

EMPLOYER Notice

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



Announcement: 2010 elections for OPERS' Board of Trustees

Who should read this notice

Those responsible for communicating information to employees

Informational overview

Work on the 2010 Board of Trustees election has begun. The final day for OPERS to receive votes for the four positions up for election on OPERS' Board of Trustees will be Friday, October 1, 2010. The election will be verified Monday, October 4, 2010 by the Secretary of State's office.

Those elected will serve four-year terms beginning January 1, 2011. Individuals elected to the Board of Trustees automatically receive a seat on the Ohio Deferred Compensation Board of Trustees. The four positions up for election this year represent three employee groups: state employees, college and university employees, municipal employees, and one position representing the retiree population.

Actively contributing public employees who are members of OPERS in one of the categories up for election are eligible to represent their group, except one who is receiving a disability retirement benefit.

By law, candidates must obtain at least 500 member signatures from their representative group. Within those 500 signatures, at least 10 different counties must be represented by a minimum of 20 signatures each.

Employee groups whose representatives' positions are up for election this year are:

- State employees—Representing those working at a job for the state of Ohio (approximately 55,432 employees),
- State colleges and universities—Representing approximately 55,141 non-teaching employees at the 23 state colleges and universities in Ohio, and
- Municipal employees—Representing approximately 65,783 employees working for Ohio's municipalities.

A separate communication will be sent directly to all current retirees outlining the requirements for candidates seeking the retiree position (representing approximately 141,733 retirees).

Here's the 2010 election process, with deadlines:

- **June 11**—*Notice of Election* packets including posters, petitions and forms will be sent to all employers. We ask employers to display election materials prominently.

Important:

The time commitment for members of the OPERS Board of Trustees includes:

- *Preparing for and attending monthly Board meetings,*
- *Committee work as assigned, and*
- *Serving on the Ohio Deferred Compensation Board of Trustees.*

Note: OPERS must receive completed petitions and forms no later than August 2, 2010.



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- **August 2**—Candidates must have completed petitions, forms and draft biographical information filed with OPERS. (Note: This is an *actual receipt* date, not a postmark date).
- **August 18**—OPERS Board certifies slate of candidates and biographical statements, which will appear on the voting material. Candidates will be notified of eligibility.
- **August 23**—Voting materials will be sent to all qualified voters at their home address. As in the past, voters will have the option of voting by mail, through an interactive voice telephone system, or via the internet.
- **October 1**—Last day for OPERS to receive ballots (again, actual date, not postmark date).
- **October 4**—Votes will be tabulated and results verified under the supervision of the Secretary of State. Winners will be notified after certification of election results.

Action requested

Please be aware of these important election dates for 2010 and post the information as prominently as possible.

- You will need to make copies of the petitions available to any interested employee when you receive them.
- Also, remind your employees to submit any recent or upcoming address changes to OPERS. This will ensure each and every eligible employee receives voting material. Employees may submit an address change via the My Benefits System (eMBS), by contacting a customer service representative at 1-800-222-7377, or by written notification submitted to OPERS.

Why this is important

OPERS' Board of Trustees has an impressive tradition of service to members. Employees who are interested and eligible to run for a position on the Board should be encouraged to do so.

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 by e-mail 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 notice from your attorney.



BOARD of Trustees

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Representative for Retirees

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College/University Employees

Helen Youngblood
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