



## '77 FUND DISABILITY BENEFIT DETERMINATIONS

1977 POLICE OFFICERS' & FIREFIGHTERS'  
RETIREMENT FUND

### Local Board Process

1. The member sends a written request for a hearing to the local board.
2. The board is required to hold a hearing no later than 90 days after the member has submitted the request.
3. The board allows the member to show documentation and present evidence and arguments in support of his or her case.
4. After the hearing, the board has 30 days to submit its written determination to both the member and safety board regarding whether the member has a covered impairment and whether a pre-1990 member has a line of duty or non-line of duty impairment, or a post-1990 member has a Class 1, 2 or 3 impairment.
5. Once the member and safety board have received the determinations, the following documents are sent to INPRS:
  - a. Disability application
  - b. Local board minutes
  - c. Local board determination
  - d. A statement of whether or not light duty is available to the member
  - e. Medical records from all treating physicians presented at the hearing
  - f. An explanation of how the disability occurred. (Was it duty or non-duty related? Class 1, 2 or 3?)

### INPRS Process

1. The '77 Fund manager reviews the submitted documents.
2. The application and supporting materials are forwarded to the INPRS Medical Authority for review.
3. Based on the documentation, the medical authority makes a recommendation and prepares a letter stating the class of impairment and the percentage of impairment and whether the disability is line of duty or non-line of duty.
4. Based on the INPRS Medical Authority, the '77 Fund makes an initial determination regarding whether the member has a covered impairment and whether the impairment was incurred in the line of duty.
5. The initial determination will be sent by certified mail to the member, chief and pension secretary. The member and/or the board have 15 days to appeal the initial determination.
6. The appeal request must be sent to the attention of the '77 Fund manager and will be given to the INPRS legal department to handle the appeal process.

### Process for When a Member Requests to Return to Active Duty

1. The member must submit a letter of request to the local board.
2. The board holds a hearing where the member submits medical documents and presents evidence that he or she is fit to return to active duty.
3. If the local board determines that no position is available based on the member's restrictions, he or she must remain on disability. (The member does have the right to appeal this decision.)
4. If the local board determines that the member is eligible to return to active duty, and a position is available, INPRS is notified that the member is returning to active duty as of a specific date. The disability benefit will cease, and the member will be re-enrolled as an active member. Mandatory member and employer contributions will resume.

*Every attempt has been made to verify that the information in this publication is correct and up-to-date. Published content does not constitute legal advice. If a conflict arises between information contained in this publication and the law, the applicable law shall apply.*