

Public Employees' Retirement System
of Mississippi
Mailing & Shipping Address:
429 Mississippi Street
Jackson, Mississippi 39201-1005
(601) 359-3589 or 1-800-444-PERS (7377)
Employer Hotline: (601) 359-2090

PERS Quarterly Employer Update

Oct/Nov/Dec 2004

Issue Date November 5, 2004

Distribute to all Administrative, Payroll, and Human Resource Personnel

Reporting Reemployed Retirees

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

New Agencies	2
Agency Reminders	2
Employer Field Representatives	3
Board of Trustees Election News	4
Annual Member Statements	4
Economic Development Districts	4

When a PERS retiree returns to service for a PERS-covered agency in *any* capacity, PERS must be notified.

Regulation 34 outlines the terms of reemployment of PERS retirees. The regulation is available for viewing on the PERS website at <http://www.pers.state.ms.us/pdf/reg34.pdf>.

PERS Form 4B, *Certification/Acknowledgement of Reemployment of Retiree*, must be completed by the employing agency and submitted to PERS within five (5) days of a retiree's return to service with a PERS-covered agency. The form delineates the options available to the retiree regarding the salary and work time involved in the reemployment and is available to print from the PERS website at <http://www.pers.state.ms.us/pdf/Forms/Form4B.pdf>.

PERS Form 9C, *Local County or*

Municipal Elected Official Reemployment Acknowledgement and Election, should be completed and submitted by the employing agency within five (5) days of a retiree's return to service if the retiree is being reemployed as a local county or municipal elected official. The form is available for printing on the PERS website at <http://www.pers.state.ms.us/pdf/Forms/Form9C.pdf>.

Even if the retiree is returning to employment as an independent contractor, the reemployment must be reported to PERS. The employing agency must complete and submit to PERS an *Employee vs. Independent Contractor Questionnaire*. The form should be submitted before the reemployment begins and is available to print from the PERS website at http://www.pers.state.ms.us/pdf/Forms/emp_ind_cont.pdf.

PERS WILL BE CLOSED FOR THE FOLLOWING UPCOMING STATE HOLIDAYS:

VETERANS DAY—THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2004
THANKSGIVING — THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 2004
 & FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 2004
CHRISTMAS — FRIDAY, DECEMBER 24, 2004
 & MONDAY, DECEMBER 27, 2004
NEW YEAR — FRIDAY, DECEMBER 31, 2004
 & MONDAY, JANUARY 3, 2005

New Agency Agreements for PERS Coverage

- **Town of Tremont** (Agency #0753-000) — Retirement Coverage, effective date of coverage 09/01/2004, approved by Board 08/24/2004
- **Town of D’Lo** (Agency #5004-000) — Retirement & Social Security Coverage , effective date of coverage 09/01/2004, approved by Board 08/24/2004
- **Coahoma County Soil and Water Conservation District** (Agency #0835-000) — Retirement Coverage, effective date of coverage 09/01/2004, approved by Board 08/24/2004
- **Wayne County Economic Development District** (Agency #8028-000) — Retirement & Social Security Coverage, effective date of coverage 11/01/2004, approved by Board 10/26/2004



Local School Board Members Not Eligible for Retirement Coverage

According to Miss. Code Ann. § 37-6-13, each person serving as a member of the school board of any local school district shall receive either per diem or salary for attending meetings of the school board. However, in accordance with Miss. Code Ann. § 37-6-13,

members of the school board, whether paid per diem or salary, **are not eligible** for any fringe benefits including **retirement**. Therefore, local school districts *should not* report compensation to PERS on behalf of a local school board member where that

compensation is directly attributable to service as a member of the school board, even if the school board member is already covered in PERS through employment in a covered position. Please contact PERS if you have questions.

Reminder

The 1% employer contribution rate increase will begin July 1, 2005. Thus, the employer contribution rate will be 10.75% effective July 1, 2005, which is during the county and municipal FY 2005 budget year. Be sure to keep the increase in mind when preparing budgets and planning for the coming months.



ODDS AND ENDS...

Please remember to not staple Enrollment Forms (PERS Form 1), Change of Information forms (PERS Form 1C), or Beneficiary Nomination forms (PERS Form 1B).

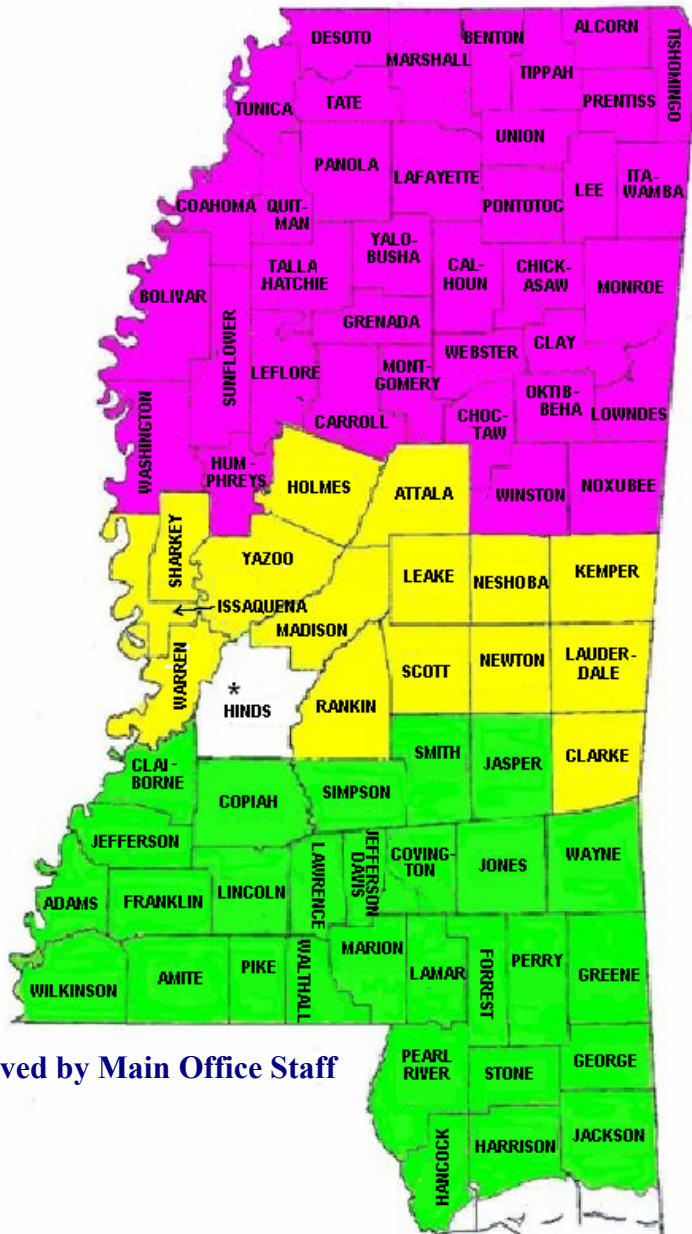
Please be sure you are using the latest edition PERS forms. For the most up-to-date forms, visit our website's forms library at http://www.pers.state.ms.us/Forms_drctry.html.

Please notify PERS whenever you report an employee under a different name than in previous months.

Agency training sessions are being scheduled now for the coming spring. If your agency needs immediate attention, Field Representatives are available to Employers throughout the state.

Meet your Field Rep. and know that he welcomes any questions you might have for him...

PERS Field Representatives Service Districts



*Served by Main Office Staff

Employer Field Representatives

Northern District



William Justice
601-359-3590
william_justice@pers.state.ms.us

Central District



Steve Tucker
601-576-4422
steve_tucker@pers.state.ms.us

Southern District



Joe Hines
601-359-9459
joe_hines@pers.state.ms.us

PUBLIC EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM OF MISSISSIPPI

429 Mississippi Street
 Jackson, Mississippi 39201-1005
 1-800-444-7377
www.pers.state.ms.us

For further information on any of the information in this newsletter, call us at 1-800-444-7377 or visit our website at www.pers.state.ms.us



Board of Trustees Election News

*Dr. Richard C. Miller, Distinguished Professor of Clinical Affairs at the University of Mississippi Medical Center, was recently elected to his third six-year term as the **Institutions of Higher Learning Representative** on the PERS Board of Trustees.*

*An election is being held for a **Retiree Representative** to the PERS Board of Trustees for a six-year term ending April 30, 2011. Any retired member receiving benefits from any plan administered by PERS may qualify for the election by filing a petition signed by at least twenty-five (25) retirees. The deadline for filing petitions at the PERS Building is 5:00 p.m. Friday, December 3, 2004.*

Ballots will be mailed to all benefit recipients December 22, 2004, and must be returned to PERS by 5:00 p.m. Monday, January 24, 2005. If no candidate receives a majority of the votes, there will be a runoff election between the two candidates receiving the largest number of votes.

The ten-member PERS Board includes two retirees, two state employees, one gubernatorial appointee, the State Treasurer, and one representative each from public schools and community colleges, municipalities, counties, and Institutions of Higher Learning. Each elected member is elected to a staggered six-year term by the constituents of the Retirement System they represent.

2004 ANNUAL MEMBER STATEMENTS were recently mailed to members of the retirement system. To make changes to their account information (i.e., new address, name change, beneficiary update, etc.), members should complete and submit PERS Form 1C, *Change of Information*, or PERS Form 1B, *Beneficiary Nomination*. For questions or concerns regarding the 2004 Annual Member Statement, members should contact PERS.



Retirement Benefits for Employees of an Economic Development District

In a recent opinion from the Office of the Attorney General, MS AG Op., Fortier (April 2, 2004), it is noted that there are two different methods for managing an Economic Development District. In situations where a Board of Supervisors

appoints trustees to manage the district, the employees of the economic development district would not be considered employees of the county for purposes of state retirement, whereas if the Board manages the district itself, the employees of the district may be considered

employees of the county for purposes of state retirement.

Any such group wishing to extend retirement through PERS to its employees should contact PERS regarding the process for executing a Joinder Agreement.