



Future Matters

Start Thinking About Tomorrow – Today

Election Update

SERS is holding a Special Election for an open employee-member seat with a term beginning November 22, 2019, and ending June 30, 2020.

All SERS members other than disability recipients are eligible to apply.

To be eligible, interested members must send a resume and a completed Certification Form to SERS before October 1, 2019. All forms and a complete election schedule can be found on our website at www.ohsers.org/about-sers/board-of-trustees.

SERS is also holding an election for an employee-member seat with a term beginning July 1, 2020, and ending June 30, 2024.

All SERS members other than disability recipients are eligible to apply.

Nominating Petition forms and Certification forms will be available on the SERS website at www.ohsers.org/about-sers/board-of-trustees beginning August 1.

Forms for this election must be received at the SERS office not later than 4:30 p.m. EDT, December 6, 2019. A complete election schedule can also be found on the web address above.

If you have questions about the election process, please contact Tim Barbour, external communications supervisor, at tbarbour@ohsers.org or 614.222.5901.

Your Member Annual Statement Is Enclosed with this Issue of *Future Matters*



Your annual statement shows your total contributions and service credit, as well as your account balance as of June 30, 2018. It also gives you a pension estimate.

In 2013, legislative changes were made to service retirement eligibility requirements. These changes were implemented on August 1, 2017.

Your pension estimate reflects these legislative changes, and is based on your earliest eligibility for a monthly pension based on the single life plan, which pays the highest amount to you during retirement and ceases upon your death. It uses your current total service credit as of June 30, 2018.

Please remember that the figures included on this statement are only estimates. They are based upon your continued employment in a SERS-covered position.

If you have service credit or are buying service credit with another Ohio system, such as Ohio Public Employees Retirement System or State Teachers Retirement System, it is NOT shown in your total credit. Employer contributions also are not included.

About Your Pension

SERS offers two types of service

retirement: unreduced service retirement and early service retirement.

For unreduced service retirement, you earn the maximum pension amount based on your service credit, which is how long you have worked in an Ohio public service job, and final average salary, which is the average of your three highest years of salary.

Early retirement benefits are reduced to cover the cost of providing a pension over a longer period of time.

The Service Retirement Eligibility Requirements chart on your statement includes eligibility requirements for both unreduced service retirement and early service retirement.

Questions?

 If you have a question about this statement, please visit our website at www.ohsers.org and submit your question using the message feature on SERS' secure Account Login, or call SERS toll-free at 800-878-5853.

You can also check your current contributions and service credit anytime on our website by using Account Login. ●

? Get Ready to Retire:

Planning to Retire in the Next Year? Here's What to Do

If you are thinking about retiring in the near future, SERS offers numerous educational opportunities for learning about your SERS retirement, so when the time comes, you are ready.

Educate Yourself

Attend a Retirement Conference. The meetings are offered at many different locations throughout the state, and they cover a variety of topics, including eligibility requirements, Social Security issues, health care options, and the retirement process.

All those interested in attending can register on our website at www.ohsers.org.

The information shared at the meetings also is available on our YouTube channel: www.youtube.com/SERSofOhio, or you can watch a video from our website at www.ohsers.org/video-center.

Retiring with SERS Webinar

Members within one year of retirement are encouraged to join us for the Retiring with SERS webinar, which is an online seminar where information is presented to an audience via computer.

As a participant in the SERS webinar, you will be able to listen to the webinar through your computer speakers and ask questions by typing them on your keyboard.

The webinars cover issues including:

- Service Retirement Basics
- Social Security Offset/Windfall
- SERS Health Care

- Retirement Process and What to Expect

Space is limited and advance registration is required. Registration can be completed through links on our website at www.ohsers.org.

After completing your registration, you will receive a confirmation email that provides instructions on how to connect to the webinar on the day of the event.

Register

On the GoToWebinar registration page on our website, and select the webinar you want by using the drop-down menu.

Schedule

August 21, 2019	11:30 a.m.
October 8, 2019	4:30 p.m.
December 5, 2019	12:00 p.m.

Plan

Register for Your SERS Account Login

Account Login is your personal resource tool to manage your account with SERS. Once you are registered, you can check your account anytime.

Features available include:

- Review of your account balance and service credit
- Creation of estimates
- Access to applications for service retirement, disability benefits, and refunds
- Ability to update personal information, including address, beneficiary, direct deposit, and tax withholding



For your protection and security, SERS has a dual authentication process for online registration.

To begin the process, call SERS toll-free at 800-878- 5853, from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. For assistance on how to set up your online account with step-by-step instructions, access the Account Login: Step-by-Step handout on our website at www.ohsers.org.

Already have an Account Login? Make sure we have your most current email address so you can receive periodic emails about SERS events in your area.

Meet with a SERS Counselor

Talk to a SERS counselor about your retirement options. Call our office to schedule your face-to-face appointment. Appointments are reserved for those retiring within the next 12 months. Schedule your appointment two to three months in advance.

The SERS office is located at 300 E. Broad St., Columbus, Ohio 43215. To schedule an appointment, call us toll-free at 800-878-5853. ●



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