

## PRE-RETIREMENT CHECKLIST



Sonoma County Employees' Retirement Association  
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### 5 years

- **Initiate** any service credit purchase contracts so that you have time to pay them off.
- **Attend** the Planning to Retire seminar. Check out our Retirement Planning Seminars by logging into your MYSCERA.org account.

### 2 years

- **Request a formal estimate** within two years of your anticipated retirement date by submitting a Retirement Estimate Request form.
- **Gather or order** all of the documents you will need for retirement:
  - Photocopy of your birth certificate or front page of your passport  
(An expired passport is acceptable.)
  - Photocopy of birth certificate or passport of your spouse/domestic partner.
  - Photocopy of registered marriage certificate or state domestic partnership.  
\*You may submit these in advance of your retirement.
- **Update** your beneficiary information whenever necessary.

### 1 year

- **Initiate** or try to complete any remaining service credit purchase contracts.
- **Contact** reciprocal retirement system(s) if you have reciprocity.
- **Submit** divorce documentation if applicable.
- **Request** an updated benefit estimate (if any changes in salary and/or FTE).
- **Narrow** down your prospective retirement effective dates.
- **Update** your beneficiary information, if necessary.

### 60 days

- **Submit** application and supporting documents for Service Retirement: *Your Application for Service Retirement* can be submitted no earlier than 60 days of your retirement date.
- **Contact** reciprocal retirement system(s) if you have reciprocity and complete their retirement application process. You must retire from all reciprocal retirement systems on the **same date**.