

# Department of Human Resources

## CalPERS Death Benefits

In the event of your death while you are employed as a Solano County employee, the amount your beneficiary is entitled to is based on the following:

**1. If you were not eligible to retire at time of death (Classic - Under age 50 or PEPRA New – Under age 52 or over with less than five years of CalPERS-credited service) your beneficiary will receive the following:**

### Basic Death Benefit

Your Beneficiary will receive a lump-sum payment of:

1. a refund of your contributions, plus interest, and
2. up to six months pay (one month's salary rate for each year of service to a maximum of six months).

And

**1959 Survivor Benefit – Level #4 *For Safety members not covered under Social Security while employed under a CalPERS covered agency.*** The 1959 Survivor Benefit provides a monthly allowance to eligible survivors of members who were covered by the benefit program and died before retirement.

**2. If you are eligible to Retire at time of death (Classic - age 50 or older or PEPRA New – over age 52 or older, and with a minimum of five years of CalPERS-credited service) your beneficiary will receive the following:**

### 1957 Survivor Benefit

This benefit provides a monthly allowance equal to ½ of what your highest service retirement allowance would have been had you retired on the date of your death. Those eligible to receive this allowance are:

1. your spouse (if married at least one year before death), until death: or
2. your natural or adopted unmarried children under age 18 (if you have no eligible spouse).

**Or**

### Basic Death Benefits will be paid if:

1. no one is eligible for the monthly allowance above, or
2. someone who is eligible for monthly allowance above chooses instead to receive the Basic Death Benefit.

Your beneficiary will receive a lump-sum payment of:

1. a refund of your contributions plus interest, and
2. up to six months pay (one month's salary rate for each year of current service to a maximum of six months).