Subject line: PERS: Employer Monthly Update, September 2010

Dear PERS employer,

In this update:

1) The MACR tip of the month: Reviewing Part-time employees.
2) Employer EDX training now available through the internet.
3) Changing the method of contribution for member IAP accounts.
4) Fall 2010 Employer Outreach presentations.

1) The MACR tip of the month: Reviewing Part-time employees.

Please review your part-time employees to determine *if* they've met the 600-hour service time requirement in calendar year 2010 *and* also completed a waiting time in 2010 or a previous calendar year, thus making all job segments in 2010 qualifying and overriding non-qualifying hire intent for 2010.

The Year-to-Date Wage and Contribution Summary screen and the Eligibility reports can help you with that determination. These aids can be accessed through links by the same name in the employer EDX homepage Site Navigation area. E-mail or phone your employer account representative for assistance.

2) Employer EDX training now available through the internet.

Employer EDX training is now offered monthly here at the PERS Tigard headquarters computer lab and simultaneously through the internet. Six seats are available in the PERS computer lab and five places are available through the internet for any employer EDX training session.

You'll need a workstation with internet access and a telephone to accomplish employer EDX training through the internet. We recommend that your telephone have hands-free (speakerphone) capability for ease of use.

Registration for employer EDX training at the Tigard headquarters and through the internet is completely online. On the PERS employer website, www.oregon.gov/pers/emp/index.shtml, under the "Employer Training & Education" heading, click on the "EDX Class Schedule and Registration" link to review class dates and register for the class date of your choice.

3) Changing the method of contribution for member IAP accounts.

OAR 459-009-0200, Employer Remitting of Employee Contributions, was effective August 2, 2010. This rule clarified choice of the method contribution to member IAP accounts, including required notification to PERS if the member IAP account contribution method for any employees is changed. This rule can be found by clicking on the “Administrative Rules” link on the left-hand side of the PERS employer website home page, then clicking on the “PERS Administrative Rules (Chapter 459…)” link.

4) Fall 2010 Employer Outreach presentations.

PERS will be conducting a series of employer outreach presentations this fall, and to anticipate any reductions in employer training and travel budgets, this presentation series will be offered exclusively through the internet. All you’ll need to participate will be a workstation with internet access and a telephone, preferably one with hands-free (speakerphone) capability for ease of use.

Some of the topics addressed are upcoming EDX Release 6.0 enhancements to accommodate retirement data verification mandated by SB 897, a review of Social Security concerns, and the evolution of annual reconciliation from a two-month compressed process to a consistently paced year-round activity. The tempo of reconciliation will begin to increase this fall, so time after the formal presentation will be available for general questions about problems posting records and reports.

Registration for this presentation series should be available before the end of this week, August 30 – September 3, 2010, through the “Outreach Presentation Schedule & Registration” link, under the “Employer Training & Education” heading on the PERS employer website.

Best regards,

PERS Employer OCE Team

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