



RETIREMENT SYSTEM

A Fiduciary Fund of the State of Wyoming

HISTORICAL CONTRIBUTION RATES BY PLAN As of July 1, 2021



Partnering to Build Financial Security For Members and their Families



VISION STATEMENT

Partnering to build financial security for members and their families

MISSION STATEMENT

Provide expert administration and responsible investment of Wyoming's public retirement and supplemental savings programs

VALUES

- Integrity
- Accountability
- Commitment
- Excellence

PHILOSOPHY

The Wyoming Retirement System Board and the Wyoming Retirement System staff are committed to:

- Carrying out all statutorily mandated and other responsibilities in a timely, courteous, professional and ethical manner.
- Safeguarding the financial integrity of the System through prudent management.
- Providing adequate member benefits for all plans within the parameters of actuarial funding.

The Wyoming Retirement System (WRS) has a long history of operating in the best financial interest of its members. This list of milestones represents major changes to the WRS plans.

WRS History Milestones

- 1935:** The Paid Firemen's Pension Plan was established.
- 1943:** The Wyoming Teachers' Retirement System was established.
- 1949:** The State Employees' Retirement System was established.
- April 1, 1953:** The Wyoming Teachers' Retirement System and the State Employees Retirement System were repealed and combined into the newly formed Wyoming Retirement System, which the University of Wyoming joined.
- Feb. 1, 1965:** Cities and counties were allowed to join.
- April 1, 1967:** The Volunteer Fire Pension Plan started.
- July 1, 1973:** The Highway Patrol and Game Warden Plan became effective.
- July 1, 1981:** WRS began administration of the Paid Firemen's Pension Plan. For new firefighters, the plan is now Paid Firefighter "B."
- July 1, 1984:** The state allowed criminal investigators to join the Patrol and Warden Pension Plan.
- July 1, 1992:** The "Rule of 85" was adopted for state employees.
- July 1, 1998:** The state created the new Judicial Plan, which was mandatory for judges appointed after July 1, 1998. Existing judges were given the option of continuing in the existing plan or switching over to the new plan by Dec. 31, 1999.
- July 1, 1998:** All at-will, contract employees were allowed to participate in the WRS. At-will employees pay both employee and employer contributions.
- July 1, 2001:** Air Guard Firefighters Plan went into effect.
- 2001:** The 457 Deferred Compensation Plan was moved to WRS.
- July 1, 2002:** The Law Enforcement Plan became effective. It consolidated the law enforcement personnel from three plans into one.
- July 1, 2005:** The state's probation and parole officers were moved into the Law Enforcement Plan.
- July 1, 2005:** The City of Cheyenne's 911 dispatchers were able to participate in the Law Enforcement Plan.
- July 1, 2008:** The Volunteer Emergency Medical Technicians Plan became effective.
- July 1, 2015:** The Volunteer Firemen's Pension Plan and the Volunteer EMT Plan combined into the Volunteer Firefighter and EMT Pension Plan.
- July 1, 2020:** Members of the Volunteer Search and Rescue community are able to purchase a retirement benefit.

Firefighter A Pension Plan

- 1935:** The Paid Firemen's Pension Plan was established.
- April 1, 1953:** The Wyoming Retirement System is formed.
- July 1, 1981:** WRS began administration of the Paid Firemen's Pension Plan.
- April 1, 1997:** Contributions suspended
- April 1, 1997:** Benefits were increased
- July 1, 2000:** Benefits were increased
- July 1, 2001:** Benefits were increased

			Benefit % Increased
4/1/1997	to	6/30/2000	55.0% of Monthly Salary of Firefighter First Class plus 1.50%
7/1/2000	to	6/30/2001	57.5% of Monthly Salary of Firefighter First Class plus 1.50%
7/1/2001	to	Present	75.0% of Monthly Salary of Firefighter First Class plus 1.50%

Public Employee Pension Plan

- 1943:** The Wyoming Teachers' Retirement System was established.
- 1949:** The State Employees' Retirement System was established.
- April 1, 1953:** The Wyoming Teachers' Retirement System and the State Employees Retirement System were repealed and combined into the newly formed Wyoming Retirement System, which the University of Wyoming joined.
- Feb. 1, 1965:** Cities and counties were allowed to join.
- July 1, 1992:** The "Rule of 85" was adopted for state employees.
- July 1, 1998:** All at-will, contract employees were allowed to participate in the WRS. At-will employees pay both employee and employer contributions.

	Employee Paid by Employer	Employee Paid by Employee	Total Employee	Employer	Total Contribution
1/1/1978 to 2/27/1981	5.57%		5.57%	5.57%	11.14%
2/28/1981 to 8/30/2010	5.57%		5.57%	5.68%	11.25%
9/1/2010 to 8/31/2013	5.57%	1.43%	7.00%	7.12%	14.12%
9/1/2013 to 6/30/2014	5.82%	1.68%	7.50%	7.12%	14.62%
7/1/2014 to 6/30/2015	6.195%	2.055%	8.25%	7.62%	15.87%
7/1/2015 to 6/30/2016	6.195%	2.055%	8.25%	8.37%	16.62%
7/1/2016 to 6/30/2017	5.945%	2.305%	8.25%	8.37%	16.62%
7/1/2017 to 8/31/2018	5.57%	2.68%	8.25%	8.37%	16.62%
9/1/2018 to 6/30/2019	5.57%	2.93%	8.50%	8.62%	17.12%
7/1/2019 to 6/30/2020	5.57%	3.18%	8.75%	8.87%	17.62%
7/1/2020 to 6/30/2021	5.57%	3.43%	9.00%	9.12%	18.12%
7/1/2021 to	5.57%	3.68%	9.25%	9.37%	18.62%

Volunteer Firefighter, Emergency Medical Technician and Search and Rescue Pension Plan

- April 1, 1953:** The Wyoming Retirement System is formed.
- April 1, 1967:** The Volunteer Fire Pension Plan started.
- July 1, 1992:** The “Rule of 85” was adopted for state employees.
- July 1, 2008:** The Volunteer Emergency Medical Technicians Plan became effective.
- July 1, 2015:** The Volunteer Firemen’s Pension Plan and the Volunteer EMT Plan combined into the Volunteer Firefighter and EMT Pension Plan.
- July 1, 2020:** Members of the Volunteer Search and Rescue community are able to purchase a retirement benefit.

	Employee Paid	Total Contribution
Volunteer Firefighter and EMT		
7/1/2015 to 6/30/2020	\$15.00	\$15.00
7/1/2020 to present	\$18.75	\$18.75
Volunteer Search and Rescue		
7/1/2019 to 6/30/2020	\$30.00	\$30.00
7/1/2020 to present	\$37.50	\$37.50

Wyoming Highway Patrol, Game Warden and Department of Criminal Investigators

- April 1, 1953:** The Wyoming Retirement System is formed.
- July 1, 1973:** The Highway Patrol and Game Warden Plan became effective.
- July 1, 1984:** The state allowed criminal investigators to join the Patrol and Warden Pension Plan.
- July 1, 1992:** The “Rule of 85” was adopted for state employees.
- July 1, 1998:** All at-will, contract employees were allowed to participate in the WRS. At-will employees pay both employee and employer contributions.

	Employee Paid by Employer	Employee Paid by Employee	Total Employee	Employer	Total Contribution
7/1/1973 to 6/30/2012	11.02%		11.02%	11.33%	22.35%
7/1/2012 to 8/31/2013	11.02%	1.62%	12.64%	12.96%	25.60%
9/1/2013 to 6/30/2014	11.92%	1.62%	13.54%	12.96%	26.50%
7/1/2014 to 6/30/2015	12.60%	1.96%	14.56%	13.86%	28.42%
7/1/2015 to 6/30/2016	12.60%	1.96%	14.56%	14.88%	29.44%
7/1/2016 to 6/30/2017	12.26%	2.30%	14.56%	14.88%	29.44%
7/1/2017 to present	11.92%	2.64%	14.56%	14.88%	29.44%

Paid Firefighter B Pension Plan

- 1935:** The Paid Firemen's Pension Plan was established.
- April 1, 1953:** The Wyoming Retirement System is formed.
- July 1, 1981:** WRS began administration of the Paid Firemen's Pension Plan. For new firefighters, the plan is now Paid Firefighter "B."
- July 1, 1992:** The "Rule of 85" was adopted for state employees.
- July 1, 1998:** All at-will, contract employees were allowed to participate in the WRS. At-will employees pay both employee and employer contributions.

	Employee Paid by Employer	Employee Paid by Employee	Total Employee	Employer	Total Contribution
7/1/1981 to 6/30/2008	6.00%		6.000%	12.000%	18.000%
7/1/2008 to 8/31/2013	8.50%		8.500%	12.000%	20.500%
9/1/2013 to 6/30/2014	8.725%		8.725%	12.000%	20.725%
7/1/2014 to 6/30/2019	9.245%		9.245%	12.000%	21.245%
7/1/2019 to 6/30/2020	9.745%		9.745%	13.000%	22.745%
7/1/2020 to 6/30/2021	10.245%		10.245%	14.000%	24.245%
7/1/2021 to 6/30/2022	10.745%		10.745%	15.000%	25.745%
7/1/2022 to	11.245%		11.245%	16.000%	27.245%

Judicial Pension Plan

- April 1, 1953:** The Wyoming Retirement System is formed.
- July 1, 1992:** The “Rule of 85” was adopted for state employees.
- July 1, 1998:** The state created the new Judicial Plan, which was mandatory for judges appointed after July 1, 1998. Existing judges were given the option of continuing in the existing plan or switching over to the new plan by Dec. 31, 1999.
- July 1, 1998:** All at-will, contract employees were allowed to participate in the WRS. At-will employees pay both employee and employer contributions.

	Employee Paid by Employer	Employee Paid by Employee	Total Employee	Employer	Total Contribution
7/1/1998 to 6/30/2005	9.22%		9.22%	5.68%	14.90%
7/1/2005 to 6/30/2008	9.22%		9.22%	8.78%	18.00%
7/1/2008 to present	5.57%	3.65%	9.22%	14.50%	23.72%

Air Guard Firefighter Pension Plan

April 1, 1953: The Wyoming Retirement System is formed.

July 1, 1992: The “Rule of 85” was adopted for state employees.

July 1, 1998: All at-will, contract employees were allowed to participate in the WRS. At-will employees pay both employee and employer contributions.

July 1, 2001: Air Guard Firefighters Plan went into effect.

Guard Fire	Employee Paid by Employer	Employee Paid by Employee	Total Employee	Employer	Total Contribution
7/1/2001 to 8/31/2010	15.22%		15.22%	5.68%	20.90%
9/1/2010 to present	15.22%	1.43%	16.65%	7.12%	23.77%

Law Enforcement Pension Plan

- April 1, 1953:** The Wyoming Retirement System is formed.
- July 1, 1992:** The “Rule of 85” was adopted for state employees.
- July 1, 1998:** All at-will, contract employees were allowed to participate in the WRS. At-will employees pay both employee and employer contributions.
- July 1, 2002:** The Law Enforcement Plan became effective. It consolidated the law enforcement personnel from three plans into one.
- July 1, 2005:** The state’s probation and parole officers were moved into the Law Enforcement Plan.
- July 1, 2005:** The City of Cheyenne’s 911 dispatchers were able to participate in the Law Enforcement Plan.

Law Enforcement	Employee Paid by Employer	Employee Paid by Employee	Total Employee	Employer	Total Contribution
4/1/1989 to 6/30/1997	5.57%	3.20%	8.77%	5.68%	14.45%
7/1/1997 to 6/30/2002	5.57%	3.73%	9.30%	5.68%	14.98%
7/1/2002 to present	8.60%		8.60%	8.60%	17.20%



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