Amended Rules effective November 2007

Who should read this notice
Finance directors, payroll professionals and human resources professionals

Situation overview
As a matter of process and as required by law, OPERS reviews rules every five years to ensure appropriateness and accuracy. As a result of that review process, some rules required technical changes. In addition, two rules were changed substantively and acted upon by the OPERS Board of Trustees. All amendments in this overview became effective November 30, 2007.

Following are substantive amendments to standing rules:

• **Appeal of membership determination (Amended rule 145-1-11)**
  The amendment provides for a 15-page limit on written objections to the hearing officer’s report and recommendation. In addition, the change requires staff to submit a summary memorandum (as is currently done).

• **Death benefit payment (Amended rule 145-2-55)**
  Change requires the beneficiary designation for the lump-sum death benefit to be filed with the System prior to the retiree or benefit recipient’s death. This change is consistent with beneficiary designations for member accounts.

The following rules had technical changes only as part of the five-year review process:

• **Organization of the System (Amended rule 145-1-01),**

• **Election of board of trustee members (Amended 145-1-02), and**

• **Board of trustee travel and expense reimbursement policy (Amended rule 145-1-03).**

Any employer may review the exact verbiage for new rules or amendments to existing rules by going to the OPERS Web site at www.opers.org where the entire Ohio Administrative Rules document can be found.

What you need to do
OPERS is required to notify public employers of any amendment or change to the Ohio Administrative Code. Please review any letters, forms or publications you produce or distribute and make the necessary changes to ensure accuracy with the new and amended rules.
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 employeroutreach@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.