



The HR Connection

We work better, when we work together....

May 2014

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Happy Human Resource Professionals Day!

May 2nd is Human Resource Professionals Day! MPERS would like to take this time to say thank you to all of our partners in the districts, divisions & troops for all that you do! You play a key role in our connection with our members. Your support and knowledge are greatly appreciated. As the theme of *The HR Connection* states “We work better, when we work together...” and it has truly been a pleasure to work with each of you!

Board of Trustees Member Election

Only one category (active MoDOT) had multiple nominees for the election. Votes must be made via Secure Member Access no later than 4:00 p.m., May 22, 2014.

Active MoDOT Nominees:

David A. Bower
Kerry A. Harvey
Todd Tyler

The following three categories only had one nominee each. By default, these nominees are automatically your Board of Trustee representatives. Their 4-year term begins July 1, 2014 and ends June 30, 2018.

Retired MoDOT Representative:

Sue Cox

Active MSHP Representative:

Major J. Bret Johnson

Retired MSHP Representative:

William “Bill” Seibert, Jr.

Attached are copies of the notices we will be sending out to members regarding the election process. Please note that the election is taking an electronic only format this year. That is, members must login to MPERS website under their secure member access to make their election.

Notification of Deaths

We'd like to take this time to stress how important it is for you to notify MPERS when you learn of the death of a member. Whether or not you think they are entitled to benefits from our system, it is extremely important that you let us know (if you have not already received a death notification from our office). Even if a member is not eligible for retirement benefits, there are other pieces to consider.

- Active employees under the 2011 Tier have a contribution balance which needs to be refunded to the member's beneficiaries.
- Retirees, Term-Vested (Deferred) members & Disabilities may have spouses who are eligible for survivor benefits.
- Active employees under the Closed or Year 2000 Plan may have survivors who are eligible for benefits.
- Death of a Retiree's spouse – depending on the option chosen at retirement, the member may be eligible to have their benefit popped up (remove the survivor reduction). We also need to advise the retiree of benefit options in the event of remarriage.
- Survivor deaths – benefits need to be stopped before overpayments are made.

Benefit Statements for Active Employees

Benefit Statements are being printed as we speak! As we previously mentioned in the March edition, the statements have a new look! Please take time to review your individual statements when you receive them and let us know if you find anything that looks out of place or confusing. Please note that members with less than 3 months of service, or on an unpaid leave of absence, will not receive a Benefit Statement. However, they can still run benefit estimates at any time via Secure Member Access, and as always, our staff is happy to answer any questions they may have.

Upcoming Seminars

Below is a listing of Pre-Retirement Seminars scheduled for May:

- May 6, 2014 Macon
- May 7, 2014 Hannibal

Interest on Employee Contributions

As you may recall, by statute, the interest rate granted for employee contributions has been changed. According to 104.1091.8(5) the interest rate effective 6/30/2014 shall be equal to the investment rate that is published by the US Department of Treasury for fifty-two week treasury bills for the relevant auction that is nearest to the preceding July first. For 2014, the rate is 0.162%. For more information please review our [2011 Tier Brochure](#) on our website.

Form Due Dates

To help clarify when retirement forms may be submitted to our office, we have recently updated our publications to show the "range" of when forms may be submitted, not just the deadline. This change is to help avoid forms being submitted to our office too soon and rejected, as per statute, we can only accept forms 120 days prior to retirement.

Intended Date of Retirement	<i>Step 1:</i> Notice of Retirement Due at MPERS	<i>Step 2:</i> Retirement Election Form Due at MPERS
January 1	September 1 - November 30	December 31
February 1	October 1 - December 31	January 31
March 1	November 1 - January 31	February 28
April 1	December 1 - February 28	March 31
May 1	January 1 - March 31	April 30
June 1	February 1 - April 30	May 31
July 1	March 1 - May 31	June 30
August 1	April 1 - June 30	July 31
September 1	May 1 - July 31	August 31
October 1	June 1 - August 31	September 30
November 1	July 1 - September 30	October 31
December 1	August 1 - October 31	November 30

Please let us know of anyone that needs to be added to/removed from this distribution listing. If you have topics you would like for us to address, please send them to us and we will do our best to incorporate them in future connections. As always, please feel free to contact us with any questions or concerns you may have!