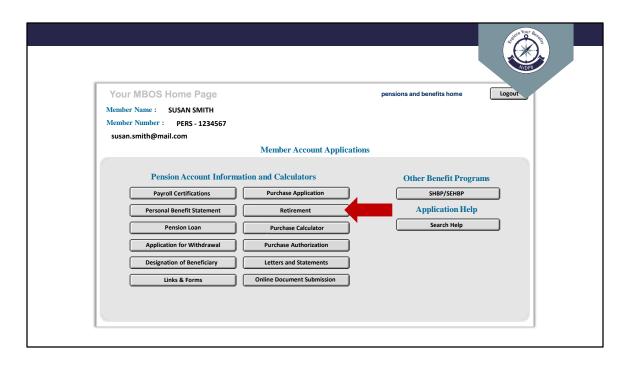


This step-by-step guide will assist active Public Employees' Retirement System (PERS) and Teachers' Pension and Annuity Fund (TPAF) members with how to submit a retirement application.

Active pension members must use the Member Benefits Online System (MBOS) to submit their retirement application. Authorized users can register for an MBOS account here: https://www.nj.gov/treasury/pensions/mbos-register.shtml

For assistance with the registration process, see the *Active MBOS Registration* video in our video gallery: https://www.nj.gov/treasury/pensions/videos.shtml

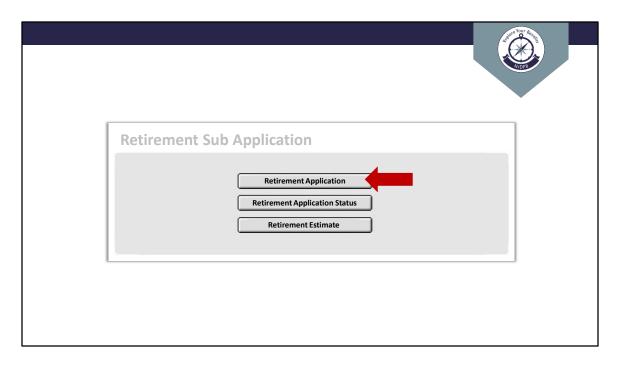
Please note, if you have already registered for MBOS, you will not be able to register again. If you need assistance accessing your existing MBOS account, please see our MBOS Troubleshooting videos in our video gallery.



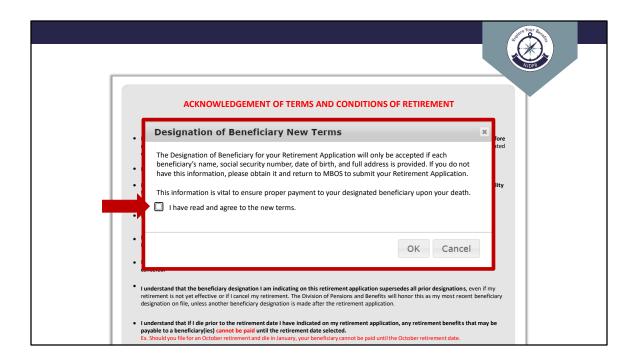
Once you have accessed your MBOS account, click the "Retirement" button to navigate to the retirement application.

Please note that the retirement application does not have a "Save" button. The application must be completed in its entirety and submitted in one sitting.

To exit the retirement application anytime before your final submission, click the "Home" button located at the top of your MBOS screen.



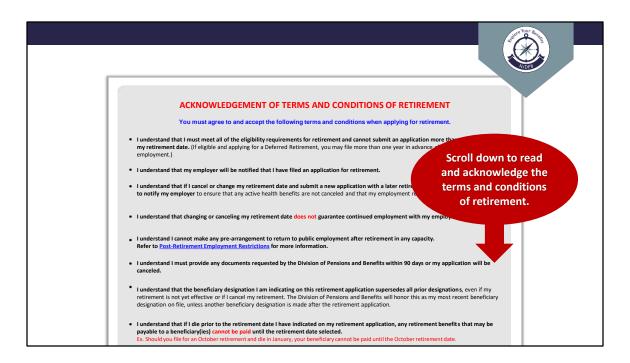
Next, click the "Retirement Application" button.



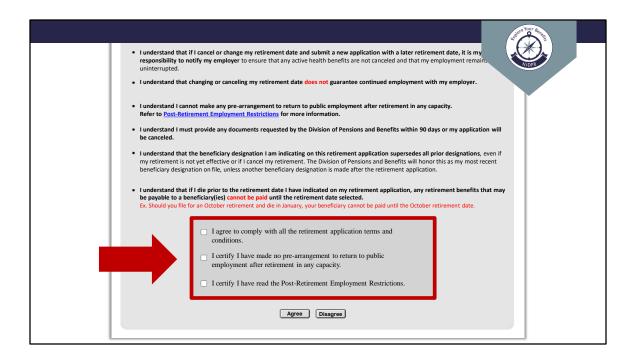
Before proceeding to the application, a message will appear regarding the designation of beneficiaries for your retired death benefits.

Once you have thoroughly reviewed the designation of beneficiary terms, check the box stating you have read and agree to the terms then click "OK."

If you click "Cancel," the application will close and you will not be able to proceed.



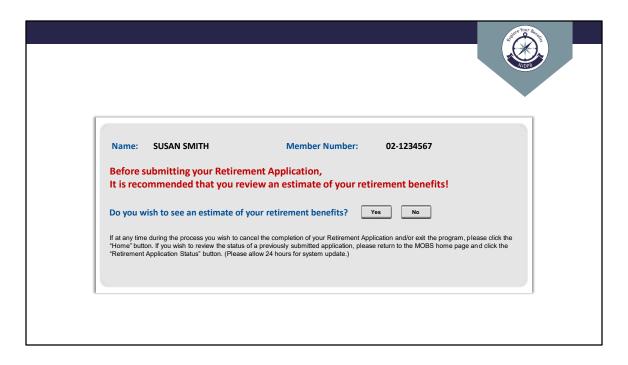
Next the "Acknowledgment of Terms and Conditions of Retirement" will appear. Thoroughly read through each bullet point.



Once you are done, click the three boxes next to statements listed at the bottom of the page indicating that you agree to comply with the above listed terms and conditions.

Click "Agree" to go on to the next page.

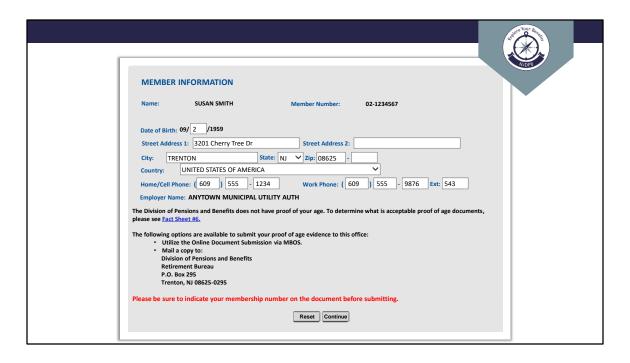
If you cannot agree to these terms, click "Disagree" and the application will close.



It is recommended that you review an estimate of your retirement benefits before submitting your retirement application.

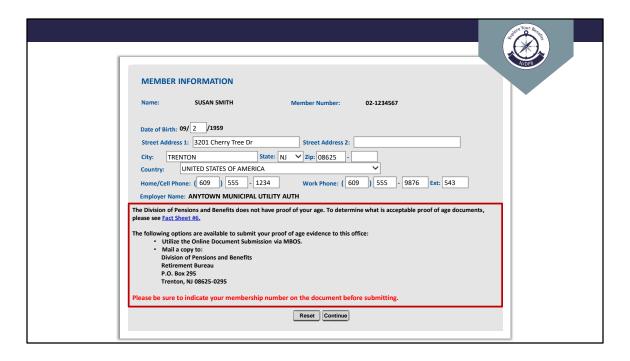
If you have not done so, click the "Yes" button to be redirected to the estimate calculator. Please note that clicking "Yes" means you will be exiting the retirement application and will need to access the application again after you have finished with the estimate calculator. If you need assistance with running a retirement estimate, please see the "How to Run a Retirement Estimate for PERS and TPAF Members" in our video gallery.

If you have already run a retirement estimate, click the "No" button to begin the application.



On the Member Information page, you will need to provide your current mailing address and phone number.

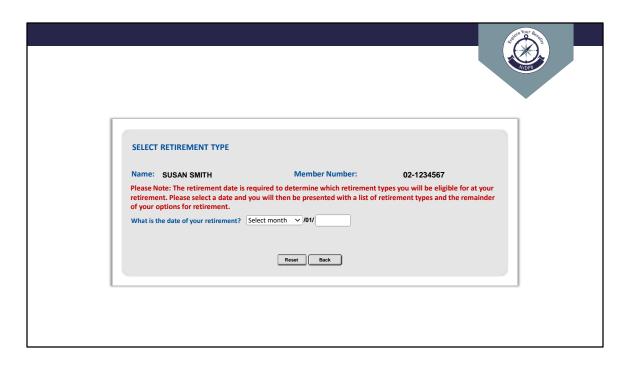
If your information has already been prepopulated in the fields, please check it for accuracy and update it accordingly.



To submit your proof of age, utilize the "Online Document Submission" button on MBOS or mail a copy to the address provided.

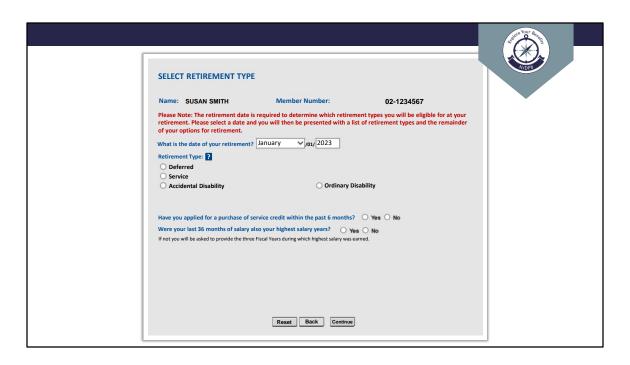
This message will <u>NOT</u> appear if your proof of age is already on file. You can verify this by viewing your Personal Benefit Statement on MBOS.

When ready, click the "Continue" button.



On the next page, the system will ask you to select your retirement date in order to determine what retirement types for which you will be eligible.

Since retirement dates are *always* on the first of the month, you will only need to select the month and the year. While the Division recommends that you submit your retirement application four to six months prior to your retirement date, you may submit it up to one year in advance. If you submit your application closer to your retirement date and do not follow the recommended timeframe, it is possible that your first pension check may be delayed.



One you have entered your retirement date, you will then be presented with a list of retirement types for which you may be eligible. If you are unsure of your retirement eligibility, click the question mark icon to be directed to the *Retirement – How to Apply for PERS & TPAF Members* fact sheet or you can watch the *Retirement Types*, *Eligibility & Calculations* video available in our video gallery.

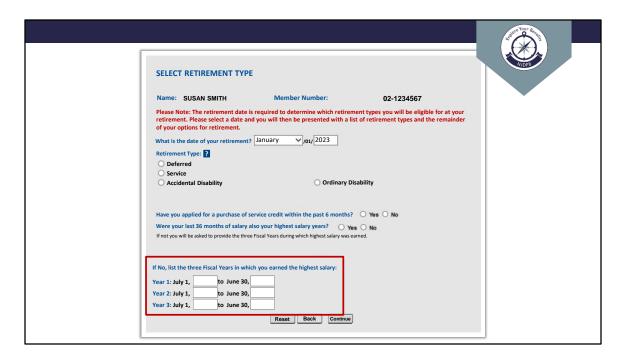
Select the appropriate bubble next to your desired retirement type.

Next, answer "Yes" or "No" to the following question: "Have you applied for a purchase of service credit within the past 6 moths?"

Then, answer "Yes or "No" to the next question. Please note the question will vary slightly depending on your pension tier:

- For PERS and TPAF Tier 1, 2, or 3 members: "Were your last 36 months of salary also your highest salary years?"
- For PERS and TPAF Tier 4 or 5 members: "Were your last 60 months of salary also your highest salary years?"

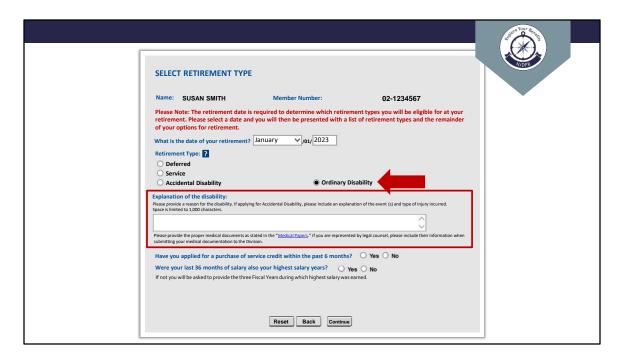
Click the "Continue" button to proceed to the next page.



If you answer "No" to the question regarding your highest salary years, your highest fiscal years will be used to calculate your retirement benefit instead. A fiscal year runs from July 1 to June 30 and does not need to be in consecutive order.

If you are a PERS or TPAF Tier 1, 2, or 3 member, three fields will appear so that you may provide your three highest fiscal years.

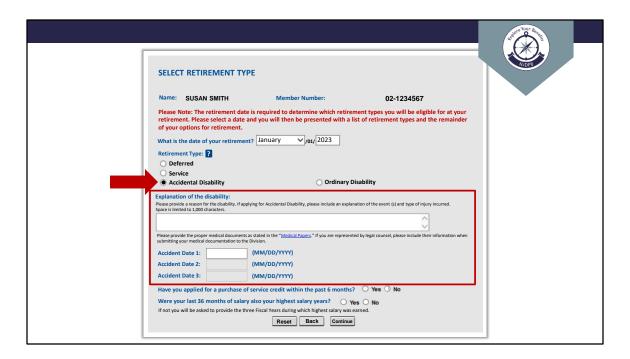
If you are a PERS or TPAF Tier 4 or 5 member, five fields will appear so that you may provide your five highest fiscal years.



If you are Tier 1, 2, or 3 PERS or TPAF member and have selected "Ordinary Disability" as your retirement type, you will need to provide an explanation of your disability in the space provided, ensuring you follow the listed instructions.

You will need to provide medical documentation as part of the application process; click the "Medical Papers" hyperlink to print/save a copy of the required forms.

When finished with that section, answer the purchase and salary questions as previously as mentioned.



Similarly, if you are Tier 1, 2, or 3 PERS or TPAF member and have selected "Accidental Disability" as your retirement type, you will need to provide an explanation of your disability in the space provided, ensuring you follow the listed instructions.

You will also need to provide medical documentation as part of the application process; click the "Medical Papers" hyperlink to print/save a copy of the required forms.

Below that, you will list the date of the accident(s) in the fields provided. If you have more than one accident date, enter the earliest date first and work your way to the most recent.

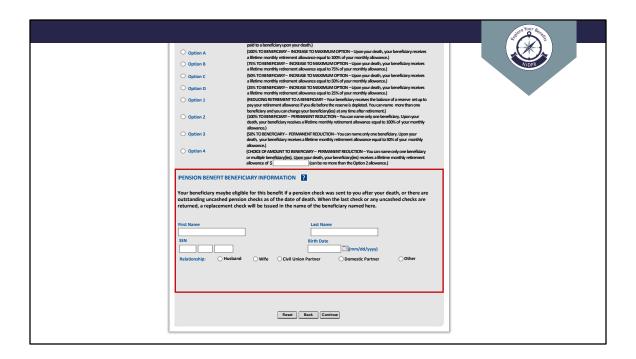
Again, answer the purchase and salary questions as previously as mentioned.

For more information regarding the disability retirements, please see the *Disability Retirement Benefits for PERS and TPAF* fact sheet available on our website.

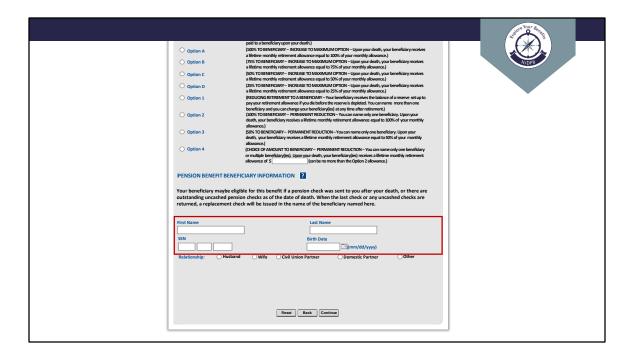


On the next page, select one pension option from the list. A brief explanation is provided next to each option.

To learn more about the pension options, click the question mark icon to be directed to the *Retirement – PERS & TPAF Pension Options* fact sheet or you can watch the *Exploring Your Pension Options* video available in our video gallery.



At the bottom, provide your pension beneficiary's information. All fields are required so be sure to gather your beneficiary's information before completing the application.

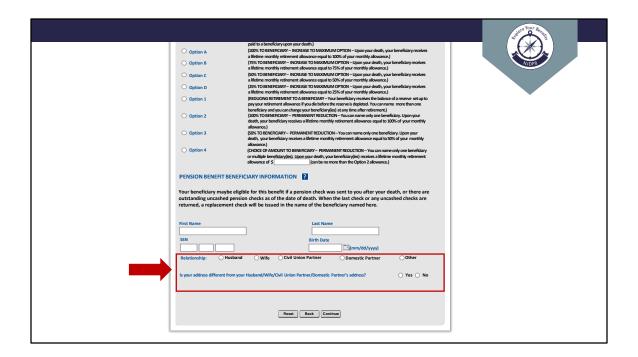


Most of the pension options available allow only one individual as the primary pension beneficiary.

Provide that individual's legal first and last name, nine-digit Social Security number, and date of birth using the format provided.

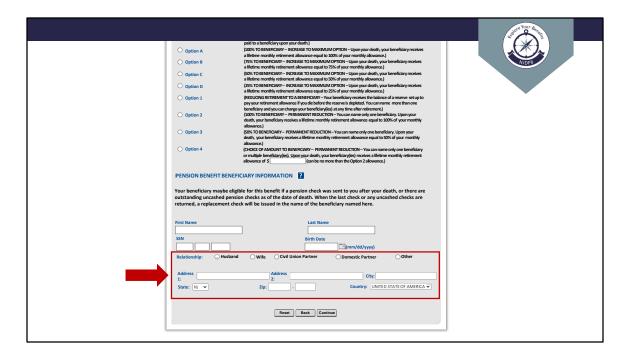
Contingent pension beneficiaries will not be allowed in these instances.

For possible pension beneficiary restrictions, see the *Retirement – PERS & TPAF Pension Options* fact sheet available on our website.

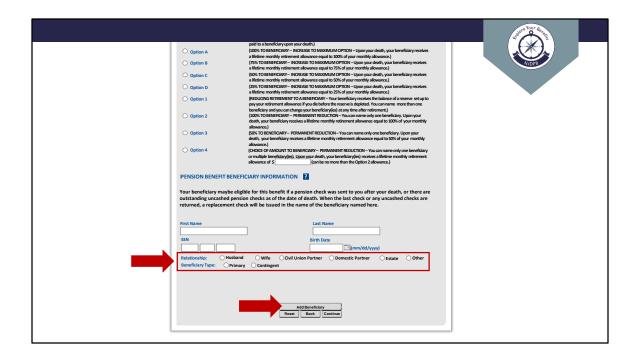


Next, indicate the person's relationship to you. If your beneficiary is not your spouse or legal same-sex partner, select "Other."

If your beneficiary is your spouse or legal same-sex partner, you will be asked to indicate if that person's address is different than yours.



If you answer "Yes" to that question, or choose the "Other" relationship type, fields will appear for you to provide your beneficiary's address.



If you choose the Maximum Option, Option 1, or Option 4, you may designate more than one beneficiary.

After designating the first beneficiary, click the "Add Beneficiary" button if you wish to designate a subsequent beneficiary(ies). A blank set of fields will appear allowing you to provide their legal name, nine-digit Social Security number, date of birth, their relationship to you, and their address.

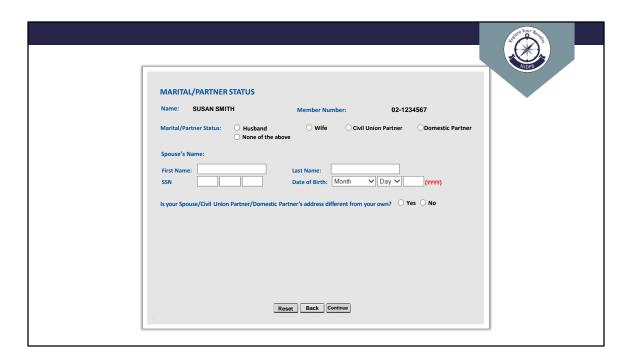
For the Maximum Option and Option 1, you may assign your beneficiaries as primary or contingent. (Option 4 does not permit the designation of primary and contingent beneficiaries.)



In addition to relationship types already mentioned, you may designate your estate as your beneficiary if you choose the Maximum Option or Option 1.

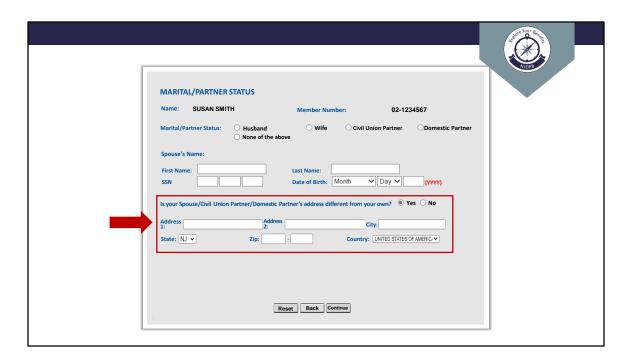
If you select "Estate," several fields will be grayed out and "YOUR ESTATE" will automatically be written in the first and last name fields. If applicable, enter your estate's tax ID number in the appropriate field. If you do not have one, leave this field blank.

Once you have selected your pension option and properly designated your beneficiary(ies), click the "Continue" button.



If you selected the Maximum Option on the previous screen, you will be prompted to provide your marital/partner status.

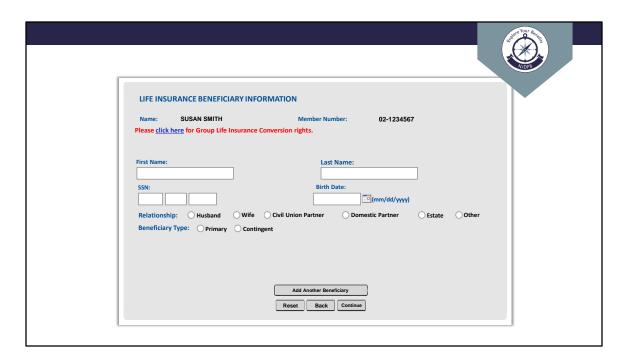
If you are married or have a legal same-sex partner, provide their legal first and last name, nine-digit Social Security number, and date of birth using the format provided.



Next, indicate if their address is different than yours. If you answer "Yes," fields will appear for you to provide their address.

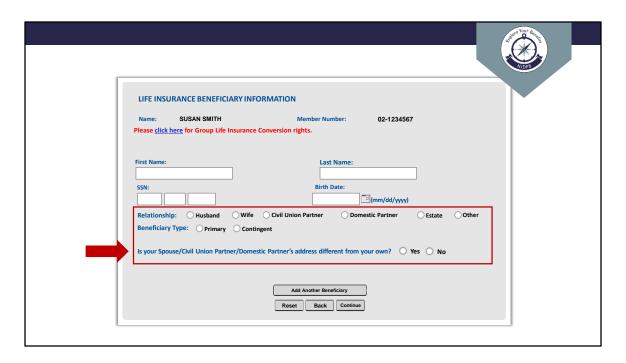
Once you have completed all the required fields, click the "Continue" button to go to the next page.

If you did *not* select the Maximum Option on the previous page, you will skip this screen and go directly to the next page which is the Life Insurance Beneficiary Information screen.



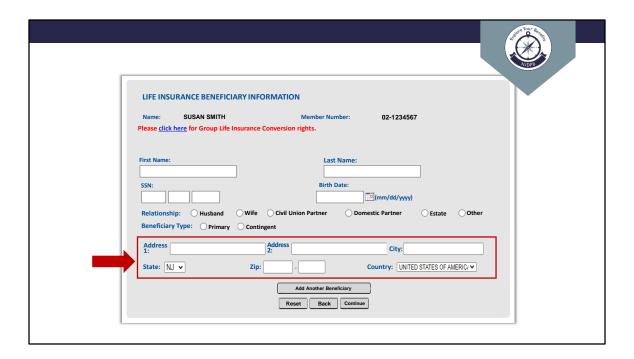
On this page you will provide your life insurance beneficiaries' information. All fields are required so be sure to gather your beneficiaries' information before completing the application.

If designating an individual(s), provide their legal first and last name, nine-digit Social Security number, and date of birth using the format provided.

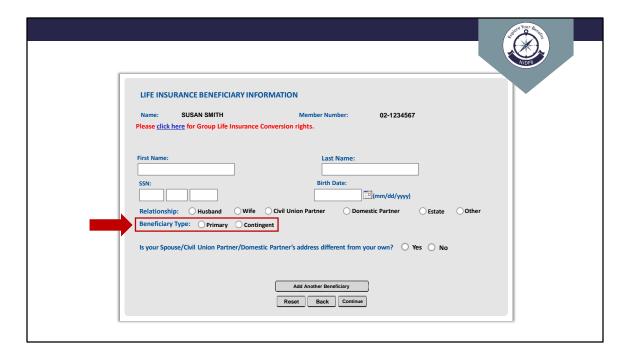


Next, indicate the person's relationship to you. If your beneficiary is not your spouse or legal same-sex partner, select "Other."

If your beneficiary is your spouse or legal same-sex partner, you will be asked to indicate if that person's address is different than yours.



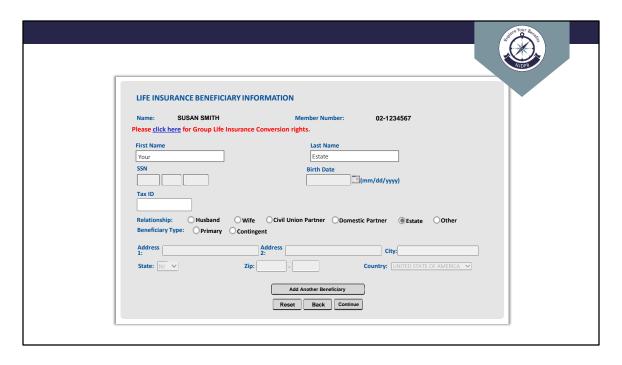
If you answer "Yes" to that question, or choose the "Other" relationship type, fields will appear for you to provide your beneficiary's address.



Then, indicate if this individual will be a primary or a contingent beneficiary. It is recommended that you designate all of your primary beneficiaries first then list your contingent beneficiaries.

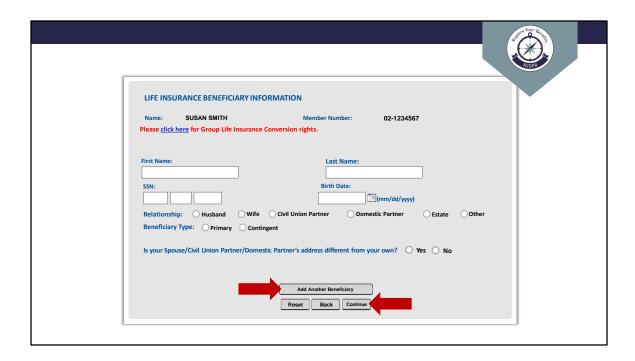
Primary beneficiaries will receive any benefits that are payable upon your death and they will receive an equal share unless you indicate a different distribution. To indicate a different distribution, you will need to contact the Division *after* you have submitted your retirement application.

Contingent beneficiaries will receive any benefits that are payable upon your death ONLY if all primary beneficiaries predecease you. They will also receive equal shares unless you indicate a different distribution.



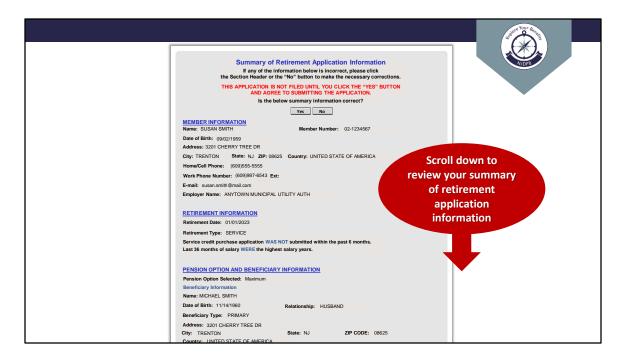
If you select "Estate" as your beneficiary, several fields will be grayed out and "YOUR ESTATE" will automatically be written in the first and last name fields. If applicable, enter your estate's tax ID number in the appropriate field. If you do not have one, leave this field blank.

Then, as previously explained, indicate if this beneficiary will be the primary or contingent.



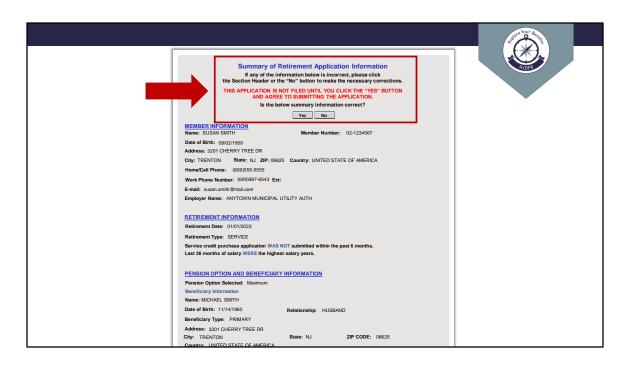
If you have more than one life insurance beneficiary, click the "Add Another Beneficiary" button to display a new set of fields.

Once you have designated all of your life insurance beneficiaries, click "Continue" to review your retirement application summary.

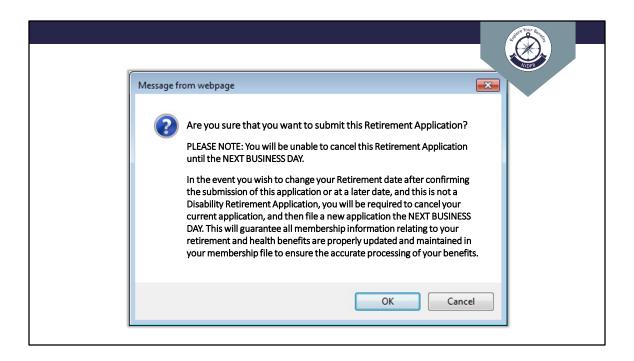


Carefully review your retirement application summary.

If you see an error, click the blue section headers to make the necessary corrections.



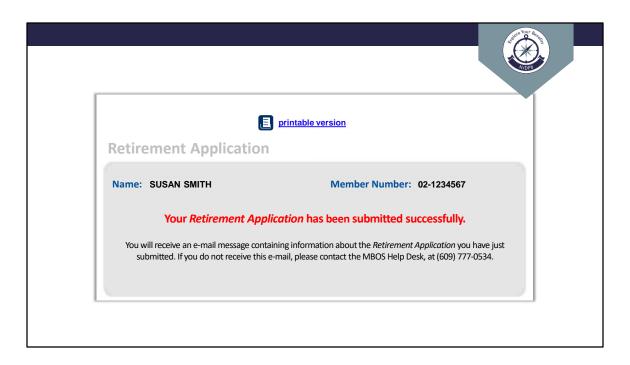
If the summary information is correct and you wish to submit your retirement application, click the "Yes" button at the top of the page.



You will need to confirm that you wish to submit your retirement application by clicking the "OK" button.

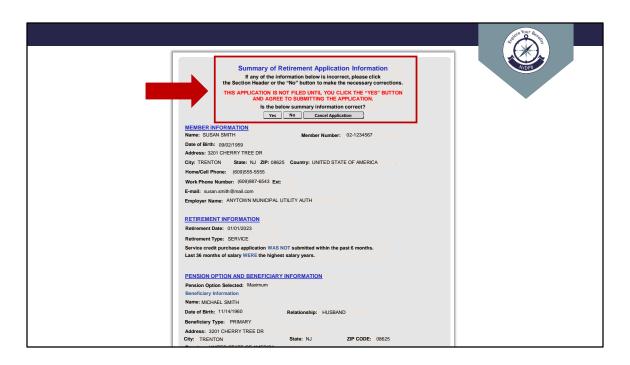
Clicking "Cancel" will close the message box and you will return to the summary page.

To exit the application without submitting, click the "Home" button located at the top of the screen.



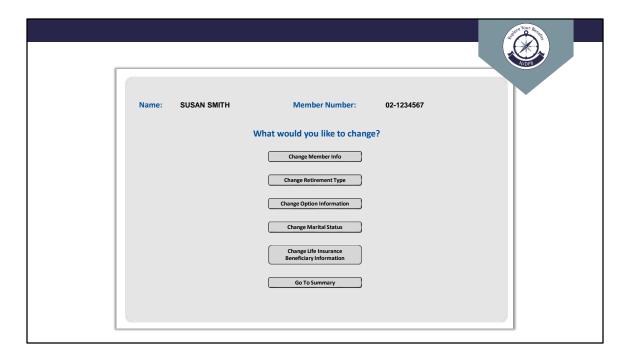
A confirmation message will appear when your retirement application has been submitted successfully.

It is recommended that you keep a copy of your application for your records. Use the printable version link at the top of the page to save or a print a copy of your application.



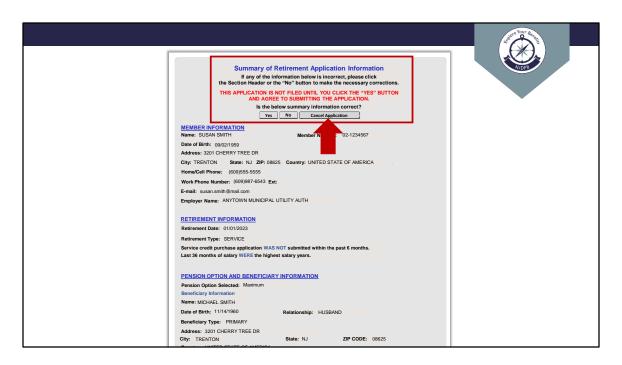
If you need to make a change to your application, you can access your retirement application after one business day.

Once you've returned to your retirement application summary, click "No" to make your changes.

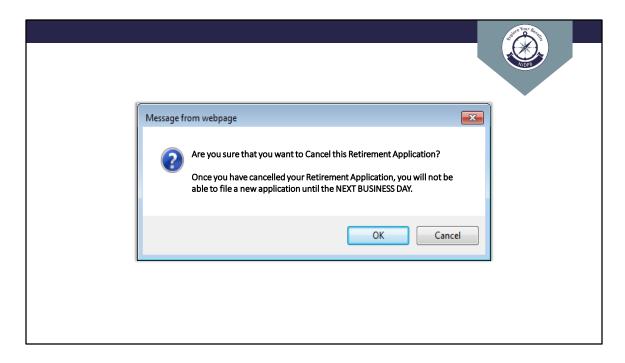


Click on the appropriate button to make the necessary changes.

Once complete, resubmit your retirement application.



If you would like to cancel your retirement application, click the "Cancel Application" button at the top.



Confirm the cancellation by clicking the "OK" button.



If you wish to change your retirement date, you will need to cancel your current application, wait one business day, then submit a new application. Please note the information previously entered on the old application will not be saved.



If you have any questions regarding the retirement process, you can reach out to the Division of Pensions & Benefits by telephone, email, or postal mail.

For additional information about retirement see the following retirement planning fact sheets and videos available on our website at www.nj.gov/treasury/pensions:

- Retirement How to Apply for PERS & TPAF Members fact sheet
- Retirement PERS & TPAF Pension Options fact sheet
- Retirement Checklist fact sheet
- Disability Retirement Benefits for PERS and TPAF fact sheet
- Reviewing a Retirement Application video
- Retirement Types, Eligibility & Calculations video
- Exploring Your Pension Options video