

There are certain **exceptions** to the maximum age requirement:

- **Military Service** — Once you have met the definition of a veteran for pension purposes, certain periods of military service may be used on a one-for-one basis to “reduce” one’s age for entry. Only that period of service in the area of conflict may be subtracted from an individual’s age for PFRS eligibility purposes. The Department of Military and Veterans Affairs is the only agency to verify eligible foreign and sea service for purposes of determining if any service qualifies to reduce age in PFRS. Such military service must have occurred during the:
 - Panama Peacekeeping Mission, December 20, 1989 to January 31, 1990
 - Operation Desert Shield/Storm – August 2, 1990 to February 28, 1991
 - Operation Restore Hope in Somalia – December 5, 1992 to March 31, 1994
 - Operations Joint Endeavor/Joint Guard-Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina – November 20, 1995 to June 20, 1998
 - Operation Enduring Freedom – September 11, 2001 to present
 - Operation Iraqi Freedom – March 19, 2003 to present

The prospective member must have served at least **14 days** in the country or region or on ships patrolling in the territorial waters of these nations.

- If the start of the member's service began *on or after* the beginning date of the war era, veteran status will be granted as long as any one of the 14 days of service fell on or within the dates listed above.
- If the start of the member's service was *prior to* the beginning date of the war era, then the member must have served all 14 days in the area within the dates specified for the conflict in order to be considered a veteran.

The 14-day requirement for service can be waived if the veteran was discharged because of a service-incurred disability.

Absent Without Leave (AWOL) status must be deducted from active service and if this reduces the active service to less than the 14-day service requirement, consideration will be denied.

- **Prior Police Service** — In order to meet the maximum age requirement of 35 years for the position of a municipal police officer — a former State trooper, sheriff’s officer or deputy, county or municipal police officer, SEPTA, Delaware River Port Authority, Burlington County Bridge Commission, or Amtrak police officer is permitted to use that previous service to reduce actual age. Prior experience in federal law enforcement agencies or law enforcement agencies of other states would also qualify to reduce a candidate’s age for the position of municipal police officer. No person may be appointed over the age of 45 except for those who were previously terminated involuntarily (laid-off, or part of a reduction-in-force) from their former employment or if they return to employment from a disability retirement.