

**424B.10 BENEFITS; FUNDING.**

Subdivision 1. **Benefits.** (a) Notwithstanding any provision of section 424A.02, subdivision 3, to the contrary, the service pension of the subsequent relief association as of the effective date of consolidation is either the service pension amount specified in clause (1) or the service pension amounts specified in clause (2), as provided for in the consolidated relief association's articles of incorporation or bylaws:

(1) the highest dollar amount service pension amount of any prior volunteer firefighters relief association in effect immediately before the consolidation initiation if the pension amount was implemented consistent with section 424A.02; or

(2) for service rendered by each individual volunteer firefighter before consolidation, the service pension amount under the consolidating volunteer firefighters relief association that the firefighter belonged to immediately before the consolidation if the pension amount was implemented consistent with section 424A.02 and for service rendered after the effective date of the consolidation, the highest dollar amount service pension of any of the consolidating volunteer firefighters relief associations in effect immediately before the consolidation if the pension amount was implemented consistent with section 424A.02.

(b) Any increase in the service pension amount beyond the amount implemented under paragraph (a) must conform with the requirements and limitations of sections 69.771 to 69.775 and 424A.02.

Subd. 2. **Funding.** (a) Unless the applicable municipalities agree in writing to allocate the minimum municipal obligation in a different manner, the minimum municipal obligation under section 69.772 or 69.773, whichever applies, must be allocated between the applicable municipalities in proportion to their fire state aid.

(b) If any applicable municipality fails to meet its portion of the minimum municipal obligation to the subsequent relief association, all other applicable municipalities are jointly obligated to provide the required funding upon certification by the relief association secretary. An applicable municipality that pays the minimum municipal obligation for another applicable municipality, the municipality may collect the payment amount, plus a 25 percent surcharge, from the responsible applicable municipality by any available means, including deduction from any state aid or payment amount payable to the responsible municipality upon certification of the necessary information to the commissioner of finance.

**History:** 2000 c 461 art 16 s 10; 1Sp2005 c 8 art 9 s 15