you use, the most recent nomination you make will be in effect. If you do not name a pension beneficiary and a benefit is payable, the default provisions of the retirement act will apply. If you have no surviving spouse or eligible child, no pension benefit will be paid unless you designate an eligible beneficiary on this form or through miAccount. See the back of this form for more information on eligible beneficiaries.

### Section I: Monthly Pension Beneficiary

Select one eligible beneficiary to receive a monthly pension benefit. If you are married and name someone other than your spouse as your beneficiary, your spouse must sign below relinquishing his/her rights to any benefit.

PENSION BENEFICIARY NAME (LAST, FIRST, M.I.)	BENEFICIARY'S SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER	BIRTHDATE (MM/DD/YYYY)
RELATIONSHIP TO MEMBER: (CHECK ONE) <input type="checkbox"/> SPOUSE <input type="checkbox"/> CHILD LESS THAN 18 YEARS OF AGE		

### Spousal Relinquishment of Pension Rights

Your spouse must complete this section ONLY if he/she is not named as your monthly pension beneficiary above.

*I understand by law I am automatically my spouse's 100% survivor pension beneficiary. However, by my signature below, I authorize my spouse to designate the above named eligible person as beneficiary for a 100% survivor pension benefit. I understand that by this authorization I relinquish all rights to any benefit.*

SPOUSE'S NAME (WRITE "NONE" IF NOT MARRIED)	SPOUSE'S SIGNATURE (REQUIRED TO WAIVE BENEFITS)	DATE
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### Section II: Refund Beneficiary

If you have no beneficiary eligible to receive a pension benefit, refund beneficiaries named below will receive any accumulated personal contributions at your death. Anyone can be your refund beneficiary, including the person (if any) named above. Attach another sheet to name more than two refund beneficiaries.

REFUND BENEFICIARY NAME (LAST, FIRST, M.I.)	TAX IDENTIFICATION NUMBER (SSN OR FEIN)
STREET ADDRESS	CITY, STATE, ZIP CODE
REFUND BENEFICIARY NAME (LAST, FIRST, M.I.)	TAX IDENTIFICATION NUMBER (SSN OR FEIN)
STREET ADDRESS	CITY, STATE, ZIP CODE

### Section III: Member Signature

*I understand the most current beneficiary designation on file with ORS at the time of my death establishes the recipient of my survivor pension benefit or refund payment. I intend for this beneficiary designation to supersede all previous filings with ORS.*

MEMBER'S SIGNATURE	DATE
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**DO NOT file this form with your Human Resource Office.**

**Mail to: Office of Retirement Services (ORS), PO Box 30171, Lansing MI 48909-7671**



# Instructions for Nominating or Changing Your Beneficiary

Your retirement plan includes ongoing benefits for your beneficiaries if your death is duty related or if you die after you have vested your state service. Most employees are vested after 10 years. The benefit available depends on your age and accrued service credit, at the time of your death.

## Pension Benefits for Active Employees

**Nonduty death.** If your death is not a result of an injury or illness incurred at work, it is called a *nonduty death*. A monthly benefit to your survivor(s) may be payable if you were vested. It is calculated as if you retired on your date of death and elected the 100% survivor option.

If you have no *Beneficiary Nomination* form on file with ORS at the time of your death, the default provision of the retirement act will apply. The monthly pension benefit is paid to your surviving spouse. If you have no surviving spouse, it is split among your children under the age of 18. ***If you have no surviving spouse or children under 18 at the time of your death, no continuing monthly benefit will be payable unless you designate an eligible beneficiary using this form or through miAccount.***

**Duty death.** If you die from a work-related injury or illness incurred during your state employment (considered a *duty death*), your spouse and children under age 21 are eligible for a survivor pension and insurances, regardless of your age or years of service at the time of death. A benefit might be payable to a disabled, dependent parent if there is no surviving spouse or eligible child.

## Eligible Pension Beneficiaries

A monthly pension benefit may be paid only to an **eligible beneficiary**, specifically, your surviving spouse, your child, less than 18 years of age.

**Surviving spouse.** Your spouse is automatically your pension beneficiary and can receive a monthly pension benefit for his/her lifetime, unless you name a different eligible beneficiary in Section I and your spouse signs the form waiving any rights to pension benefits. If you name your spouse as the pension beneficiary, his/her signature is not required in Section I.

***If you name an eligible beneficiary other than your spouse as your pension beneficiary, even if you name a child, your spouse must waive his or her rights to these benefits by signing in the box in Section I.***

**Other Dependents.** If you have no surviving spouse and you do not designate a beneficiary using miAccount or this form, your monthly pension benefit will be paid to your dependent children but will stop when the youngest reaches age 18. Use miAccount or this form if you prefer to designate one specific, eligible beneficiary to receive monthly pension benefits for his/her lifetime.

## No Eligible Pension Beneficiary? A Refund May be Payable.

If you've purchased service credit and die before you are vested, or you have no eligible pension beneficiary, the money you paid for service is refundable. Contributions you made to the Defined Benefit Plan before 1974 or after April 1, 2012, are also refundable. You can name a refund beneficiary in Section II. There are no eligibility criteria for a refund beneficiary and no required waiving of rights by the spouse. You may name more than one refund beneficiary. If you do not designate a beneficiary, your refund will be paid to your estate.

## Changing Your Beneficiary

If your pension beneficiary dies or is divorced from you, you may wish to name a new beneficiary. Use this form or go to **[www.michigan.gov/orsmiaccount](http://www.michigan.gov/orsmiaccount)** to name a new beneficiary any time before retirement.

## Naming a Trust, Living Will, Estate, Organization or Company

You cannot name a trust, estate, organization, or company directly as a pension beneficiary. The retirement law requires you to name a specific, eligible person. You may nominate a person in care of, as the trustee of, or as the administrator of a legal entity. For example, Sally Wilson, can name her husband as her primary beneficiary using: "William Wilson, in care of the William and Sally Wilson joint trust" or "William Wilson, trustee, c/o the William Wilson Living Trust." You can also name your child, in care of your trust. Do not name yourself as the trustee or administrator of a living trust or living will.

You can name a trust, estate, organization, or company directly as a refund beneficiary. To do this, designate by person's name, the organization's trustee or company's executive, or successor, in care of the organization or company.