OREGON PERS
PUBLIC EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEM

EMPLOYER NEWSLETTER

July 2019

- 2019-2021 Employer Rates
- Reminder: 7/1/2019 membership start date for OPSRP Pension Program members
- PERS Expo 2019 – Register Now

2019-2021 Employer Rates: Change Effective July 1, 2019

Employer rates for the 2019-2021 biennium became effective July 1, 2019.

Information and further details were emailed to employers in the fall of 2018. Our Employer Rate Summary webpage contains further information, including a link to employers' 2017 valuation reports with detailed 2019-2021 rate information.

The 2019-21 employer contribution rates summary document and rates by program can be found at: https://www.oregon.gov/pers/EMP/Pages/Contribution-Rates.aspx.

Your employer rate information is also located under "Your current Contribution Rates" on the EDX employer statement page. Find it through the "View Your Statement" link in the Site Navigation area of any EDX page.

Please note:

- Rates are applied based on pay date. These rates are effective for payrolls dated on and after July 1, 2019, even if the pay was for work performed before that date.

- School districts and charter schools that are not listed individually will pay the rates shown under the employer name "School Districts," employer number 3000, near the bottom of page 7.

    https://www.oregon.gov/pers/EMP/Documents/Contribution-Rates/Contribution-Rates-2019-21.pdf

If you have any questions regarding your employer rates, please contact your ESC account representative at https://www.oregon.gov/pers/EMP/Pages/ESC-Representatives.aspx.

Reminder: 7/1/2019 membership start date for new OPSRP Pension Program members

Eligible employees hired into a qualifying position between December 2 and December 31, 2018, or eligible employees hired into non-qualifying positions who have worked 600 hours or more with all PERS employers in 2019, establish OPSRP Pension Program membership on July 1, 2019, if all membership requirements are met.

Once OPSRP Pension Program membership is established, contributions are required for salary earned as a member on and after July 1, 2019, whatever the actual pay date may be.

A person establishes membership in the OPSRP Pension Program by meeting the following requirements:

- be an eligible employee (ORS 238A.005 (4));

- complete a "waiting time" of six full calendar months, which requires that the eligible employee:

  o be employed for six months in a qualifying position with the same PERS-covered employer;

  o have no break in employment greater than 30 consecutive working days;

  o special rules apply to periods of official leave without pay taken during the waiting time;

- be employed with the same employer on the last calendar day of the waiting time; and

- be employed with the same employer on the first calendar day of the month following completion of the waiting time.

All these requirements must be met to establish OPSRP membership. If any of the requirements are not completed, the waiting time starts over on the first day of the calendar month upon being hired into a qualifying position by a different PERS-covered employer, or upon returning from a break in employment of greater than 30 consecutive working days with the same PERS-covered employer.

All contributions for employees establishing OPSRP membership, begin with the **first full pay period following the six-month waiting time**. Employers will need to use a different procedure to correctly report wages and contributions for any pay date after OPSRP membership is established, if the pay period for that pay date includes both waiting-time service and active service.

Please see Employer Announcement #97: Member and Employer Account Contribution Requirements effective January 1, 2016, for a full procedure and examples on how to report wages.

Remember that posting restrictions on DTL2 records allow DTL2 wage code 01 (Regular Wages) records to post only to positions with an "Active Service" position type, and DTL2 wage code 02 (Regular/Non-Qualifying) records post only to positions with a "Non-Qualifying Service" position type.

Contact your ESC account representative if you have questions about using DTL2 wage codes, waiting time requirements, or other questions on this topic:

https://www.oregon.gov/pers/EMP/Pages/ESC-Representatives.aspx

Wednesday, October 9, 2019 – Salem Convention Center

PERS Expo 2019 – Register Now!

PERS is excited to announce this year's premier retirement planning event: **PERS Expo 2019: Your Path to Financial Wellness**.

PERS Expo 2019 will take place **Wednesday, October 9**, at the **Salem Convention Center**, from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Doors open at 9:30 a.m.

PERS will have shuttle buses from the Marion Parkade and North Riverfront parking lots in Salem. There are other free parking venues near the Expo in the downtown area.

PERS Expo 2019 will give you direct access to valuable retirement planning activities, resources, and other useful information. Meet with counselors and experts from:

- PERS
- Oregon Savings Growth Plan (OSGP)
- PERS Health Insurance Program (PHIP)
- Social Security
- other financial wellness partners and investment professionals

There are workshops and resources tailored for everyone, from the newest public employee, to someone ready to retire. To make the most out of your Expo experience, you may want to consider taking one of the three main PERS workshops and then supplementing your schedule with other workshops from our financial wellness partners.

You can learn more about PERS Expo 2019, read about the workshops, and register now at growyourtomorrow.com/expo. While you're there, make sure to watch a one-minute video highlighting last year's Expo.

How to Register for PERS Expo 2019

You and your guests **must register** to attend the Expo. You must also **register for each workshop** you would like to attend, as space is limited.

1. On the registration website, click the "Register Now" button, which will open a registration form. Follow the steps to choose your workshop sessions and build your schedule.

2. Make sure you **use an email address you have access to**, as you will receive a confirmation email from "support@exposent.com" with a link to view your session schedule. **Please do not delete this email**, as it and the Expo Pass App are the **only ways** to view or change your personal workshop schedule. PERS and OSGP staff will not be able to provide you with your schedule on-site at the Expo, and our call agents also do not have access to your schedule.

3. **For the best experience**, after you've registered, download the Expo Pass App (search "Expo Pass" in the Apple App Store or Google Play Store) to have a mobile copy of your PERS Expo 2019 schedule.

Can't make it to Salem for the Expo?

PERS, OSGP, and PHIP education sessions are also offered throughout the year at various locations. To view the schedule of upcoming sessions at a location near you, follow the links below:

PERS Education Sessions

OSGP Workshops

PHIP New Enrollment Presentations