

NOTICE TO EMPLOYERS

Ohio Public Employees Retirement System 277 East Town Street Columbus, Ohio 43215-4642 1-800-222-PERS(7377) • http://www.opers.org

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BULLETIN RE: GASB Statement No. 27

Statement No. 27 of the Governmental Accounting Standards Board, "Accounting for Pensions by State and Local Governmental Employers" (GASB 27) requires detailed disclosure of pension information in financial statements and accompanying information. To assist your employer unit in complying with this statement, OPERS is providing disclosure data required in paragraph 20 of GASB Statement 27. In addition to our information some data needs to be obtained from your records. These items are indicated in the bulletin. A sample disclosure notice can be found in GASB Statement 27, Appendix D, Illustration 3.

Disclosure information required in GASB Statement 27, paragraph 20:

- A. Ohio Public Employees Retirement System is a cost-sharing multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan.
- B. OPERS provides retirement and disability benefits, annual cost of living adjustments, and death benefits to plan members and beneficiaries.
- C. Authority to establish and amend benefits is provided by state statute per Chapter 145 of the Ohio Revised Code.
- D. The Ohio Public Employees Retirement System issues a stand-alone financial report. Interested parties may obtain a copy by making a written request to 277 East Town Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215-4642 or by calling (614) 222-6705 or 1-800-222-PERS (7377).
- E. The Ohio Revised Code provides statutory authority for employee and employer contributions. The employee contribution rates are 8.5% for employees other than law enforcement and public safety. The law enforcement classification consists of sheriffs, deputy sheriffs, and township police with an employee contribution rate of 10.1%. Public safety division members contribute at 9%.

The 2002 employer contribution rate for state employers was 13.31% of covered payroll. For local government employer units the rate was 13.55% of covered payroll. The 2002 employer contribution rate for both the law enforcement and public safety divisions was 16.70% of covered payroll.

F. Required employer contributions are equal to 100% of the dollar amount billed to each employer and must be extracted from the employer's records.

Laurie Fiori Hacking

Laurie Fiori Hacking Executive Director