Taking a Refund of Your Contributions

About refunds
If you permanently terminate employment with an employer covered by TRSL, you can withdraw your employee contributions.

A refund includes only the contributions you have made. It does not include employer contributions or interest. A refund must be for the total amount of employee contributions.

Partial withdrawals are not allowed, and a refund cannot be borrowed or pledged against debt.

By accepting a refund, you terminate membership and cancel your service credit in TRSL. Therefore, you should carefully consider all the implications of any refund.

Applying for a refund
To apply for a refund, complete the Application for Refund (Form 7) on the reverse side. By law, your former employer cannot certify the refund application until 90 days after your resignation or termination. The application is then forwarded to TRSL for payment.

Refund checks are issued twice a month on the 5th and 20th.

TRSL must receive Form 7 with original signatures. Photocopies and faxes are unacceptable.

Rolling over a refund
Tax-sheltered contributions
A refund of tax-sheltered contributions is eligible for rollover into a traditional IRA, Roth IRA or transfer to another employer retirement plan that accepts the funds.

Unsheltered contributions
If you made after-tax contributions (unsheltered), these contributions may be rolled into either a traditional IRA or to certain employer plans that accept rollovers of the after-tax contributions.

A refund rolled over into a “conduit” IRA may be used to repurchase TRSL service credit in the future. A conduit IRA contains only funds that were rolled over from a qualified retirement plan plus any interest or dividends earned on those funds.

Income tax withholding
If any portion of the refund is eligible for a rollover distribution but is paid directly to you, TRSL is required to withhold 20 percent of the sheltered distribution for federal income tax.

You may also be subject to an additional 10 percent federal withholding penalty for early withdrawal of retirement funds. This penalty is in addition to any income taxes owed.

For information on rolling over your contributions and federal income tax withholding, please read our brochure Special Tax Notice Regarding TRSL Payments.

For members with five or more years of service credit

• Active members considering terminating employment due to illness or injury should note that they may be eligible for TRSL disability benefits. Contact TRSL for more information.

• Members who terminate employment may leave their contributions on deposit with TRSL and begin receiving a benefit at age 60. Contact TRSL to request an estimate of deferred retirement benefits.

• Members who wish to take a refund will need to complete both Form 7, and a Request for Refund Rather than Retirement Benefit (Form 7E). Form 7E must be notarized, and the signed original returned to TRSL before a refund disbursement can be issued.

Income tax withholding for non-US citizens
If you are a non-US citizen and are subject to income tax withholding, you should contact your tax advisor or the IRS for information on how to avoid or reduce withholding.
Application for Refund

Refunds cannot be processed until 90 days after your termination date. If you have at least five years of service, you must also complete a Request for Refund Rather Than Retirement Benefit (Form 7E), which will be mailed to you after TRSL receives this application. Members who change employment to another Louisiana public agency may be eligible to transfer their TRSL membership to the applicable Louisiana retirement system instead of refunding. Refunds of accumulated contributions paid directly to you are exempt from Louisiana income tax.

Section 1 — Member Information (must be completed by applicant)

Name: Last, first, M., suffix (Jr., III, etc.)

SSN

Last date of employment (mm-dd-yyyy)

Telephone number(s)

Provide agency name if transferring to a Louisiana public agency:

Section 2 — Distribution Option (must be completed by applicant)

In accordance with provisions of the Unemployment Compensation Amendments of 1992, P.L. 102-318, all tax-sheltered distributions require a mandatory 20% withholding unless the distribution is less than $200 or rolled over by TRSL into an IRA or transferred to another qualified plan.

Check one of the following distribution options:

☐ I want my total distribution paid directly to me. I am aware of the mandatory 20% federal income tax withholding on tax-sheltered distributions.

☐ I want my unsheltered (after-tax) contributions sent to me and the tax-sheltered distribution directly rolled over to an IRA or transferred to the qualified plan named below.

☐ I want $______________________ of my contributions sent to me and the remaining amount rolled over to an IRA or transferred to the qualified plan named below. I am aware of the mandatory 20% federal income tax withholding on tax-sheltered distributions paid directly to me.

Additional Federal Income Tax Withholding

☐ I want TRSL to withhold an additional 10% in federal income tax withholding from all tax-sheltered distributions paid directly to me.

Direct Deposit (available for distributions paid directly to you)

☐ Check here if direct deposit, instead of a paper check, is desired.

Direct Deposit for Refund of Contributions

A Form 7D, which is available at www.trsl.org, or by calling 225-925-6477 or 6449, must also be completed. If Form 7D is not received by TRSL at least three days prior to your refund being issued, then payment will be mailed to the address in Section 1 above.

Financial Institution Information (provide only when requesting a rollover or transfer)

Indicate which of the following plans (to the right) you have chosen to receive a rollover or trustee-to-trustee transfer. Check only one.

☐ Traditional IRA

☐ Roth IRA

☐ Qualified plan, specify type: ____________________________________

Name of institution

Name and title of contact person

Mailing address

City, state, zip

Telephone number

Account number

I hereby make application for the distribution of all employee contributions to my credit held at TRSL. By this application for refund, I do hereby waive for myself, my heirs, and my assigns all my rights, title, and interest in TRSL. I have received and read the brochure concerning rollovers. I understand that failure to complete Section 2 above will result in payment made directly to me less the mandatory 20% withholding from the taxable distribution. I understand that if I have five or more years of service credit, I must also complete a Request for Refund Rather Than Retirement Benefit (Form 7E). I hereby certify the information entered on this form is true, correct, and complete.

Member’s signature (Do not print or type) Date signed (mm-dd-yyyy)

Section 3 — Agency Certification (must be completed by employer)

I certify that the above named person is no longer employed by __________________________________________________________________________

as of ___________/_________/_________, which was either the last day of work for which the member received pay or was the member’s last day of leave.

Employer signature (authorized representative) Date signed (at least 90 days after termination date)