



Marin County Employees' Retirement Association

2018 COLA

Find your COLA
on the back of
this page.

Eligible Retirees & Beneficiaries Will Receive a Cost of Living Adjustment in their April Retirement Benefit Payment

Your April COLA

The retirement benefit you will receive at the end of April 2018 will include a cost-of-living adjustment (COLA). The actual amount of your COLA depends upon the employer and/or tier from which you retired, and your date of retirement.

Please refer to the table on the back of this page to determine your COLA percentage for 2018.

If you have service with multiple employers and/or tiers, those COLAs are calculated separately based on each employer and tier and then combined. The result of this combined COLA percentage calculation is displayed on your check or deposit confirmation.

Calculating the COLA

The COLA is calculated as required in the California Government Code based on changes in the Consumer Price Index (CPI) for the San Francisco Bay Area. The CPIs for the two prior calendar years are averaged and rounded to the nearest one-half percent.

The average CPIs described above represent an increase of 3.23%, which rounds to 3% for 2018.

COLA Maximums and COLA Bank

Each retirement tier has a maximum COLA of 2%, 3% or 4%.

If your maximum allowable COLA is less than the increase in the CPI, the difference is "banked" for possible use in a future year (as provided by law).

If the change in the CPI is less than your maximum allowable COLA, we will make a withdrawal from your COLA bank, if available, in order to bring your increase up to the maximum allowable for your employer and/or tier.

Contact us with questions:

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General information and forms:

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COLAs by Employer and Tier

Your COLA is based on your employer and tier, and in some cases your retirement date. Use the chart below to find your COLA percentage for 2018. The information applies to both General and Safety retirement tiers.

Employer	Tier	Retirement Date	2018 COLA Received	Maximum Allowable COLA
City of San Rafael	1	All dates	3%	3%
	2, 3	All dates	2%	2%
County of Marin	1, 1A, 1B	On or before Dec. 31, 1977	4%	4%
	1, 1A, 1B	On or after Jan. 1, 1978	3%	4%
	2, 2A, 2B, 3, 3A, 4, 5	All dates	2%	2%
LAFCO	2	On or before Dec. 31, 1977	4%	4%
	2	On or after Jan. 1, 1978	3%	4%
	3, 4	All dates	2%	2%
Marin City CSD	All tiers	On or before Dec. 31, 1977	4%	4%
	All tiers	On or after Jan. 1, 1978	3%	4%
Marin/Sonoma Mosquito	All tiers	On or before Dec. 31, 1977	4%	4%
	All tiers	On or after Jan. 1, 1978	3%	4%
Marin Superior Court	1	On or before Dec. 31, 1977	4%	4%
	1	On or after Jan. 1, 1978	3%	4%
	2, 3, 4, 5	All dates	2%	2%
Novato Fire	1, 2, 3	On or before Dec. 31, 1977	4%	4%
	1, 2, 3	On or after Jan. 1, 1978	3%	4%
	2A	All dates	2%	2%
Southern Marin Fire	1, 2, 3	On or before Dec. 31, 1977	4%	4%
	1, 2, 3	On or after Jan. 1, 1978	3%	4%
	2A, 3A	All dates	3%	3%
Tamalpais CSD	All tiers	On or before Dec. 31, 1977	4%	4%
	All tiers	On or after Jan. 1, 1978	3%	4%