

CITY OF TAMPA, FLORIDA
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2015

NOTE 18 (A) - EMPLOYEE RETIREMENT AND PENSION PLANS - FIREFIGHTERS AND POLICE OFFICERS' PENSION FUND - (Continued)

Plan Membership

The following table summarizes the membership of the Firefighters and Police Officers' Pension Fund as of September 30, 2014, the measurement date:

	Firefighters and Police Officers' Pension Fund
Active	1,340
Retirees and Beneficiaries currently receiving benefits	1,991
Inactive members entitled to but not receiving benefits	12
Total Members	<u>3,343</u>

Benefits Provided

Vesting for participants in the fund occurs at 10 years of service. Participants may begin drawing monthly pension benefits at the age of 46 with 10 or more years of service, or 20 years of service regardless of age. In computing service allowance, creditable service shall include all service or employment of the member in Fire or Police Departments, either continuous or interrupted, provided however, that any leave of absence without pay shall not be included.

Effective October 1, 2011, credit service shall include credit for up to five (5) years of the time spent in military service of the Armed Forces of the United States if the member is in the active employ of the City of Tampa immediately prior to such service, and leaves a permanent, full-time position as a firefighter or police officer with the City of Tampa for the purpose of voluntary or involuntary service in the Armed Forces of the United States. The fund provides both service and non-service-related disability and pre-retirement death benefits. Effective October 1, 2004, the annual pension benefit was increased from 2.5% to 3.15% for each year of service times the employees final average compensation (highest three of the last 10 years of service), but not less than \$100 per month. The increased benefit is applicable only to plan members actively employed as firefighters or police officers on or after October 1, 2003.

Deferred Retirement Option Program (DROP)

Members with at least 20 years of credited service are eligible to participate in the Deferred Retirement Option Program (DROP) for up to five (5) years. Members entering DROP after 25 years of service are eligible to participate in the DROP for a combined total of 30 years of credited service. During the DROP period, the member accrues a benefit amount equal to what would have been the member's longevity retirement benefit had the member retired as of the date of entry into the DROP program.