

Survey: Emergency Medical Providers and Membership in Firefighter Relief Associations and the Statewide Volunteer Firefighter Plan

PLEASE READ BEFORE BEGINNING THE SURVEY: The goal of this survey is to determine the prevalence of emergency medical providers within fire departments and whether they are being included in the affiliated firefighter relief association or the Statewide Volunteer Firefighter Plan administered by the Public Employees Retirement Association (PERA).

For purposes of this survey, “emergency medical providers” means emergency medical responders (EMRs), emergency medical technicians (EMTs), and paramedics.

The survey should be completed by the fire chief or a deputy fire chief and, if the fire department is affiliated with a relief association, the fire chief or deputy may need to consult with the president or other officers of the relief association.

This is a survey conducted by the Legislative Commission on Pensions and Retirement (LCPR) on behalf of the [Work Group on Vesting and Emergency Medical Providers in Relief Associations and the SVF Plan](#). If you have any questions while completing the survey, please call or email [LCPR staff](#).

When you submit this form, it will not automatically collect your details like name and email address unless you provide it yourself.

1. What is your full name?
[open ended response]
2. What is your email?
[open ended response]
3. What is your phone number?
[open ended response]
4. What is your title? (include your title in the fire department and any title you have with the relief association, if the fire department is affiliated with a relief association)
Examples: Fire Chief; Captain; Relief Association President
[open ended response]
5. What is the name of your fire department?
[open ended response]

6. How are retirement benefits provided to the firefighters in your fire department?
(check all that apply)
- a. Retirement benefits are provided to firefighters by the affiliated relief association
 - b. Retirement benefits are provided to firefighters by the PERA Statewide Volunteer Firefighter Plan
 - c. Retirement benefits are provided to firefighters by the PERA Police and Fire Plan
 - d. Retirement benefits are provided to firefighters by the PERA General Plan
 - e. Retirement benefits are provided to firefighters by the PERA Defined Contribution Plan
7. Excluding compensation in the form of a retirement benefit, how are firefighters in your fire department compensated for their services? (check all that apply)
- a. No compensation (this does not include expenses, which may be reimbursed)
 - b. Paid by the hour
 - c. Paid per call
 - d. Salaried full-time
 - e. Salaried part-time
8. Does your fire department use the services of emergency medical providers (see the definition in the introduction [add link to definition])?
- a. Yes [continue with the rest of the survey]
 - b. No [jump to question 15 at the end of the survey]
9. What entity employs the emergency medical providers (or to what entity do they report)?
- a. City or township, directly or as part of the fire department
 - b. Joint powers entity
 - c. Independent nonprofit firefighting corporation
 - d. Private company
 - e. Other [open ended response]
10. How are emergency medical providers compensated for their services? (check all that apply)
- a. No compensation (this does not include reimbursement of expenses)
 - b. Paid by the hour

- c. Paid per call
- d. Salaried full-time
- e. Salaried part-time

11. How many emergency medical providers in your fire department also provide firefighting services?

[open ended response; limited to a numerical response]

12. How many emergency medical providers in your fire department only provide emergency medical services?

[open ended response; limited to a numerical response]

13. How are retirement benefits provided to emergency medical providers in your fire department?

- a. Retirement benefits are not provided to emergency medical providers
- b. Retirement benefits are provided to emergency medical providers by the affiliated relief association
- c. Retirement benefits are provided to emergency medical providers by the PERA Statewide Volunteer Firefighter Plan
- d. Retirement benefits are provided to emergency medical providers by the PERA Defined Contribution Plan
- e. Other [open ended response]

14. What criteria is used to determine service credit eligibility? If the service credit eligibility criteria is different for firefighters and emergency medical providers, explain the differences.

Examples: responding to a minimum percentage of fire calls; attending a certain percentage of meetings, trainings, and drills

[open ended response]

15. For each emergency medical provider in your fire department, provide the following: (1) the provider's first name; (2) the provider's number of years of service with the fire department; and (3) whether the provider does or does not provide firefighting services in addition to emergency medical services.

Examples: Jane, 15, does not provide firefighting services; John, 6, provides firefighting services

[open ended response]

16. Any other information you'd like to share with us about how emergency medical services are provided or the compensation and retirement benefits provided to emergency medical providers?

[open ended response]