

Ohio PERS NEWS

YOUR BENEFIT CONNECTION

News and information for active members of the Ohio Public Employees Retirement System

Member-Directed
Plan

Automatic Rebalancing Feature

Keep your investment mix in balance long term

As an OPERS Member-Directed plan participant, you have actively chosen OPERS Investment Options for your contributions that will help you meet your retirement goals.

To activate the rebalancing feature:

1. Log on to your OPERS online account. Click on the link to view your account.
2. Go to the Manage Investments tab. Select Rebalance Account.

Mitigating rate to remain unchanged in 2015

○○○ 2

Electronic quarterly statements

○○○ 3

Three elected to fill vacant Board seats

○○○ 4

However, as you know, each investment option performs differently each day, which can cause your investment mix to deviate from your desired allocations.

Over time, these deviations could become quite significant.

OPERS offers a feature called “Rebalancing” and it is easy to use. Rebalancing is moving some money from an investment option that has “outgrown” the original allocation you chose into one that has fallen below the original percentage. Rebalancing enables you to, in essence, buy low and sell high.

By activating the automatic rebalancing feature for your account, you can keep your investment mix in balance for the long-term.

If you have built your own portfolio and invest in more than one OPERS investment option, you can turn on the automatic rebalancing feature by going to www.opers.org.

Or you can call the OPERS Help Line at (866) 673-7748 and a representative can assist you.

When you choose this feature, your account is rebalanced according to your desired asset allocation mix using the same percentages as you have directed for your future contributions. Rebalancing occurs on the last business day of each calendar quarter (or, if that’s a holiday or weekend, on the previous business day).

Rebalancing is an automatic feature so you do not have to remember to request it each quarter. However, automatic rebalancing is turned off if you make any account transaction, such as transferring funds from one investment option to another.

To reactivate the rebalancing feature again, please follow the steps listed above. You will receive confirmations by mail before and after rebalancing transactions. If you want to change or cancel rebalancing before it occurs, submit your request prior to the date the transaction will take place.



Mitigating rate to remain unchanged in 2015

Ohio PERS NEWS – Your Benefit Connection is a quarterly newsletter providing news and information to more than 374,000 active members of the Ohio Public Employees Retirement System. An active member is anyone currently contributing toward an Ohio PERS retirement benefit. This publication allows us to communicate vital information concerning retirement benefits to our active members and also educate them on the services we provide.

CONTACT INFORMATION:

www.opers.org

1-800-222-7377

Monday - Friday

8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

newsfeedback@opers.org

It is your responsibility to be certain that OPERS has your current address on file. If OPERS is not made aware of address changes, we cannot guarantee that you will receive important information pertaining to your OPERS account.

This newsletter is written in plain language for use by members of 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.

After its annual review of the mitigating rate, the OPERS Board of Trustees has determined there will be no change to the employer contribution rate of 14 percent and the mitigating rate for employees of both state and local government agencies will remain 0.77 percent for 2015.

The mitigating rate is money deducted from employer contributions to the Member-Directed and Combined plans to offset any negative impact the plans might have on the Traditional Pension Plan.

Under state retirement law, if the defined contribution plans have had a negative financial impact on the Traditional Pension Plan, then a percentage of employer contributions, known as the mitigating rate, will be redirected to the Traditional Pension Plan to compensate for that negative impact. The money cannot be used to pay administrative expenses of the Member-Directed and Combined plans.

Is your contact information up-to-date?

Log in to your OPERS online account at www.opers.org, and review your personal information, including your beneficiary designations, to make sure OPERS has your current address, phone number and e-mail address.

Supplement your retirement income

Consider making voluntary contributions to your OPERS account

As you consider making the transition to retirement, many issues emerge. Among the most significant uncertainties is the question of retirement income – will it be enough?

As you consider your retirement situation, can you answer that question? With the rising cost of living and health care, it's important to start saving now as an active employee. If you're uncertain that you'll have enough in retirement, you can supplement your mandatory contributions by making voluntary contributions to your OPERS account.

Voluntary Contributions

As a Member-Directed Plan participant, you may make additional, after-tax contributions to your individual defined contribution account. These contributions will be invested in the OPERS investment options you selected for your individual defined contribution account. These deposits are limited by federal tax law to 100 percent of your annual income from all public employers contributing to OPERS, or to \$53,000, whichever is less. In addition to voluntary after-tax deposits, other retirement accounts you have may be

rolled over to your individual OPERS account. For example, retirement savings held in a traditional IRA, SEP, SIMPLE, Section 401(k), Keogh, or Section 401(a) retirement plan may be rolled over at any time with no maximum deposit limits. Section 403(b) or Section 457(b) accounts also may be rolled in subject to certain limits. These funds will retain their tax-deferred status as long as they remain with OPERS.

If you would like to make a deposit by personal check, money order or cashier's check into your individual defined contribution account, please use the appropriate Voluntary Deposit form. To roll over eligible retirement accounts, in addition to the Voluntary Deposit form, complete and submit any transfer or rollover distribution form(s) required to your current plan administrator.

To learn more, visit www.opers.org to view the *Saving for Retirement* leaflet.

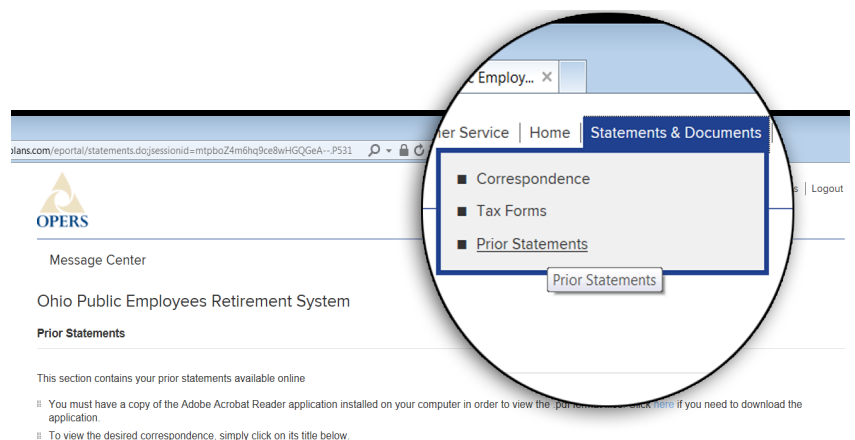
Receive your quarterly statements electronically

Follow these steps to set your correspondence preference

Did you know you can receive your quarterly statements and account transaction confirmations online? Go to www.opers.org and log into your OPERS online account. Under the Account Summary heading, click on the link to view your investment account. Click User Preferences and select Mail Preferences to set your delivery method to E-mail Notification.

Instead of receiving a paper quarterly statement or transaction confirmation letter in the mail, you will receive e-mail notifications when your statement, and other correspondence, are available to view in your online account.

You can also view your eight most recent quarterly statements online by clicking Statements and Documents and selecting Prior Statements.





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Three elected to fill vacant Board seats

Three new trustees began serving on the OPERS Board of Trustees Jan. 1, 2015. Charles Latsa, Christopher Mabe and Steve Toth joined the board after winning their respective elections. The governor's appointed investment representative position has not yet been filled after the resignation of Frank Ciotola in April. Incumbent municipal employee representative Ken Thomas ran unopposed for his seat.

Ohio PERS Board of Trustees

The 11-member OPERS Board of Trustees is responsible for the administration and management of OPERS. Seven of the 11 members are elected by the groups that they represent (i.e., college and university non-teaching employees, state, county, municipal, and miscellaneous employees, and retired members); the Director of the Department of Administrative Services for the state of Ohio is a statutory member, and three members are investment experts appointed by the Governor, the Treasurer of State, and jointly by the Speaker of the Ohio House of Representatives and the President of the Ohio Senate.

Elected Board Members

Charles Latsa
State College and University Employees

Sean Loftus
County Employees

Christopher Mabe
State Employees

John W. Maurer
Retired Members

Cynthia Sledz Chair
Miscellaneous Employees

Ken Thomas
Municipal Employees

Steve Toth
Retired Members

Statutory Board Member

Bob Blair
Director, Department of Administrative Services

Appointed Board Members

Vacant
Investment Expert Governor Appointee

Robert Smith
Investment Expert Treasurer of State Appointee

James R. Tilling
Investment Expert General Assembly Appointee

Karen Carraher
Executive Director