



Employers' Edge

Employer news from the
Alaska Division of
Retirement and Benefits

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Division launches redesigned web site

The Division of Retirement and Benefits web site has been redesigned to make it more user-friendly for employees and retirees as well as employers. The new site went live on December 27. The [Employer Services main page](#) can be accessed by clicking on the "Employer Services" link in the menu bar near the top of the [division home page](#). The main sections of the new web site (e.g. Home, Retirement, Benefits, Employer Services) are color-coded to visually identify them from each other. The easiest way for members to navigate the site is to start with the [Use Your RnB](#) section linked on the home page. The "Search" function has also been enhanced to make it easier to find information. A screen shot of the new home page appears below. The Your RnB section is below the "Headlines:"



Alaska Retirement Management Board meets February 10-11 in Juneau

The next regular meeting of the Alaska Retirement Management Board (ARMB) will be held in Juneau February 10-11 in the Egan Room at Centennial Hall. The public is invited to attend.

An agenda will soon be available at this [web link](#) where you may also [view minutes from past ARMB meetings](#). For questions regarding the ARMB, contact the ARMB liaison, [Judy Hall in the Treasury Division](#).

2010 Comprehensive Annual Financial Reports for the PERS and TRS available

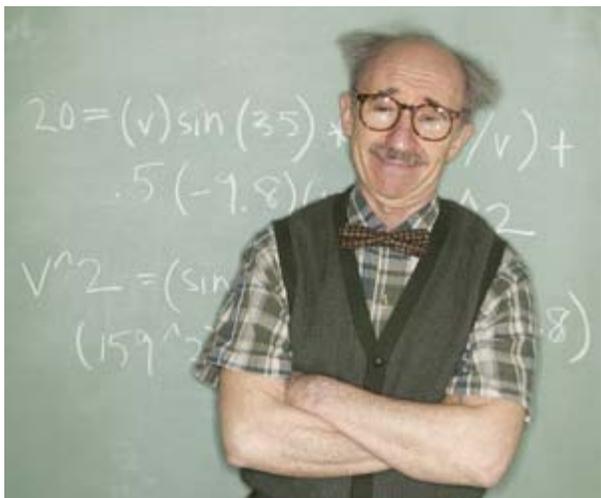
The 2010 Comprehensive Annual Financial Reports (CAFR) for the PERS and TRS are now available [on the division's website](#) or by mail by request.

To request a hard copy of the PERS or TRS CAFR, please [send an e-mail to Christina Maiquis](#).



Remember to report rehired TRS retirees

It has come to the division's attention that some employers are hiring retired TRS members in 49-percent teaching positions, supplementing these positions with additional temporary teaching contracts in order to keep the retiree in a classroom for a half-time or full work day, while not placing them in the TRS.



When a TRS retiree is hired in a normal teaching position for a normal teaching period he/she *must be reported to the TRS*. The 'only' exclusions are employees hired as substitutes, or in long-term substitute positions.

If an employer splits a workday into 49-percent teaching with the rest as 'temporary teaching time,' the employee could be in danger of losing his/her retirement benefit, under AS 14.25, if that position should be reviewed or audited.

If you think you might have placed an employee's retirement benefit in jeopardy, contact your Retirement Specialist for additional information.

The following sections of AS 14.25 apply:

- Sec. 14.25.040. Membership; credited service.
- Sec. 14.25.043. Reemployment of retired members.
- Sec. 14.25.220. Definitions.

(19) "full-time teacher (23) "membership service" (29) "part-time teacher" (44) "teacher" and "member"

Benefit Fair coming to Ketchikan, April 15-16 Fair also planned for Bethel in spring of 2011

The next Benefit Fair will be held in Ketchikan, April 15-16, 2011, at the University of Alaska Southeast Ketchikan Campus. PERS and TRS employee members of all ages are invited to attend. There will be educational workshops to help employees plan now for their future retirement security. The fair will provide state employees covered under the AlaskaCare Employee Health Plan an opportunity to learn more about available benefits. There will also be sessions on the *Optional Benefits* (formerly Supplemental Benefits) and *Supplemental Annuity Plans*



A fair is also tentatively planned for Bethel in the spring of 2011. Exact dates and location will be announced in a future issue of the *Employer's Edge*.

As the spring Benefit Fairs approach, descriptions of the workshops to be offered and a complete fair schedule will be posted on the division web site.

PERS and TRS Employer Manuals soon ready for distribution

The division has been putting together separate manuals for both PERS and TRS employers that are each intended as a resource guide to help employers with questions they may have about the retirement systems. The division hopes to have the manuals ready for electronic distribution by the end of this January.



The manuals cover both the PERS and TRS Defined Benefit plans and the Defined Contribution Retirement Plan, which was established on July 1, 2006, and address such topics as participation agreements, payment of contributions, member plan education, beneficiary designations and much more.

User's guide to the legislative session

The First Session of the 27th Alaska State Legislature will convene on January 18, 2011. Below are some links you may find useful:

- [Alaska State Legislature home page.](#)
- [Getting started](#) - a guide to the interactive and informational features of the legislature's website.
- [Media Center](#) - live video and audio feeds and other interactive options.
- ["Gavel to Gavel Alaska"](#) coverage schedule.
- House & Senate [Committee/Floor session schedules.](#)
- [Legislator contact list.](#)
- [Committees and members.](#)
- How to [address a letter](#) to a legislator.
- Where to [search for a bill.](#)
- [Track bills](#) - get e-mail alerts or RSS feeds.
- How to [read a bill history.](#)
- [Layman's guide](#) to the budget process.
- [Legislative process](#) in Alaska.





PERS and TRS publications available online

Note: The [Fiscal Year 2010 Comprehensive Financial Reports \(CAFRs\)](#) for the PERS and TRS are now available online.

The following PERS and TRS publications are available at the "[Publications](#)" link (under the "[Resources](#)" menu) on the [Division of Retirement and Benefits website](#):

PERS Publications:

- [PERS Comprehensive Annual Financial Report](#)
- [Actuarial Valuation Reports](#)
- [Financial Statements](#)

TRS Publications:

- [TRS Comprehensive Annual Financial Report](#)
- [Actuarial Valuation Reports](#)
- [Financial Statements](#)

To navigate to any division reports, follow these steps:

1. Go to the division's website at www.doa.alaska.gov/dr/
2. Under the "Resources" drop-down menu, click on "[Publications](#)"
3. Click on the appropriate system, plan or fund.
4. Select the report you want to view.

If you prefer a hard copy of these reports, please contact the Division of Retirement and Benefits at (907) 465-5711.

Updated Forms and Brochures

The following forms and brochures have been updated since the last newsletter. Please be sure to use only the updated forms. Printing from the [Forms & Brochures page](#) on the division website will assure you always have the most current version.

Form No.	Description
ben075	Employee Health Plan Appeal Guide for AlaskaCare Members

We hope you find this employer newsletter helpful. If you have any questions or suggestions please feel free to contact us. Any feedback from you will be greatly appreciated. Click here for [past issues back to 2008](#). Send any comments to the editor, [Barbara Kelly](#).

Accounting Section (907) 465-5700	Pension Adjustments Unit (907) 465-5700
Audit Section (907) 465-5707	Retirement Customer Service Center (907) 465-5700
Benefits Section (907) 465-8600	Retiree Payroll Section (907) 465-5700
Deferred Compensation Plan (907) 465-5700	Retirement Processing Unit (907) 465-5700
Dependent Care Assistance Plan (907) 465-4464	Supplemental Annuity Plan (907) 465-5700
Disability Unit (907) 465-5700	Survivor Benefits Unit (907) 465-5700
Divorce/Dissolution Unit (907) 465-5700	

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