

74-4927a. Insured death and disability benefits for certain employees of educational institutions under state board of regents. (1) For the purposes of providing the "insured death benefit" and "insured disability benefit" as prescribed in K.S.A. 74-4927, and amendments thereto, the term "member" as used in K.S.A. 74-4927, and amendments thereto, shall include those members of the faculty and other persons, as defined in subsection (1) (a) of K.S.A. 74-4925, and amendments thereto, who are eligible to participate in the retirement plan of the state board of regents as provided in K.S.A. 74-4925, and amendments thereto.

(2) Each educational institution under the management of the state board of regents shall pay to the Kansas public employees retirement system in such manner as the board of trustees shall prescribe each payroll period an amount sufficient to pay the employer's contribution to the group insurance reserve as provided in K.S.A. 74-4927, and amendments thereto. Subsection (2) of K.S.A. 74-4932, and amendments thereto, shall also apply in determining such contributions and benefits.

(3) Each educational institution under the management of the state board of regents shall maintain a file of the beneficiaries named by the persons covered under the provisions of this act in the form and manner as prescribed by the board of trustees.

(4) Except as otherwise provided, in the event that a member of the faculty or other person defined in subsection (1)(a) of K.S.A. 74-4925, and amendments thereto, who is an active participant in the retirement plan of the state board of regents becomes eligible for and begins to receive the insured disability benefit prescribed in K.S.A. 74-4927, and amendments thereto, the state board of regents shall continue to make the contributions on behalf of such individual to the retirement plan of the state board of regents provided under subsection (1)(c) of K.S.A. 74-4925 and 74-4925e, and amendments thereto, and shall also contribute to the retirement plan an amount equal to the individual's contribution required under subsection (b)(1) of K.S.A. 74-4925, and amendments thereto. Commencing on and after July 1, 2005, such contributions shall cease at the earliest of: (A) The date that the individual is no longer entitled to an insured disability benefit under K.S.A. 74-4927, and amendments thereto; (B) the date that is five years after the date the individual becomes eligible for and begins to receive the insured disability benefit prescribed in K.S.A. 74-4927, and amendments thereto; or (C) the date required by section 403(b)(3) of the federal internal revenue code. For purposes of applying this subsection, compensation under subsections (1)(b) and (1)(c) of K.S.A. 74-4925, and amendments thereto, means the individual's compensation at the time the individual became disabled as defined under the insured disability program prescribed in K.S.A. 74-4927, and amendments thereto. Retirement plan contributions under this subsection shall be made in accordance with the requirements of section 403(b)(3) of the federal internal revenue code.

(5) The state board of regents may establish a plan of long-term disability benefits to be paid to members of the faculty or other persons defined in subsection (1)(a) of K.S.A. 74-4925, and amendments thereto, who become eligible for an insured disability benefit under K.S.A. 74-4927, and amendments thereto, and who satisfy the eligibility criteria set forth in this subsection. Long-term disability benefits paid under this subsection shall be in the same amount payable to the retirement plan of the state board of regents under subsection (4), but shall be paid on a taxable basis. Long-term disability benefits under this subsection shall be payable to a member of the faculty or other person defined in subsection (1)(a) of K.S.A. 74-4925, and amendments thereto, who:

(A) Is an active participant in the retirement plan of the state board of regents on July 1, 2005; has less than 10 years of participation in the retirement plan of the state board of regents as of July 1, 2005; becomes entitled to the insured disability benefit prescribed in K.S.A. 74-4927, and amendments thereto, before July 1, 2010; and has been a participant in the retirement plan of the state board of regents continuously from July 1, 2005, until the date entitled to the insured disability benefit prescribed in K.S.A. 74-4927, and amendments thereto;

(B) is an active participant in the retirement plan of the state board of regents on July 1, 2005; has 10 or more years of participation in the retirement plan of the state board of regents as of July 1, 2005; becomes entitled to the insured disability benefit prescribed in K.S.A. 74-4927, and amendments thereto; and has been a participant in the retirement plan of the state board of regents continuously from July 1, 2005, until the date entitled to the insured disability benefit prescribed in K.S.A. 74-4927, and amendments thereto;

(C) is receiving the insured disability benefit prescribed in K.S.A. 74-4927, and amendments thereto, on July 1, 2005; or

(D) is disabled within the meaning of K.S.A. 74-4927, and amendments thereto, on July 1, 2005, but is still in the waiting period, if any, before the insured disability benefit prescribed in K.S.A. 74-4927, and amendments thereto, begins.

In no event is an individual who is not an active participant in the retirement plan of the state board of regents on July 1, 2005, entitled to a long-term disability benefit under this subsection. An eligible individual shall begin receiving long-term disability benefits under this subsection at such time that the individual is no longer entitled to retirement plan contributions under subsection (4), and shall cease receiving long-term disability benefits under this subsection at such time that the individual is no longer entitled to the insured disability benefit prescribed in K.S.A. 74-4927, and amendments thereto. In no event shall long-term disability benefits payable under this subsection in any way reduce the insured disability benefits prescribed in K.S.A. 74-4927, and amendments thereto, nor shall long-term disability benefits payable under this subsection in any way delay the commencement of payment of the insured disability benefits prescribed in K.S.A. 74-4927, and amendments thereto.

(6) The state board of regents shall have the authority to establish and adjust from time to time the procedures for financing and administering the long-term disability plan authorized by this section. The long-term disability benefit may be financed directly by the state board of regents or by one or more insurance companies authorized and licensed to transact group life and group accident and health insurance in Kansas. The state board of regents may also contract with one or more insurance companies authorized and licensed to transact group life and group accident and health insurance in Kansas to underwrite or to administer, or both, the long-term disability benefit under this section. Each such contract with an insurance company under this subsection shall be entered into on the basis of competitive bids solicited and administered by the state board of regents, and such competitive bids shall be based on specifications prepared by the board.

(7) In the event the state board of regents purchases one or more policies of group insurance from such company or companies to finance the long-term disability plan, the board shall have the authority to subsequently cancel one or more of such policies and, notwithstanding any other provision of law, to release each company which issued any such canceled policy from any liability for future benefits under any such policy and to have the reserves

established by such company under any such canceled policy returned to the state board of regents.

(8) Any member of the faculty or other person defined in K.S.A. 74-4927, and amendments thereto, may elect to continue to participate in the insured disability plan and insured death plan as prescribed in K.S.A. 74-4927, and amendments thereto, while on leave of absence without compensation from an educational institution under the management of the state board of regents. Such member or person's election is valid only if such member or person files notice of such election with such member's or person's educational institution. Such member or person shall remit an amount equal to the required contributions to such educational institution. The educational institution shall report and remit such contributions in the same form and manner as other contributions are remitted by such educational institution. Such contributions shall not be more than such contributions would have been had such member or person not commenced such leave of absence. Upon returning to employment with an educational institution under the management of the state board of regents, for such member or person who elects to continue coverage as provided in this subsection, the provisions of subsections (1) through (5) of this section shall apply.

History: L. 1973, ch. 324, § 1; L. 1981, ch. 315, § 3; L. 1983, ch. 254, § 11; L. 1986, ch. 294, § 8; L. 1989, ch. 232, § 13; L. 1998, ch. 64, § 54; L. 2005, ch. 196, § 11; May 19.