

Guides to Determining and Recording Short-Term Disability Benefits

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Guide A. What is the DIPNC short-term benefit process?

The Disability Income Plan of North Carolina (DIPNC) provides security to eligible members who have at least one year of retirement membership credit by providing the following:

- · Benefit. A benefit roughly equal to 50% of the employee's compensation. Note: The short-term benefit period lasts a maximum of 365 days. Since disability benefits may not be effective on the first day of the calendar month, the maximum STD benefit period may include 13 payments: first partial month, 11 full months, and a final partial month. In the event of death, the employer will pay STD for the entire month in which the death occurred. In the event the member retires following the last month of STD, the employer is required to pay STD through the end of the month prior to the retirement effective date and pay the applicable State Health Plan coverage premiums.
- Credit. Retirement credit in the amount of 1/12th year (regardless of employee's retirement service type) for each month while receiving a benefit, unless contributing membership credit is applicable.
- · Health Coverage. If an employee has 5 years of retirement membership service, under current law, he or she is eligible for paid individual coverage under the State Health Plan 70/30 Plan.

Under the Disability Income Plan, the employer funds the benefit and the health coverage premiums during the short-However, if requested, the employer may receive reimbursement for the benefit and the premiums paid during the second six months of the short-term period. (see Form 714).

The following is an overview of the short-term benefit process. The individual forms for the Disability Income Plan of North Carolina give detailed instructions.

Guide B. How do I complete the Form 711?

Please follow the instructions provided in Section B of this form to calculate the member's short-term benefit.

The following information serves as a guide to completing Section C of this form.

- Use each line, starting from the top left side of the chart, to record the short-term payments you paid to your employee in chronological order.
- · The check or direct deposit number requested in the chart should correspond to the check or transaction number of the direct deposit.

Step Action **Form**

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- 1. Member submits a completed application for short-701 term benefits (Form 701) to his/her employer along 703 with Form 703. Form 7A, and a job description (provided by his/her employer).
- 2. Employer completes sections A through C of Form 700, and submits the form to the Retirement Systems Division at the appropriate time.
- 3. Employer completes Form 711 to determine the 711 amount of the member's short-term benefit.
- 703 4. Member submits Form 703 (Earnings and Medical Report) to his/her employer.

- Member submits Form 703 (Earnings and Medical Report) on the first day of each calendar month within the short-term period to his/her employer.
- 2. Employer should record the benefit paid to the member each month on Form 711.

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1. If the member is eligible for additional benefits, he or she should submit an application (Form 704) approximately three months before the end of his/ her short-term period along with other required documents. See Form 704 Guides for details.

- "Date of payment" should be the day the check was issued or the direct deposit transaction was made.
- · The "date of payment" should occur after the "end date of period covered."
- Record the gross payment amount. This is the amount before any deductions or taxes.



Requesting Short-Term Benefits Through the Disability Income Plan of North Carolina

Please print or type in black ink.

Section A. Tell us a	bout yours	elf.			r leade print or type in black ink.
FIRST NAME		LAST NAMI	E	SUFFIX	
MAILING ADDRESS	11				SSN (Last 4 digits)
CITY		STATE	ZIP CODE	TELEPHONE NO.	MEMBER ID
E-MAIL ADDRESS		i	<u>l</u> , , , ,		DATE OF BIRTH
Section B. Please re	ead the gui	des and a	uthorize ben	efits with your signat	ure.
I am applying for the follow	ving benefit:				
		Short-term (ST) 🔲 Prelimin	ary long-term (PLT)	
I certify that my illness did n or intentional, self-inflicted in		active partic	sipation in a riot o	or committing or attempting	to commit a terrorist act, felony,
Retirement Systems Division	n any medica red to be as v	al records of alid as the o	or other informat	ion about my disability.	d release to my employer or the understand that a copy of this n is to be furnished at no cost to
I certify that I have read the while receiving benefits und indication of my eligibility for	ler this Plan.	I also unde	erstand that appi	not withdraw my contribution or preli	ons from the Retirement System minary long-term benefits is no
Member's Signature					Date
Section C. Employe	e, please c	omplete t	he following	information about yo	ur employer.
CURRENT OR LAST EMPL	OYER		EMP	LOYER CONTACT NAME	
Section D. Please s	ubmit this f	orm to yo	our employer		

This form is one part of an application for benefits from the Disability Income Plan of North Carolina.

You may submit this form independently of your employer, but doing so may cause a delay in the processing of your benefit, because the Retirement Systems Division will have to contact your employer to administer the benefit as necessary.

N.C. Department of State Treasurer, Retirement Systems Division



Guides to Requesting Short-Term Benefits Through the Disability Income Plan of North Carolina

Page 1 of 1

Guide A. Am I eligible for short-term (ST) or preliminary long-term (PLT) benefits?

(1) You must have earned at least one year (as defined by your retirement service type) of contributing membership service credit in the Teachers' and State Employees' Retirement System in the past 36 months to be eligible for short-term benefits through the Disability Income Plan of North Carolina. You are not eligible for these benefits if your illness began after your effective termination date.

(2) You must have either been physically at work or receiving pay for leave (sick, vacation, bonus, compensatory, shared, or other leave allowed by your personnel policy) or receiving temporary total Worker's Compensation benefits when your illness began, as certified by an authorized medical professional (physician, physician's assistant, family nurse practitioner, psychiatrist, psychologist, or chiropractor).

(3) Your qualifying illness must be expected to last longer than 60 days and continuously and directly impact the perfomance of your regular duties. If your illness is expected to last less than 365 days, you need to submit a monthly medical report (Form 703) to your employer. If your illness is expected to last more than 365 days, you must submit a monthly doctor certification (Form 703) to your employer unless the Retirement System Division's Medical Board has approved you for preliminary long-term disability. Being approved for preliminary long-term disability means that the Medical Board has approved you to receive up to the maximum of 365 days of short-term disability benefits. At the end of your preliminary long-term period, you will need to apply for long-term benefits, if eligible.

Guide B. Who will determine if my illness qualifies for short-term/preliminary long-term benefits?

The determination will be made by one of the following:

(a) Your employer will make the determination based on information provided by your medical professional.

Guide C. What is the 60-day waiting period?

You must complete a 60-day waiting period prior to beginning the short-term disability period.

If you return to work during your 60-day waiting period for five (5) days or less, your waiting period will be extended by the number

(b) You or your employer can request that the Medical Board make the determination based on information provided by your medical professional.

of days you worked, excluding weekends and holidays.

If you return to work during your 60-day waiting period for more than five (5) consecutive business days, then your 60-day waiting period will start over.

Guide D. What is the length of the short-term (ST) and/or preliminary long-term (PLT) benefit period?

You may use any remaining leave balance as a source of income instead of receiving a benefit during the short-term period. If you exhaust all leave during this period, the benefit will be available to you for the remainder of the 365 days, as long as you remain eligible for benefits.

The short-term period will end in one of the following ways, whichever is first:

- (a) A medical professional does not continue to certify your disability.
- (b) You return to work in the same capacity, unless you are returning for a period of trial rehabilitation.

Trial Rehabilitation: you may return to work in the same capacity for a period of up to 40 continuous days without resuming regular

active System participation. Contributions to the System are not withheld during trial rehabilitation and System credit is not earned.

(c) The benefit reaches the maximum allowable 365 days. If you have reached the end of the 365 days, you may apply for extended short-term or long-term benefits from the Disability Income Plan of North Carolina. You cannot apply for these benefits more than 90 days prior to your short-term period ending.

Preliminary long-term benefits are for members who have a disability that is expected to last longer than 365 days. However, the maximum preliminary long-term disability period for which you may be approved by the Medial Board is the entire 365 days of short-term disability benefits.

Guide E. What do I need to do to apply for short-term (ST) or preliminary long-term (PLT) benefits?

To apply for short-term disability benefits, contact your employer.

To apply for preliminary long-term benefits, you need to submit the following forms to the Retirement Systems Divison in one complete package:

Form 700 (Required Employer Information)
Form 701 (This form)
Job description (Provided by your employer)
Form 703 (Doctor Certification)
Form 7A (Medical Report)

If the Retirement Systems Divison does not receive all the above mentioned forms in one package, the processing and/or approval of your disability benefit may be delayed until all forms have been properly completed and received.

These guides are subject to and governed by the General Statutes of the State of North Carolina.

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GUIDE



Reporting Earnings for Short-Term Disability Benefits and Medical Report for Eligibility Review

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С	ITY		•		STATE	ZIP COD	Ē	TELEPHONE	NO.	DATE OF	BIRTH
Р	OSITION TIT	LE			<u> </u>					TODAY'S	DATE
S	ection B.	Please sul	omit t	his for	m on th	e 1st bus	siness d	ay of each	calendar	month.	
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	employer.	Source of Ir		_						ved Date	
3	Have you b	een approved	for pre	liminary	long-term	benefits?	•				YES NO 3
	If YES, you	do not need to	o comp	lete the	remainde	er of this for	m.				
	If NO, pleas professions	se have your e	employe hysicia	er comp in's assi	lete Sectionstant, fam	on H of this ily nurse pr	form. Nex	t, you must gi psychiatrist, p	ve this form esychologist	to your cert , or chiropra	ified medical actor) to complete
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Si	gnature of P	atient/Applica	ant						_Today's D	ate	_
P	lease conf	inue to the	next	page.					-		_

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Section E. Medical Professional, NAME OF MEDICAL PROFESSIONAL'S P					ctice.				
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MEDICAL PROFESSIONAL'S FIRST NAME	E MI	LAS	TNAME			TITL	=	LICENS	SE NO.
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CITY	5	TATE	ZIP CODE		ILELE	PMUI	NE NO.		IREMENT YSTEM
The Retirement System will not assum	ne any	respons	sibility for pay	ment of fe	es for furn	ishing	the requ	ested info	ormation.
Section F. FOR MEDICAL PROFE	ESSIC	NAL	USE ONLY	: Descr	ibe the	disal	oling ill	ness.	
 Medical Professional: As the patient's advanplicant for disability benefits and substantial 1 What is the principal cause of the disability 2 How does the disability impact the patien 	ate this lity? —	inform	ation so that t	he patient	t's eligibilit	y for	benefits (can be de	termined. 1
activities.	1(5110)	mai wo	ik activity: Li	st arry our	er restriction	J115 OI	mmado	is to the p	August 3
3 Please indicate the diagnosis(es) and wh	nether	each is	causing or co	ntributing	to the disa	ability			3
Diagnosis (Full Name F	Require	ed)		Causin	g or Conti	ributin	g?	Code (Optional)
5 What is the expected duration of the mer signature below? (This is an estimated to be disabled.) Section G. Medical Professional, hereby certify that the patient named in Secay given (Question 4) with the diagnosis(esthe could not perform his/her regular job throws:	pleastion A	me in w se cer of this (Quest	tify your e form became ion 3), and th	valuatio disabled a at he/she	n for the and unable was contir	e me	erform hi	s/her regued	extent that he
Physician's Sig	17 11 11 11								f Signature
			<u></u>	X 3a -				<u> </u>	
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EMPLOYER					<u> </u>		TELEP	HONE NO).
MAILING ADDRESS		-					FAX NO).	,
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Submit this form to your employer	to re	ceive	short-tern	beneft	s				
A.C. Department of State Treasurer, Retire 1200 Atlantic Avenue, Raleigh, North Card 1-877-NCSECURE (1-877-627-3287) toll-fre	olina 2		ns Division						REV 201407
		R LAS	T NAME		MEMBE	ER SS	SN (Last	4 digits)	70 ;



Form 7A **Medical Report for Disability Eligibility Review**

Department of State Treasurer, Retirement Systems Division 3200 Atlantic Avenue • Raleigh, NC 27604 • web: www.myncretirement.com phone: 877-NC-SECURE (877-627-3287) • fax: 919-855-5800

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Members should complete Sections A and B of this form. A licensed physician must complete all remaining sections. This form is not valid unless it is completed and signed by

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st Name	reil us about yourse	M:	Last Name		mber.)		Suffix	SSN (Last 4 digits)	
		<u></u>							
ling Address							Member ID		
City			te Zip	,	Telephone		Date of Birth		
: J	ob Title	<u> </u>	<u> </u>		f				
ection B.	Select the retiremen	ıt sys	stem. (To be	completed b	y the men	ıber.)			
Teachers' and S	 State Employees' Retirement System (T	SERS)			Legislative Re	tirement System (LRS)		——————————————————————————————————————	
Local Governm	ental Employees' Retirement System (L	GERS)			Consolidated	Judicial Retirement Syst	em (CJRS)		
Firefighters' and	d Rescue Squad Workers' Pension Fund	1							
ection C.	Tell us about the me	mbe	r's diagnosis	. (To be co	mpleted by	the physician	.)		
en is the date of I	the patient's most recent exam?							cent exam along with y	
	·					completed version	of this form.		
en did your practi	ice first see this patient?								
iagnosis ype	Full Diagnosis Name	Please o	io not abbreviate.)	ICD-1	8 Code (Req	uired):	Date of MM/DD/YY	Onset (Required). YY	
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ntributing									
ontributing									
ontributing							<u> </u>	_	
Vhen did the natio	ent become disabled?					7			
						لــ			
TE: You must p udes, but is not	rovide documentation that supports limited to:	s your a	agnosis, same as yo	ou would it anothe	er physician we	ere reviewing the patte	em s case. So	pporting documenta	

- CAT/MRI scans or other radiology reports (films and images are not accepted)
- Examination notes
- · Hospitalization records

- Mental Status Exam status notes
- · Other specialized test results supporting your diagnoses

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Member's Last Name	SSN (Last 4 digits)



Member's Last Name

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Form 7A Medical Report for Disability Eligibility Review

Patient's Height:	Physician's p	Inches Weigh	T Douada	
Has the patient of	equired any surgical pr	ocedure related to any disability listed in S	Section C? Yes No If yes, plea	ase provide documentation of each procedur
•		edication related to any disability listed in states these definitions of work type.	Section C? Yes No If yes, plea	ise attach a list of medication(s) and dosage:
SEDENT		LIGHT	MEDIUM	HEAVY
 Occasionally: pounds. 	most of the time. Exerting up to 10 legligible physical	Action: Requires walking or standing to a significant degree. OR- Occasionally: Exerting up to 20 pounds. Frequently: Exerting up to 10 pour Most Often: Negligible physical exertion.	pounds. • Frequently: Exerting up to 10-25 pounds. • Most Often: Exerting up to 10	 Occasionally: Exerting 50-100 pounds. Frequently: Exerting 20-50 pounds. Most Often: Exerting up to 10-20 pounds.
from the perform	s disability cause nim or lance of his or her usual function(s) is the patie		capacitated Temporary Incapacitation	Permanent Incapacitation
Section E.	Physician's n	nental assessment of the	member. (For mental diagnos	is only.)
·	icits in the following are	eas:		
lood and Affect:				·
bility to Relate:				
bility to Carry Out I		1.00		
bility to Follow Instr	ructions:			
bility to Concentrat	e:			<u> </u>
npairments to Judg	ment:			

SSN (Last 4 digits)

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Member's Last Name

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Form 7A Medical Report for Disability Eligibility Review

Does the patient's disability cause him or h from the performance of his or her usual or		emporarily	y incapacitated	Temporary Incapacitation	อัก	Permanent Incapacitation	
What specific job function(s) is the patient	unable to perform?						
		•					
Section F. Tell us about t	ne member's pi	ognos	is. (To be d	ompleted by l	icensed phy	sician.)	
Has the patient's condition changed since the	he date of disability?		improved	Unchanged	Worse	ned Unsure	
When do you anticipate that the patient car	return to work?		26817	2.48.7%			
When the patient returns to work, do you be will be able to return to work with or without			With Restriction	Without Restriction	ons		
Section G. Tell us about ye	our practice an	d certi	ify your a	iswers. (To b	e completed	by licensed phy	sician.)
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ote: Do not send a bill to the Retirement S sponsibility for payment of fees for furnishin Name of Practice/Facility Physician's First Name	ystems for completing th g the requested informat	is form. U	nless otherwise	specified, the North	Carolina Retireme	ent Systems Division wil	l not assume
Section G. Tell us about your content of the Retirement Sysponsibility for payment of fees for furnishing Name of Practice/Facility Physician's First Name Mailing Address City	ystems for completing th g the requested informat M.I.	is form. U	nless otherwise	specified, the North	Carolina Retireme	ent Systems Division wil	l not assume
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ote: Do not send a bill to the Retirement Sponsibility for payment of fees for furnishing larne of Practice/Facility Physician's First Name Mailing Address City Descrify by my signature that the informative stem will not accept this form with an arolina Retirement Systems Division is	ystems for completing the requested informating the requested information. M.I. Station I have provided in any erasures, strike-over not responsible for any experience.	Last Nate of this formers, white-	lame Zip n is true and a-outs or a star	Specified, the North Specified to the besonped signature.	Carolina Retirement ecialty Title elephone st of my knowled acknowledge the	License N	umber the Retiren

SSN (Last 4 digits)

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Form 7A Guides Medical Report for Disability Eligibility Review

Guide A. The purpose of this form

The Form 7A provides the North Carolina Retirement Systems Medical Board with your licensed physician's detailed diagnosis and assessment of your disability. The Medical Board is a panel of licensed physicians that will review your Form 7A, along with the supporting medical records that your physician supplies, to certify that your illness or condition makes you eligible for a disability benefit.

Disability Restrictions. Your disability must:

- occur while you are actively contributing to a North Carolina retirement system:
- incapacitate you from the performance of your usual occupation; and
- · be determined by a licensed physician.

Medical Board Review. After the Medical Board has reviewed your form, we will notify you by mail of the decision. If your application is approved, you

will receive a letter providing you with the additional steps you must take so that we can process your disability benefit. Your application may be rejected for one of the following reasons:

- Your application is incomplete.
- · You do not meet the eligibility requirements.
- Your application is completed by someone other than a licensed physician.
- The Medical Board has determined that you are not eligible for a disability benefit.

You may also be notified that the Medical Board requires additional information. In this case, you will have 90 days to return to your physician, request the additional information and submit it to the Retirement Systems Division. Delays in your response may result in a denial of your application.

Guide B. Information needed from the member.

Recent Visit. You must have visited the licensed physician who signs your Form 7A within the past six months.

Medical Bills. You are responsible for your medical bills. The Retirement Systems Division is not responsible for any payment of fees to your physician for completing the forms and providing the records necessary for your disability application.

Timely Response. Throughout the application process, you may be asked to provide additional documentation to the Retirement Systems Division. It is your responsibility to comply with any time limitations that apply to these requests. In the event that you are unable to respond within the time frame specified, be sure to contact the Retirement Systems Division in advance.

Guide C. Information needed from the licensed physician

This form must be completed by a licensed physician as completely as possible, and it must include an original signature. Forms that are completed by someone other than a licensed physician or forms that contain a stamped signature will be rejected.

Medical Documentation. The North Carolina Retirement Systems Medical Board will view this application, so it is important that you as the licensed physician provide thorough and accurate answers to the questions asked on this form and include copies of all current medical records within the last six months of the patient's most recent visit, lab reports, etc. that support your disability diagnosis.

Impaired Ability to Work. If, in your medical opinion, the member is no longer able to perform his or her usual occupation, be sure to fully document and explain how their ability is impaired in Section D and/or Section E.

Other Work. While assessing the member's ability to perform their usual occupation, be sure to thoroughly document whether, in your medical opinion, the member is capable of performing other types of work and to what degree he or she can perform that work.



Determining and Recording Short-Term Disability Benefits

Please print or type in black ink.

S	ection A. Employer, pleas	ер	rovide member's informa	tion.		
FI	RST NAME	MI	LAST NAME		M	EMBER ID
						<u></u> -
е.	ection B. Employer, calcu	late	the amount of the member	or's shor	rt torm bonefit	
					t-term benefit.	
1.	Annual base rate of compensa			employee		
	worked or exhausted leave, in his		time jobs to reach the membershi	ip	Initial Short-Term Disability Calculations	
	qualification of 30 hours per			·P	Disability Calculations) 1.
2.	Local supplement, if applicable					<u> </u>
			e rate; this amount is not greater	than the		2.
	annual base rate. (See Form 700	, Se	ction D, number /)			- -
3.	Subtotal: Add #1 to #2					」 3.
4.	Annual Longevity amount and	perc	entage, if applicable.	%		4.
	(See Form 700, Section D, numb] 7.
			or if the longevity does not appl tiply % of longevity times the am			4a.
	1 above; or	mui	uply % of longevity times the am	Ount ni #		
		ny a	pplicable local supplement, multi	iply % of		√ 4b.
	longevity times the amount in	1#3	above.			
5.	Total adjusted annual compet	nsati	on: Add #3 to #4a or #4b, which	chever is		5.
	applicable.					_
6.	Monthly rate of compensation:	Div	ide #5 by 12 (months).			6.
7.	Gross monthly short-term bene			.000,E\$ b		Ī _{7.}
	If greater than \$3,000, enter \$3,000,					」
			short-term disability (STD) pay			7a.
			by the number by the total not of STD, then multiply by the n			_
			STD in the first month of STD			
	this amount.					
			STD pay (if the last month is	a partial		7b.
	month only): Subtract #7a fi		≆/ and pay this amount. ⊢if the member was not paid STE) henefits		_
			irst month of STD (e.g., if the mer			
			#7 by the number of calendar da			
	last month of STD, then mult	iply	by the number of days the memb	er should		
	receive STD in the last month		partial month and last partial mor	nth (i.e		٦_
			efore the last partial month) are pa			_7c.
	monthly amount calculated in	# 7	regardless of how many days are	in a		
			STD amount is reduced due to re			
	See Guide A for more inform		or an earnable allowance offset).			

Section C. Employer, pl	ease reco	ord the sho	ort-term pa	/ments.			
Check or Direct Deposit Number (Optional)	Date of payment	Begin da perio cover	d per	od Gros	ss amount payment	*Less earnings reduction	Amount of the payment
							<u>:</u>
	<u> </u>						
* Complete only if the m	ember excee	eded his/her	earnable allov	ance during	his/her shor	t-term payment	period.
Section D. Employer, pl hereby certify that the informatio nowledge, and if any of this infor	n provided a	bout the emp	oloyee named	in Section A	is true and o		
imployer Contact Signature		•	-	•		_ Date	
EMPLOYER CONTACT FIRST N	IAME LAS	T NAME		E	MPLOYER	CONTACT JOE	TITLE
AGENCY NAME	_	<u> </u>				TELEPHONE	NO.
MAILING ADDRESS						FAX NO.	
CITY		STATE	ZIP CODE	E-MA	AL ADDRES	SS	
Thank you.							
I.C. Department of State Treas 200 Atlantic Avenue, Raleigh, 1 1 877 NGSECURE (4.877.627.22	North Carol	ina 27604	ns Division				REV 2014120
l-877-NCSECURE (1-877-627-32 vww.myncretirement.com		MEMBER LA	ST NAME	<u>-</u>	MEMBER	SSN (Last 4 dig	711
							Page 2 of

4.5 - Disability Income Plan

4.5.1 Plan Administration

The Disability Income Plan of North Carolina is administered by the North Carolina Department of the State Treasurer and the Board of Trustees of the Teachers' and State Employees' Retirement System within the terms and conditions of the Plan as set forth in the North Carolina General Statutes.

For employees vested in the Teachers' and State Employees' Retirement System after July 1, 2003, definitions of disability and disabled have been revised. Employees and employers need to contact the Retirement System to determine whether situations meet the requirements for the Disability Income Plan.

The information in this section is provided as a brief overview of the Disability Income Plan and does not substitute for or in any way alter the detailed provisions of the Retirement System law.

4.5.2 Short-Term Disability Benefits

Employees with at least one year of contributing membership service with the Teachers' and State Employees' Retirement System earned within 36 calendar months preceding the disability are eligible for short-term disability benefits.

After a waiting period of 60 continuous calendar days from the onset of a disability, an eligible employee may receive a monthly short-term benefit equal to 50% of $1/12^{th}$ of his or her annual base rate of compensation plus 50% of $1/12^{th}$ of his or her annual longevity payment, if any, to a maximum of \$3,000 per month.

A person in receipt of short-term disability benefits is covered under the Teachers' and State Employees' Comprehensive Major Medical Plan, with the State contributing the cost of employee-only coverage, provided the person had contributed to the Retirement System at least five years as a public school or state employee at the time of disability. A person in receipt of benefits who did not meet the five year requirement at the time of disability may elect to continue coverage under the Major Medical Plan by paying the full premium required.

Short-term disability benefits may be extended for as many as 365 days beyond the original short-term period in cases where the Medical Board finds that the disability continues to be temporary and is likely to end during the extended period.

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4.5.3 Long-Term Disability Benefits

Employees with at least five years of contributing membership service with the Teachers' and State Employees' Retirement System, earned within 96 calendar months prior to the end of the short-term disability period, are eligible for long-term disability benefits.

Long-term disability payments are payable after the conclusion of the short-term disability period. During the first 36 months of the long-term disability period, the monthly long-term benefit will equal 65% of $1/12^{th}$ of the employee's annual base rate of compensation that was last payable prior to the beginning of the short-term benefit period plus 65% of $1/12^{th}$ of the annual longevity payment, if any, to a maximum of \$3,900 per month. After the first 36 months of the long-term disability period, the long-term benefit is reduced by an amount equal to the primary Social Security disability benefit to which the employee might be entitled had he or she been awarded Social Security disability benefits.

A person in receipt of long-term disability benefits is covered under the Teachers' and State Employees' Comprehensive Major Medical Plan, with the State contributing the cost of employee-only coverage.

An employee approved for long-term disability benefits must terminate employment as a permanent employee prior to receiving long-term disability benefits.

An employee approved for long-term disability benefits who has not exhausted accumulated sick leave must be paid a lump sum for any available sick leave, if the employee is unable to apply the sick leave toward retirement. See Section 4.1.11. (Note: This does not include extended sick leave, and this is the only time an employee may be paid in lump sum for unused sick leave.)

4.5.4 More Information

Detailed information on the Disability Income Plan is available in the booklet <u>Your Retirement Benefits</u> published by the State Retirement System (919) 733-4191).

Legal Reference(s)

G.S. 135-100 to G.S. 135-114 NCGA 2003, H.B. 397, Sections 30.20(k) and 30.20(l)