



Employers' Edge

Employer news from the
Alaska Division of
Retirement and Benefits

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Alaska Retirement Management Board Meets February 25-26 in Juneau

The next regular meeting of the Alaska Retirement Management Board (ARMB) will be held in Juneau on February 25-26, 2010, in the Egan Room at Centennial Hall, 101 Egan Drive. The meeting will begin at 9:00 a.m. each day. The public is invited to attend and will be given the opportunity for public comment and participation.



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, please contact the ARMB liaison, [Judy Hall](#), in the Treasury Division.

"Planning for Your Future" Workshops Offered

April 8-10, Fairbanks, May 13-15, Kenai Peninsula

The division is offering a series of educational workshops designed to help employees plan for their future retirement security. The workshops are in addition to the retirement seminars available to employees on a regular basis. The next workshop will be April 8-10, 2010, at the Princess Hotel in Fairbanks and May 13-15 at the Kenai Peninsula College in Soldotna.

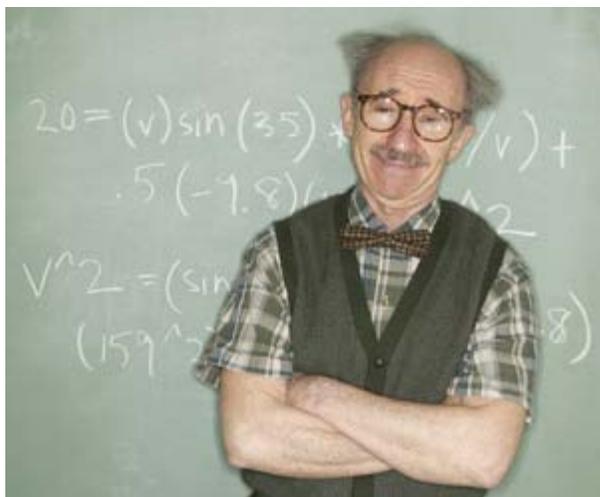
Workshop presentations provide valuable information for all employees, from those newly hired through those planning for retirement. Please encourage your employees to attend. Look for further details on both the April and May workshops, including a complete schedule of presentations, in a future issue of the Employers' Edge.



Reemploying Former TRS Members before July 1, 2010

The July 1, 2010, deadline for former TRS members to reemploy is fast approaching! This raises the question, what does a former TRS member have to do to be considered reemployed before the deadline? Is signing a contract for the 2010-2011 school year enough?

Signing a contract is *not* enough. A former member must be 1) working, 2) receiving compensation on a full-time or part-time basis, and 3) making contributions to the plan *prior* to July 1, 2010, in order to maintain rights to benefits under the TRS Defined Benefit plan (Tier I or II).



A *former* TRS member is a teacher who was hired before July 1, 2006, who terminated employment and took a full refund of his/her contribution account balance. Former TRS members who do not reemploy in a TRS eligible position prior to July 1, 2010, will forfeit the corresponding credited service. If a former member becomes reemployed on or after July 1, 2010, they will only be eligible for benefits under the TRS Defined Contribution Retirement plan (Tier III).

Members who have questions regarding their membership status may contact our Preretirement unit at 1-800-821-2251 or (907) 465-5700 or by email at doa.drb.pretirement@alaska.gov.

Purchasing Service by Additional Pretax Payroll Contributions - Option sunsets June 30, 2010

This option for purchasing service will no longer be available as of July 1, 2010. In order to begin this process, an employee and/or employer must contact our Accounting Section and request to establish a reinstatement indebtedness *prior* to July 1, 2010. Neither an employee nor you, the employer, can independently initiate this process. For more details on this irrevocable election, [see this page](#) on our website.

Alternate Option for Non-Certificated (Classified) School Employees (PERS Tiers I, II, III)

It is extremely important to submit a [change form for the Alternate Option](#) when an employee is eligible. Employees are eligible to change their election from July 1 through September 30 only of each year. If they do not change their election (if eligible) during this time period, they will need to wait until the following year. See the definitions below to ensure your employees are correctly enrolled in the Alternate Option:

New Hire - Someone who was not working for a school district on July 1, 1999, or someone who first became a member on or after July 1, 1999, may, within 90 days of date of hire, make an election. AS 39.35.300 (c) and AS 39.35.310 (c).

Re-employed - Someone who was working for a school district, who was inactive on July 1, 1999, and later reemployed, may, within 90 days of date of hire, make an election. AS 39.35.300 (c) and AS 39.35.310 (c).

Change in Status - You may make an election during the period July 1 through September 30 if your position went from working 12 months to less than 12 months. AS 39.35.300(e) and AS 39.35.310 (e).



You may make an election during the period July 1 through September 30 if your position went from working less than 12 months to 12 months. AS 39.35.300 (d) and AS 39.35.310 (d).

'Get Rin' Feature Added to myRnB

MyRnB requires new users to identify themselves with their SSN and Retirement Identification Number (RIN). But what if a user doesn't know his/her RIN? The 'Get RIN' feature was recently added to myRnB to help users find their RIN without having to call DRB. Users who have a DRB PIN (Personal Identification Number) can enter their SSN and PIN into myRnB to obtain their RIN. Here are [screen prints showing how the "Get Rin" feature works](#).

For further information about myRnB and the new login process, please see the [myRnB Rollout link](#) under "Of Interest" on the [Division's home page](#).

Payment processing moves to Great-West for DCR, DCP and SBS-AP Plans

As of December 1, 2009, Great-West Retirement Services (GWRS) began processing payments for the Supplemental Annuity Plan (SBS-AP), Deferred Compensation Plan (DCP), and Defined Contribution Retirement (DCR) Plan (PERS Tier IV and TRS Tier III).

As part of this change, GWRS revised the plans' Benefit Payment Election forms. Now called "Distribution/Direct Rollover Request," these are now available under the appropriate plan name on the [forms page](#) on the Division's website; for example,

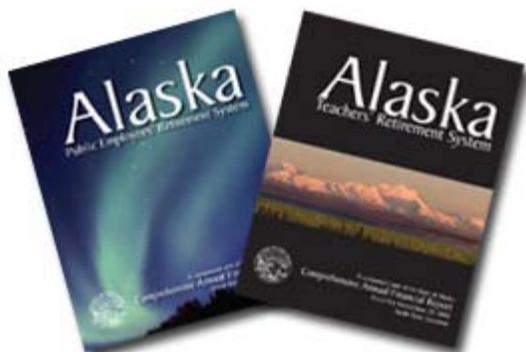
[DCP Distribution/Direct Rollover Request](#). Please discard the former PERS Tier IV/TRS Tier III Distribution Election, Annuity Benefit Election (SBS), and Deferred Compensation Benefit Payment Election (DCP) forms and provide your employees with the new, revised forms. Once completed, they should be sent directly to GWRS at the address or fax number shown on the forms.



SBS-AP and DCP apply only to employers who participate.

The change in processing procedures will enable participants to receive faster payments than before. It eliminates the Division as the "middleman" and will allow daily processing of payments. Additionally, prior to December 1, SBS-AP and DCP participants were limited to two payments per calendar year with a minimum required amount of \$1,000. Now, SBS-AP and DCP participants are no longer limited to two payments per calendar year nor are they required to take a minimum payment amount. Also, DCP participants receiving periodic payments will no longer be limited to two changes per calendar year.

If you or your employees have questions, please contact Great-West Customer Service at 1-800-232-0859.



PERS and TRS Publications Available Online

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

PERS Publications:

[PERS Comprehensive Annual Financial Report](#)

[Actuarial Valuation Reports and Supplemental to the 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/drb/
2. In the "Quick Links" column on the right, 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

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. Email any comments to the editor, [Barbara Kelly](#).

Accounting Section (907) 465-1444	Pension Adjustments Unit (907) 465-1400
Audit Section (907) 465-5707	Pre-Retirement Services Unit (907) 465-5700
Deferred Compensation Plan (907) 465-5700	Retiree Payroll Section (907) 465-1447
Dependent Care Assistance Plan (907) 465-4464	Retirement Processing Unit (907) 465-1477
Disability Unit (907) 465-1153	Supplemental Annuity Plan (907) 465-1600
Divorce/Dissolution Unit (907) 465-5699	Survivor Benefits Unit (907) 465-5695 or (907) 465-3369
Insurance Benefits Section (907) 465-8600	

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