

2025 KPERS Employer Conference



# **Today's Topics**

- KPERS Long-Term Disability Plan
- Reporting Disability
- Leave of Absence: Employee's Health
- Application Timeline
- Quick Overview of Disability Administrator: Davies Life and Health, Inc.



# **Do's and Don'ts of Disability**

Do	Don't
Report disability when member has physically left work.	Don't wait until member is no longer receiving pay.
Report "last day on payroll" as the last day of the pay period member fell below 50%.	Don't report the last day on payroll as the actual pay date.
Report the hourly rate as of member's last physical day at work.	Don't report the hourly rate as of the member's last day on payroll.







## **Plan Sponsor**



## **Kansas Public Employees Retirement System**

Policy Number GLD2006

Effective Date January 1, 2006



# **Eligibility**

- All active members in a covered position.
- Active Board of Regents
- Eligible employees of the University of KS Hospital Authority
- Legislators and unclassified employees on their staff
- State officers in the State's Deferred Compensation Plan and unclassified employees on their staff



# Ineligible

- All employees in non-covered positions
- KPERS retirees



#### **Administrator**



Davies Life and Health Inc.



KPERS Long-Term Disability (LTD) plan provides

- Financial protection by replacing a portion of the member's income if they become disabled as the result of an injury or sickness.
- A death benefit to the member's beneficiary should the member die while the claim is pending approval or receiving long-term disability benefits.
- Continue to earn service credit.



KPERS Long-Term Disability (LTD) plan provides

- Monthly disability benefits
- Membership protection
- Basic Group Life Insurance coverage
- Optional Group Life Insurance at the current group rate



# **Plan Highlights**

Disability Definition	<ul> <li>From own occupation first 24 months</li> <li>From any occupation after 24 months</li> </ul>
Benefit Amount	60% of current compensation
Benefit Minimum	\$100 per month
Benefit Maximum	• \$5,000 per month
Rehabilitation Benefit	24-month maximum
Limited Benefit Periods	<ul> <li>None for biologically-based mental health conditions</li> <li>Other mental health conditions = 24 months</li> <li>Substance abuse conditions = 24 months</li> </ul>
Maximum Benefit Period	<ul> <li>Before age 60, the period remaining to age 65 or retirement, whichever occurs first</li> <li>At or after age 60, a period of five years or retirement, whichever occurs first</li> </ul>



# **Benefit Payments**

Once approved, benefits begin once:

Employee completes 180 continuous days of total disability

#### **AND**

The member ceases to draw compensation from the employer.



# **Returning To Work**



If employee attempts to return to work for up to **30 working days** during waiting period and again becomes disabled from same cause, waiting period will be **extended** by the number of days worked.



#### **Benefit Deductions**

Disability benefits will be reduced if the member receives or is eligible to receive income from any of the following sources:

- Social Security Primary Disability or Retirement benefits.
- Worker's Compensation benefits
- Railroad Retirement Board Disability or Retirement benefits
- Other disability benefits from any other source by reason of employment.
- Earnings from any form of employment.
- Earnings from eligible rehabilitative employment.



# **Disability Payments**

**EXAMPLE** 

\$3,000/month salary

KPERS Disability
Benefit \$1,800

Social Security Benefit -\$1,750

Balance \$50\*

KPERS will pay minimum of \$100



#### **Benefits Termination**

Payments will terminate if member

- Is no longer disabled as defined by the plan.
- Reaches end of maximum benefit period.
- Fails to provide proof of continuing disability.
- Withdraws contributions.



#### **Benefits Termination**

Payments will terminate if member

- Refuses to participate in company-approved rehabilitation plan.
- Not working to capacity in rehabilitative employment.
- Released to return to work by physician.
- Retires
- Dies



#### **Publications**

Long-Term Disability Handbook









#### DO

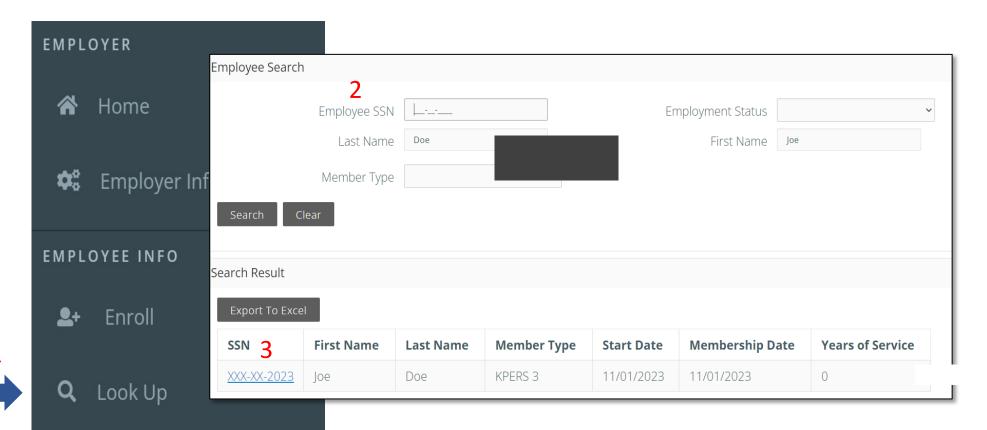
When the member's injury or illness has become a disabling event,

- Report the disability on the Employee page in Employer Web Portal before putting member on Leave of Absence.
- Illness or injury date starts the 180-day waiting period.



## **Report Disability**

#### DO

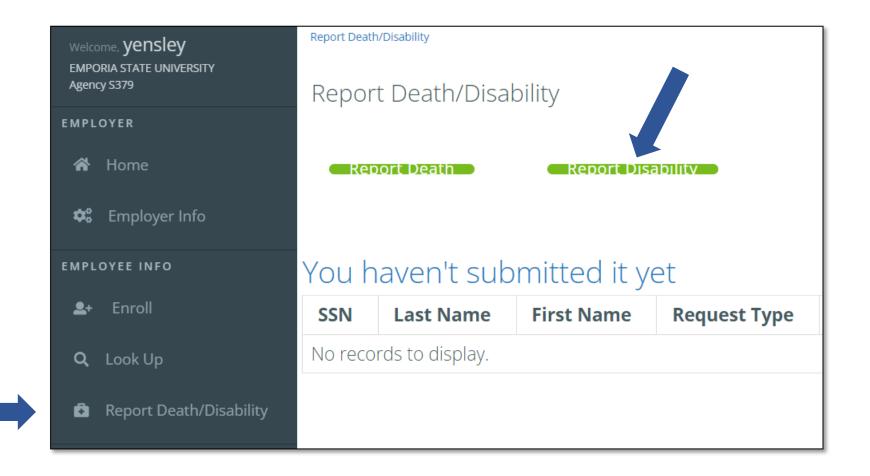






# **Report Disability - KBOR**

DO





# **Report Disability**

Do Not enter an end date or leave of absence until disability has been reported.

Employee Info

Doe, Joe J

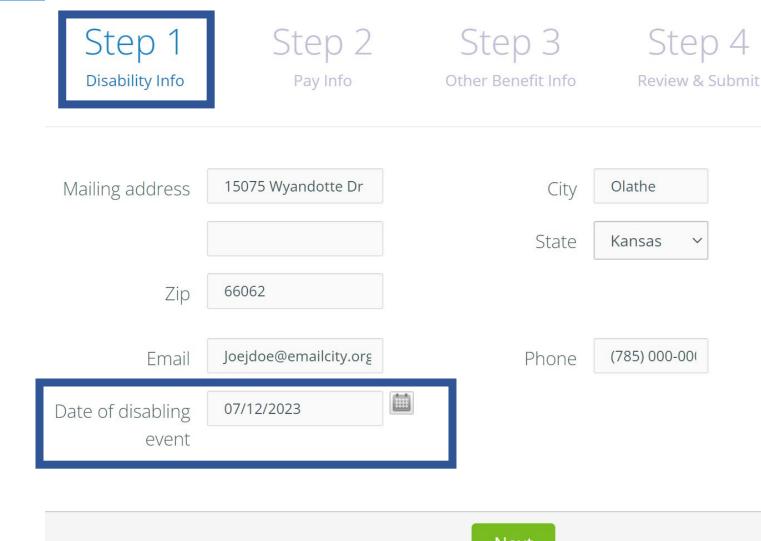
XXX-XX-2023

01/15/1998

**Report Death** 

**Report Disability** 

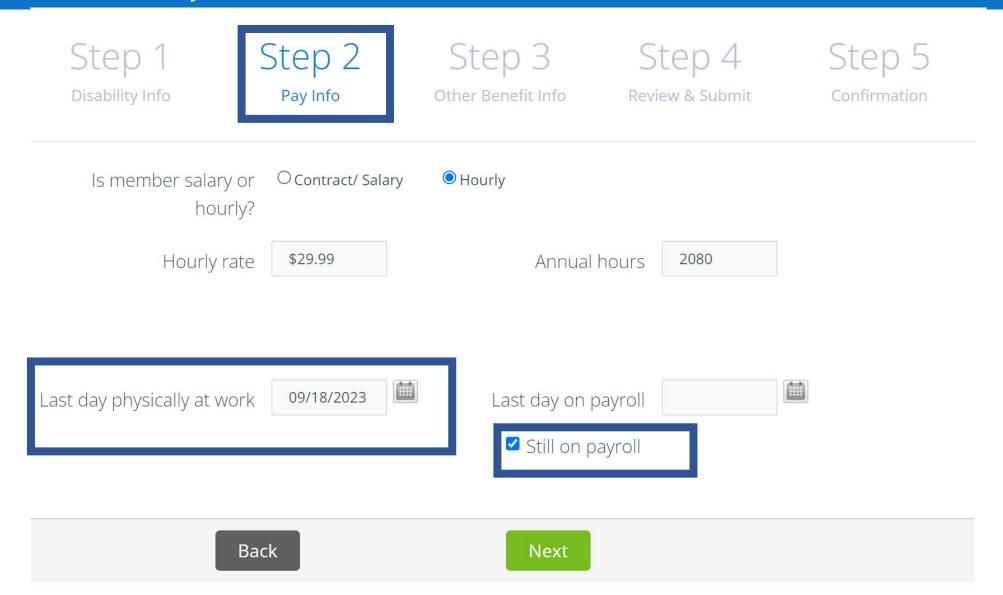






Step 5

Confirmation





Step 3 Step 1 Step 2 Step 4 Step 5 Other Benefit Info Disability Info Review & Submit Pay Info Did the member have other employment? Oyes O Do not know Has workers' compensation been filed? O Do not know Oyes Will member receive payments from any sources during the 180-day waiting period? ODo not know Yes, Check all that apply ONo ✓ Sick or vacation leave ✓ Shared leave ✓ Short-term disability Met Life Benefit Provider □ Other

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Step 1 Disability Info

Step 2 Pay Info

Step 3

Step 4 **Review & Submit** 

Step 5

Disability Info

Name Joe J Doe

SSN XXX-XX-2023

Date of birth 01/15/1998

Plan KPERS

Mailing address 15075 Wyandotte Dr

City Olathe

State Kansas

Zip Code 66062

Email Joejdoe@emailcity.org

Phone (785) 000-0001

Date of disabling event 07/12/2023

Please type your name as signature

**Employer Signature** 

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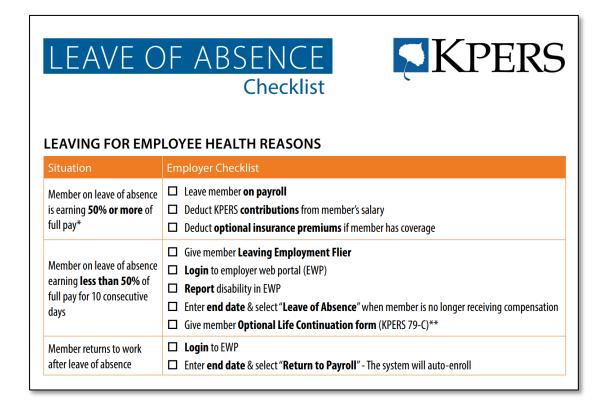


Leave of Absence and End Date is not used until employee is earning less than 50% of full pay for **10** consecutive days.

- Regular pay
- Sick and vacation leave

End date will be the first pay period that was below 50%.

Reason Code: Leave of Absence.





#### **Leave of Absence**

Compensation above 50% reportable to KPERS

- Salary
- Short-term disability paid by the employer

Do not report Workman's Compensation payments to KPERS.



#### **Leave of Absence- Shared Leave**



#### Withhold KPERS:

- Withhold KPERS if shared leave goes back to the first day member was on LOA.
- Do NOT withhold KPERS if shared leave does not go back to the first day member was on LOA.





# **Application Timeline**



#### **Application Timeline**

# **180 Day Waiting Period**

• Injury or Sickness

ER Reports
Disability

KPERS Certifies
Disability

- Notify Member
- Hold report for 90 days
- Certify on 91st day

- Contact Member and Employer
- 90 + days process
- Approve/Deny

Davies Life & Health Inc.



# **Application Timeline**



March 17, 2025

City, State and Zip Code

This office has been informed that you may have a health condition that prevents you from returning to a KPERS position, and your absence is expected to last for at least 180 continuous days. This could qualify VELSA position, and your absence is expected to last for at least 180 continuous days. This could q you for KPERS long term disability benefits. These benefits are described in detail in the enclosed you for Releasting term disability benefits. These benefits are described in detail in the encil summary plan description. The summary plan description is also available on our website at www.kpers.org under Publications.

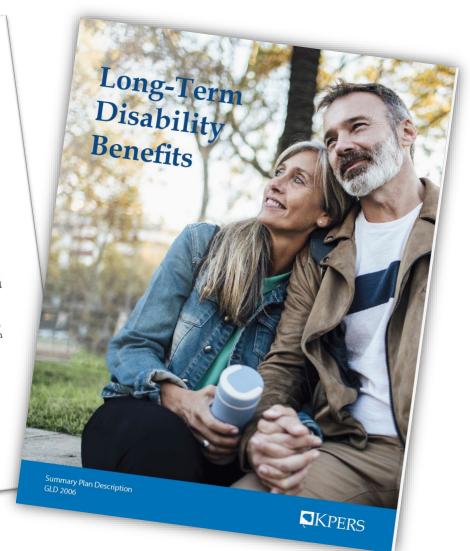
Davies Life & Health, Inc. (DLH) will provide claim forms for this benefit before the end of the 180-day Davies Life & Health, Inc. (DLH) will provide claim forms for this benefit before the end of the 180-day waiting period. You, your employer, and your physician(s) must complete and return these forms to DLH before a determination is made concerning your benefits.

The KPERS disability income benefit is reduced by social security disability or retirement benefits, The KPERS disability income benefit is reduced by social security disability or retirement benefits, Worker's Compensation, and any other disability benefit by reason of employment. You are required to Worker's Compensation, and any other disability benefit by reason of employment. You are required to apply for social security benefits. We suggest you contact your local social security office now to begin the application process. DLH will request the status of your social security application during their determination process.

If you have any questions, please contact this office.

Sincerely, Member Services Staff

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# Disability Administrator



#### **Disability Administrator**



Davies Life and Health, Inc. 1500 Main Street, Suite 1400 Springfield, Massachusetts 01115

Third Party Administrator of Disability



#### **New Notice Claim Documentation**





#### **Information from the Member**

Completed Member Statement
Signed Authorization
Financial Information about other income
Claimant Interview



#### <u>Information from the Employer</u>

Completed Employer Statement

Job Description with Physical Demands

Other Employer Benefit Information such as workers' compensation, short term disability

Return to work periods

Performance issues



#### **Information from the Physician**

Completed Physician Statement

Medical Records

Restrictions and Limitations

Potential Return to Work Date

www.davies-group.com

#### **Contact Information**



Davies

**Toll-Free** 

1-888-275-5737

Emai

employers@kspers.gov

**Toll-Free** 

1-844-762-6447

Mail

1500 Main St. Suite 400 PO Box 15189 Springfield, MA 01115-5189



# **Thank You!**



