



New Hampshire Retirement System, 54 Regional Drive, Concord, New Hampshire 03301-8507, (603) 410-3500

**DESIGNATION OF DEATH BENEFICIARY(IES) (PRE-RETIREMENT)**

**READ INSTRUCTIONS BEFORE COMPLETING FORM**

**EXPLANATORY INFORMATION:**

**Accidental Death Benefit:** For information on eligibility and benefit amounts, see the reverse side of this form and RSA 100-A:8.

**Ordinary Death Benefit:** For information on eligibility and benefit amounts, see the reverse side of this form and RSA 100-A:9.

**Primary Beneficiary(ies):** Your primary death beneficiary is the person(s) you designate to receive any NHRS death benefit, subject to the restrictions of RSA 100-A:8 and RSA 100-A:9, that may be due if you die before retirement. If you choose, you may designate a trust or your estate as your primary beneficiary.

**Contingent Beneficiary(ies):** If you die before retirement and your primary death beneficiary(ies) predeceases you, the person(s) you designate as your contingent death beneficiary(ies) may receive any death benefit and refund of contributions that may be payable at your death. If you choose, you may designate a trust or your estate as your contingent beneficiary.

**INSTRUCTIONS:**

**STEP 1** – To designate one primary beneficiary, complete Section I, Part A in full. Do not complete Section I, Part B.  
**OR**

To designate multiple primary beneficiaries, complete Section I, Part B in full. Do not complete Section I, Part A.

**STEP 2** – To designate a contingent beneficiary(ies), complete Section II.

**STEP 3** – Section III must include your signature, which must be acknowledged by a Notary Public or Justice of the Peace. This form must be completed and filed with the New Hampshire Retirement System for this beneficiary designation to take effect. If a trust is named as a beneficiary, a completed Pre-Retirement Death Benefits Designation of a Trust as Beneficiary form must be filed with this form.

**SECTION I – DESIGNATION OF PRIMARY BENEFICIARY(IES)**

**PART A – ONE PRIMARY BENEFICIARY** (If you complete Part A, DO NOT complete Part B.)

I designate the following person as my primary beneficiary.

Primary Beneficiary's Name	Primary Beneficiary's Address	Primary Beneficiary's Social Security #	Primary Beneficiary's Date of Birth	Relationship to Member
1.				

**PART B – MULTIPLE PRIMARY BENEFICIARIES** (If you complete Part B, DO NOT complete Part A.)

I designate the following people as my primary beneficiaries. (To designate additional multiple primary beneficiaries, check here \_\_\_\_\_ and attach signed and acknowledged supplemental information to this form.) \* The sum of the distribution percentages must equal 100%.

Primary Beneficiaries' Names	* Distribution Percentage	Primary Beneficiaries' Addresses	Primary Beneficiaries' Social Security #'s	Primary Beneficiaries' Dates of Birth	Relationship to Member
1.	%				
2.	%				
3.	%				

**SECTION II – DESIGNATION OF CONTINGENT BENEFICIARY(IES)**

I designate the following person(s) as my contingent beneficiary(ies). (To designate additional contingent beneficiaries, check here \_\_\_\_\_ and attach signed and acknowledged supplemental information to this form.) \* The sum of the distribution percentages must equal 100%.

Contingent Beneficiary(ies)' Name(s)	* Distribution Percentage	Contingent Beneficiary(ies)' Address(es)	Contingent Beneficiary(ies)' Social Security #'s	Contingent Beneficiary(ies)' Dates of Birth	Relationship to Member
1.	%				
2.	%				
3.	%				

**SECTION III – MEMBER'S SIGNATURE AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

My designation of the above named beneficiary(ies) revokes any prior NHRS Designation of Death Beneficiary(ies) (Pre-Retirement) which I may have filed.

Member's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Member's Address \_\_\_\_\_

Member's Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_ Social Security # \_\_\_\_\_-\_\_\_\_\_-\_\_\_\_\_

State of \_\_\_\_\_ County of \_\_\_\_\_

The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me this \_\_\_\_\_ by \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Person Taking Acknowledgement \_\_\_\_\_ Title (notary public or justice of the peace) \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date \_\_\_\_\_ Affix Seal

## **ACCIDENTAL DEATH BENEFIT (RSA 100-A:8)**

### **Group I**

If, before retirement but while “in service” in Group I, you die as a natural and proximate result of an accident occurring while in the performance of duty at some definite time and place and not the result of your willful negligence, then one of the following classes of individuals may be eligible to receive an accidental death benefit. The statutory order of priority is your surviving spouse, if no surviving spouse, your surviving children under age 18, if no surviving children under age 18, your surviving dependent father or dependent mother and if no surviving dependent father or dependent mother, your designated beneficiary or beneficiaries. The death benefit which may be payable to a surviving spouse, surviving children under age 18 or surviving dependent father or dependent mother is an annuity equal to 50 percent of your average final compensation.

If none of the foregoing individuals survives you or meets the eligibility requirements for the foregoing benefit, then the death benefit which may be payable to your designated beneficiary or beneficiaries is a lump sum amount equal to your base salary plus accrued benefits not paid at the time of death, in addition to a refund of your accumulated contributions.

### **Group II**

If, before retirement but while “in service” in Group II, you die as a natural and proximate result of an accident occurring while in the performance of duty at some definite time and place, or as a natural and proximate result of repeated trauma or gradual degeneration occurring while in the actual performance of duty or arising out of and in the course of employment or of any occupational disease arising out of or in the course of employment (as defined by RSA 281-A: 2. XI and found to be compensable by the Commissioner of Labor), and not as a result of your willful negligence, then one of the following classes of individuals may be eligible to receive an accidental death benefit. The statutory order of priority is your surviving spouse, if no surviving spouse, your surviving children under age 18, if no surviving children under age 18, your surviving dependent father or dependent mother, and if no surviving dependent father or dependent mother, your designated beneficiary or beneficiaries. The death benefit which may be payable to a surviving spouse, surviving children under age 18 or surviving dependent father or dependent mother is an annuity equal to 50 percent of your annual rate of earnable compensation at the time of death.

If none of the foregoing individuals survives you or meets the eligibility requirements for the foregoing benefit, then the death benefit which may be payable to your designated beneficiary or beneficiaries is a lump sum amount equal to your base salary plus accrued benefits not paid at the time of death, in addition to a refund of your accumulated contributions.

## **ORDINARY DEATH BENEFIT (RSA 100-A:9)**

If you die before retirement but while “in service,” your beneficiary or beneficiaries may be entitled to receive the following ordinary death benefit, depending on the cause of your death and the benefit provided.

If you are married, have designated only your spouse as primary beneficiary and die after completing at least 10 years of creditable service or after having become eligible to retire under service retirement, then your spouse may elect to receive a monthly pension. This monthly benefit – which continues until your spouse dies or remarries – is 50 percent of the service retirement allowance earned to your date of death. Instead of a monthly pension, if your spouse prefers, he or she may receive a refund of your accumulated contributions and a lump sum payment equal to your annual earnable compensation.

If you leave no surviving spouse, or if you have not completed at least 10 years of creditable service and are not eligible to retire at the time of your death; or if you designate a beneficiary(ies) other than your spouse, then your beneficiary(ies) will automatically receive a refund of your accumulated contributions and a lump sum payment equal to your annual earnable compensation.