

**49-12-301 Contributions -- Two levels -- Election by a participating employer to pay employee contributions -- Accounting for and vesting of member contributions -- Deductions.**

- (1) Participating employers and members shall jointly pay the certified contribution rates to the office to maintain this system on a financially and actuarially sound basis.
- (2) For purposes of determining contribution rates, this system is divided into two levels according to participating employers as follows:
  - (a) Level A includes the state, its independent agencies, independent entities, public corporations, and other instrumentalities, all participating educational institutions, and all other participating employers whose activities are associated with participating educational institutions.
  - (b) Level B includes all other participating employers in this system.
- (3)
  - (a) A participating employer may elect to pay all or part of the required member contributions, in addition to the required participating employer contributions.
  - (b) Any amount contributed by a participating employer under this section shall vest to the member's benefit as though the member had made the contribution.
  - (c) The required member contributions shall be reduced by the amount that is paid by the participating employer.
- (4)
  - (a) All member contributions are credited by the office to the account of the individual member.
  - (b) This amount, together with refund interest, is held in trust for the payment of benefits to the member or the member's beneficiaries.
  - (c) All member contributions are vested and nonforfeitable.
- (5)
  - (a) Each member is considered to consent to payroll deductions of member contributions.
  - (b) The payment of compensation less these payroll deductions is considered full payment for services rendered by the member.

Renumbered and Amended by Chapter 250, 2002 General Session