

Death Benefit under the Deferred Retirement Option Program (DROP)

Service-Connected Death during the DROP (Death-In-the-Line-of-Duty)

If the member dies on or after the effective date of enrollment in the DROP, a 100% Joint and Last Survivor allowance will be paid to the member's surviving spouse or, if no spouse, the child or children under the age of 18 in accordance with Section 78-314 of the Code of the City of Richmond (or other applicable death benefit provisions) as if the member never elected participation in the DROP. The member's creditable service will be recalculated and extended to age 65, and the DROP account balance will be forfeited.

If the member does not have a spouse or minor child(ren) at the time of their service-connected death, their DROP account balance will be paid to the beneficiary on file with the Richmond Retirement System (RRS). If the member selected a survivor option payment upon entry into the DROP, their designated survivor will receive a monthly survivor allowance.

Beneficiaries of members who were hired prior to June 13, 1988 may be eligible for a one-time lump sum death benefit of up to \$1,000.

Non-Service-Connected Death during DROP

If the member dies on or after the effective date of enrollment in the DROP, the member's beneficiary will receive the balance in their DROP account plus the death benefit, if applicable. If a survivor option was selected upon entry into the DROP, the member's designated survivor will receive a monthly survivor allowance.

Beneficiary Designation

Members will have an opportunity to designate a beneficiary(ies) when they complete a retirement application. The member may change their beneficiary at any time. If a beneficiary is not elected benefits will be paid in accordance with the order of precedence set forth in Section 78-313 of the Code of the City of Richmond.