

## Police Officer and Firefighter Changes

### Service Credit for Paid Leave

After certain employees return to work from being on paid leave, they can now receive service credit for that leave time. This change starts July 1, 2017, but is retroactive to July 1, 2014.

#### Who Is Affected?

- KP&F members
- KPERS members working as police officers or firefighters (not EMTs) who meet the statutory definition for KP&F membership

K.S.A. 74-4952 (11). A “fireman” is an employee assigned to the fire department whose principal duties are engagement in the fighting and extinguishment of fires and the protection of life and property therefrom and who is specifically designated, appointed, commissioned or styled as such by the governing body or city manager of the participating employer and certified to the retirement system as such.

K.S.A 74-4952 (12). A “policeman” is an employee assigned to the police department whose principal duties are engagement in the enforcement of law and maintenance of order within the state and its political subdivisions, including sheriffs and sheriffs’ deputies; who have successfully completed the required course of instruction for law enforcement officers approved by the Kansas law-enforcement training center.

#### Types of paid leave that qualify

- Administrative
- Vacation
- Sick
- Personal
- Workers’ compensation
- Light/temporary assignments

#### If an employee...

- Does not return to work in the same or similar position at the end of leave (except for death or disability), he or she will **lose** the service credit earned on leave.
- Voluntarily quits his or her job during leave, he or she can receive service credit for the **first 365 days** of leave.

This change is retroactive to July 1, 2014. Contact KPERS if you think this legislation will affect one of your employees.

#### Questions?

- Email [employers@kpers.org](mailto:employers@kpers.org)
- Toll-free 1-888-275-5737
- In Topeka 296-6166

