



Employers' Edge

Employer news from the
Alaska Division of
Retirement and Benefits

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"Benefit Fair" coming to King Salmon, September 24-25

Benefit Fair planned for November 5-6 in Anchorage

The next *Benefit Fair* will be held in King Salmon, September 24-25, 2010. PERS and TRS members of all ages are invited to attend. Educational workshops intended to help employees plan now for their future retirement security will be offered. These *Benefit Fairs* also provide an opportunity for state employees covered under the *AlaskaCare Employee Health Plan* to learn more about available benefits.

The King Salmon Fair will also have sessions for active employees of the state and other employers who participate in the *Optional Benefits* (formerly Supplemental Benefits) and *Supplemental Annuity* plans.

In addition to the King Salmon event in September, a fair will be held in Anchorage November 5-6, 2010 and tentative fairs are planned for Bethel and Ketchikan in the spring of 2011.



The fair in King Salmon will be held at the Southwest Alaska Vocational & Education Center. [Click here for descriptions of the workshops to be offered at the fair](#) and [click here to view the fair schedule](#).

For more information on the King Salmon fair, contact Judy Hall, Regional Counselor, by e-mail at judy.hall@alaska.gov or by phone, toll-free, at 800-821-2251.

King Salmon area employers: Please print and [post this flyer](#) in a visible place.

Counselors a valuable resource

2010-2011 travel schedule now available



Field Counselors (from left): Pam Couzin, Brian Schmidt, Judy Hall

The division's counselors are a valuable resource to both employees and employers. Our field counselors have prepared their [travel schedules for the 2010-2011 season](#). (Check back often for updates.) The "official" travel season begins in late August and continues through the end of May. Field counselors try to visit as many employers as economically and physically possible. Their goal is to educate TRS and PERS members about the benefits provided to them by you, the employer.

In addition to the *Benefit Fairs* the division has been conducting statewide, counselors make the following services available in the communities they visit:

- Seminars for large groups, job-site visits, small group meetings, and individual counseling sessions
- Seminars include information on:

- saving for the future
- disability benefits
- survivor benefits for active employees
- retirement and survivor benefits for employees nearing retirement

Counselors also provide services to you, the employer, including:

- Training in benefits
- In-service training
- Classification of employees
- Amending participation agreements and other issues

To make visits as beneficial as possible to all involved, counselors need your cooperation in the following ways:

- Assist with appointment set-up for individual counseling, arrange group or job site meetings, and notify employees of dates counselors will be available at your location
- Work with counselors to ensure that new employees in the Defined Contribution Retirement (DCR) Plan have adequate knowledge of their benefits and pre-arrange on-site introductory seminars for these members

If it is not possible for a counselor to physically visit a community, a counselor can provide seminars, group meetings, and individual counseling via teleconference, videoconference and, coming soon, via the Internet.

If you have any questions regarding counselors and the services they can provide, please contact Bernadette Blankenship, Benefit Education Supervisor at 465-3225 or at Bernadette.Blankenship@alaska.gov.

To see which counselor is assigned to your area, please visit the [Regional Counselor's web page](#), listed under "Quick Links" on the division's home page.

Alaska Retirement Management Board Meets September 23-24 in Fairbanks

The next regular meeting of the Alaska Retirement Management Board (ARMB) will be held in Fairbanks September 23-24 at the Princess Hotel. 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](#).

Marketing the PERS/TRS Defined Contribution Retirement Plan

Presentations planned for October in Anchorage, Fairbanks, Ketchikan, Kotzebue, Nome & Sitka

Division Retirement Section manager, Kathy Lea, and supervisor, Bernadette Blankenship, will meet with employers in communities across the state in **October** to discuss ways to successfully market the PERS/TRS Defined Contribution Retirement (DCR) Plan to prospective employees. If you would like to make an appointment for a presentation, [check the meeting schedule](#) and contact Kathy Lea by email at kathy.lea@alaska.gov or by phone, toll-free, at 800-821-2251.



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
02-1842	Dependent Care Assistance Plan (DCAP) Request for Reimbursement
gen008	Refund Election (PERS Tiers I, II, III / TRS Tiers I, II)
	AlaskaCare Employee Health Coverage Continuation

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

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