



# VESTING

[WWW.TCDRS.ORG](http://WWW.TCDRS.ORG) ★ 800-823-7782



*As a TCDRS member*

# YOU'LL REACH IMPORTANT MILESTONES

on the road to retirement.

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Understanding the requirements for retirement eligibility and knowing when you reach them will help you get the most out of your benefits so you can retire with confidence.

One of the milestones to retirement is vesting; the opportunity to receive a lifetime monthly benefit in the future.

TCDRS will contact you when you become vested.

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*You can see where you are  
on the road to reaching  
this milestone by signing  
into your account at*

**WWW.TCDRS.ORG.**

## WHAT IS VESTING?

Vesting with TCDRS means you have enough service time to receive a lifetime monthly benefit when you become eligible and choose to retire.

*The amount of service time you need for **VESTING** is determined by your employer and could be either 5, 8 or 10 years.*

## RETIREMENT ELIGIBILITY

Vesting is an important step on the road to retirement. Once you are vested, you are eligible to retire at age 60. Your employer's plan, however, may have eligibility requirements that allow you to retire earlier.

You are eligible to retire when you meet one of the following requirements:

- ★ Vested and age 60
- ★ Service time plus age equals 75 or 80 (set by your employer)
- ★ Completed 20 or 30 years of service (set by your employer)

Sign in to your account at [www.tcdrs.org](http://www.tcdrs.org) to see the earliest date you are eligible to retire.

*You can see for yourself where you are at this milestone by signing into your account.*

## EMPLOYER MATCHING

Once you are vested with your employer's TCDRS plan, you have the right to a monthly benefit — which includes employer matching — when you reach retirement age, even if you stop working for your employer. However, if you withdraw the money instead of choosing a monthly benefit, you don't get employer matching.

It's your monthly benefit — a lifetime payment every month from TCDRS — that includes employer matching.

## LEAVING YOUR JOB

Just because you leave your job doesn't mean you have to withdraw your account. In fact, if you leave your job, there is a good reason to keep your money with TCDRS. Your money will grow every year as long as the account remains open.

*As long as you don't withdraw  
your money, your account  
continues to **EARN 7%**  
compound interest each year.*

*are on the road to reaching this  
point at **WWW.TCDRS.ORG.***



## WE'RE HERE TO HELP

*If you have any questions,  
please visit **WWW.TCDRS.ORG**  
or call **TCDRS MEMBER SERVICES**  
at **800-823-7782.***

We're available Monday through Friday  
from 7:30 a.m. to 6 p.m., CST.