

EMPLOYER Notice

Ohio Public Employees Retirement System • 277 East Town Street • Columbus, Ohio 43215

Local contribution rates certified for 2009

Who should read this notice

Finance directors and others responsible for processing retirement contributions to OPERS

Situation overview

As required by the Ohio Revised Code, the OPERS Board of Trustees has certified employee and employer contribution rates for all local division employers for the calendar year 2009. These rates will be in effect from January 1, 2009 through December 31, 2009.

As provided for in the Health Care Preservation Plan, increases for employee contribution rates were phased in to the statutory maximum through 2008. The stepped increases were phased in over a longer period of time for employers in the law enforcement and public safety classifications. Therefore, the following rates for 2009 reflect an increase in the public safety and law enforcement employer contribution rates—incremental increases will continue through 2011 for those groups.

What you need to do

Please be aware of the retirement contribution rates that will become effective for all pay periods ending on or after January 1, 2009.

The 2009 **employee** retirement contribution rates will be:

Local	10.00%
Public Safety	10.10%
Law Enforcement	10.10%

The **employer** contribution rates for 2009 will be:

Local	14.00%
Public Safety	17.63%
Law Enforcement	17.63%

Please note, salary must be reported when it is *earned*, not paid. This means you must report, each month, all pay periods that end in that month—regardless of when the employee's pay date falls. Therefore, if your last pay period in 2008 has an ending date in 2009, the retirement deduction for this entire pay period must be taken at the higher 2009 contribution rate. Conversely, if the last pay period in 2008 has an ending date in 2008 but is paid to employees in 2009, the 2008 rate would apply.

Note:

OPERS continues to work to extend the solvency of the Health Care Fund.

The Health Care Preservation Plan provided for employer contribution rates to be increased incrementally over a period of years to the statutory maximum to help extend the solvency of the OPERS Health Care Fund.

Other options for continued solvency are being explored as well.



1-888-400-0965
www.opers.org

(More information on back)

Why this is important

Accurate reporting and remitting of retirement contributions is important to provide correct service credit in the retirement system for your employees.

Changes to the *Employer Manual*

To accurately reflect the employer contribution rate increases for employees in the law division, the *Employer Manual* has been updated on the opers.org website. Those employers who maintain a hard copy should print pages 3.1 – 3.4.

Who to contact for more information

After you review this *Employer Notice*, contact your Employer Outreach representative with questions or comments at 1-888-400-0965 or via the Internet at employero Outreach@opers.org.

This Employer Notice is written in plain language for use by public employers who are subject to coverage under the Ohio Public Employees Retirement System. It is not intended as a substitute for the federal or state law, namely the Ohio Revised Code, the Ohio Administrative Code, or the Internal Revenue Code, nor will its interpretation prevail should a conflict arise between it and the Ohio Revised Code, Ohio Administrative Code, or Internal Revenue Code. Rules governing the retirement system are subject to change periodically either by statute of the Ohio General Assembly, regulation of the Ohio Public Employees Retirement Board, or regulation of the Internal Revenue Code. If you have questions about this material, please contact our office or seek legal advice from your attorney.



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