

PERA will administer the Probation & Telecommunicator (PO & TC) Plan for local government probation officers and public safety telecommunicators, effective January 1, 2027. The PO & TC Plan replaces the Coordinated Plan for eligible positions—except for employees who are eligible for the Rule of 90. Eligibility must be confirmed through employer certification.

ELIGIBLE POSITIONS

The PO & TC Plan applies to two positions defined in statute. Eligible employees should be enrolled under the position title that qualifies them for the plan, even if their actual job title is different. However, employees in the Correctional Plan, such as dual dispatchers/jailers, should be enrolled in the Correctional Plan rather than the PO & TC Plan.

PROBATION OFFICER

A “probation officer” means a person whom the employer certifies is a public employee as defined in Minnesota Statutes, section 353.01, and

1. Is employed as a probation officer by a county, community corrections agency, or state probation agency, and provides community supervision services with direct offender contact; or
2. Directly supervises one or more persons described in clause (1).

PUBLIC SAFETY TELECOMMUNICATOR

A “public safety telecommunicator” means a person whom the employer certifies is a public employee as defined in Minnesota Statutes, section 353.01, is employed by a primary or secondary public safety answering point, and

1. Serves as a first responder by receiving, assessing, or processing requests for assistance from the public and other public safety partners, and coordinates the appropriate public safety response;
2. As part of the person's employment position, is assigned less than 50 percent of the time to perform employment duties that are other than duties described in clause (1); or
3. Directly supervises one or more persons described in clauses (1) or (2).

POSITION CERTIFICATION

How and when you certify an employee's eligible position depends on the employee's hire date.

HIRED BEFORE JANUARY 1, 2027

- » On September 1, 2026, PERA emailed eligible employers a template to certify their active employees.
- » PERA will enroll the certified employees in the PO & TC Plan.

HIRED ON OR AFTER JANUARY 1, 2027

- » If the employee's hire date is January 1, 2027, or later, enroll them in the PO & TC Plan through ERIS.
- » ERIS will prompt you to complete the certification.

Contact eligibility@mnpera.org now if:

- » You hired an eligible employee before January 1, 2027, but did not include them on the certification report.
- » You did not receive the certification report and have employees who are eligible for the PO & TC Plan.
- » If a certified employee terminates before January 1, 2027.

PO & TC PLAN COMPARISON

Coordinated Plan service earned through December 31, 2026 is governed by Coordinated Plan rules. Service earned on or after January 1, 2027 will be governed by the rules of the PO & TC Plan.

	COORDINATED PLAN (PAST SERVICE)	PO & TC PLAN (FUTURE SERVICE)
Contribution Rates	The employer rate is 7.5% The employee rate is 6.5%	The employer rate is 7.5% The employee rate is 8% for pay issued through paid date August 31, 2028 and 8.82% for pay issued on or after September 1, 2028.
Retirement Age	Early retirement age is 55. Full retirement age is 66.	Early retirement age is 55. Full retirement age is 60.
Social Security	Coordinates with Social Security.	Referendum to coordinate with Social Security.

CONTRIBUTION REPORTING

Report earnings for work performed through December 31, 2026, under the Coordinated Plan. Earnings for work performed on or after January 1, 2027, should be reported under the PO & TC Plan.

If a paycheck includes earnings from both 2026 and 2027, split the earnings and report them separately by the dates the work was performed.

For example, for a pay date of January 22, 2027, with a pay period of December 23, 2026–January 5, 2027, report earnings for:

- » December 23–31, 2026, under the Coordinated Plan (Plan ID: 2), and
- » January 1–5, 2027, under the PO & TC Plan (Plan ID: 4).

MEMBER PURCHASE OPPORTUNITY

Members who move to the PO & TC Plan on January 1, 2027, can make a one-time purchase to transfer eligible prior service from the Coordinated Plan to the PO & TC Plan. This gives that service the PO & TC Plan's higher multiplier and earlier unreduced retirement age. The purchase price is actuarially equivalent to the value of the added benefit.

PROCESS

1. The member requests an estimate.
2. The member will give you a certification form.
3. You complete the form with the dates the member worked as a probation officer or telecommunicator while contributing to the Coordinated Plan, then return it to PERA.
4. PERA provides the member with an estimate showing three purchase options.
5. The member may choose to make a purchase at any time before retirement. You have no financial responsibility.

This form provides general information for educational purposes and should not be construed as legal or financial advice. The statutes, rules, and regulations governing PERA may change at any time. If there is a discrepancy between the law and this form or any information you receive orally, the law will govern.