

As a paid employee of Ulster County you have the opportunity to join the New York State and Local Employees Retirement System (NYSLRS). Please read the following conditions very carefully to determine your best course of action.

- If you are an active NYSLRS member, you must join as a county employee as well.
- If you are a retired NYSLRS member you may not join the New York State retirement should decline membership.
- If you are a member of another NYS Retirement System, then you may join under the NYSLRS as well and receive credit toward your other retirement membership upon retirement. This could be the New York State Teachers retirement or the New York State Police and Fire retirement.
- If this is your first membership application for NYSLRS you will be a tier 6 member. A percentage of your pay will be withheld as a contribution to the system. The percentage, between 3% and 6% is based on your pay level on an annualized basis for your entire career with NYSLRS employers.
- In order to ultimately qualify for a tier 6 pension, you must work over your lifetime the equivalent of 10 years of full time service or approximately 25,000 'full' days. If you do not feel this is foreseeable, then you may wish to decline membership.
- If you decline membership today, you are entitled to join on any subsequent day you are working.
- If you decline today and continue to work with UC, but then join NYSLRS under another employer, you must join under UC as well.
- If you become a full time permanent employee of UC, you must join NYSLRS.
- If you join NYSLRS you may not withdraw while still an employee of UC.
- After your UC employment you may withdraw from NYSLRS and receive a refund of your contributions, subject to a tax withholding penalty.
- If you decide to join, the NYSLRS application should be completed with the utmost care.
- If you decide not to join today, you must review the declination form, making sure to check all of the boxes on the left margin, then sign and date on the bottom.
- More information about NYSLRS may be found on their website.