EmployerUpdate

for Employers of Maine Public Employees Retirement System

May 2014

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR PLD MEMBERS

New Member Contribution Rates and New Employer Contribution Rates Effective July 1, 2014

Beginning with your July 2014 payroll file, contribution rates are changing for both members and employers participating in the PLD Consolidated plan. Here's how the changes affect you:

- √ PLD Consolidated Plan member contribution rates increase by .5% for all plans. The increase is effective on compensation reported to MainePERS for the month of July 2014.
- √ PLD Consolidated Plan employer contribution rates increase, as well. Click here (http://www.mainepers.org/Pensions/PLD-ER-Rates.htm) to see the new rates, effective with your July 2014 payroll file.

All compensation reported to MainePERS on your July 2014 payroll file is subject to the new member and employer contribution rates. This means the new rates apply to information reported on the July file even if the period for which you are paying your employee is in June. Please rely on your July Remittance Report to review and reconcile the calculated amounts. Employer Services is available to help answer your questions. We can be reached at 1-800-451-9800.

rate watch

It's that time of year again when budgets are being finalized for the upcoming fiscal year. FY 15 begins July 1, 2014 and ends on June 30, 2015.

MainePERS publishes employer contribution rate information on our website. Go to www.mainepers.org and click on the Employer tab at the top of the page and then Employer Home.

Look to the left of this page for Quick Links and you will see Employer Contribution Rates for State, Teacher and Consolidated PLD Employers. Grant funded teacher rate information is included in the Teacher section. The grant funded teacher costs do not include the additional amount due for teacher retiree health. This is established by and paid directly to State Employee Health and Benefits. You will receive a separate notification from Employee Health and Benefits for the retiree health amount.

Microsoft Internet Explorer

MainePERS is aware of the recent news stories reporting on a security issue with Microsoft Internet Explorer (IE). Microsoft has since released a security fix that addresses the issue. Here is an informational link from Microsoft:

https://technet.microsoft.com/library/security/ms14-021

Internet Explorer remains the supported and preferred browser for the MainePERS ESS portal. MainePERS and their security and technology partners have reviewed the recent security flaw in IE and it appears that the issue is eliminated once the latest patch has been applied.

The patch is downloaded automatically when you run the Microsoft update program. Please check with your IT staff before updating. A link is provided below.

http:/ /www.update.microsoft.com

Employer Self Service – Desktop Technical Specifications

Component Name	Primary Recommendation	Employer Self Service	Comments
Operating System	Windows 7	Recommended	Windows 8 is not currently supported.
Browser Settings		Recommended	JavaScript or client-side scripting should be enabled.
Monitor Display	Monitor resolution of 1024 x 768 or higher	Recommended	
Browser Software	Internet Explorer v. 11 Firefox v. 29 Safari (any version) Chrome (any version) Opera (any version)	Preferred Allowed Not preferred* Not preferred* Not preferred*	The Back and Refresh buttons are not supported in V3. Allow pop-ups from the website where the application is hosted. Use close button in lower portion to close pop-up windows. Use "Regular" or "Normal" text size on your browser.
PDF Forms Viewing	Adobe Acrobat Reader 11.x and higher	Recommended	To install go to www.adobe.com or within a current version of Adobe navigate to >Help>Check for updates. Requires internet connection.
Document Shell Editor	Java Runtime Environment	Recommended	To install on your desktop, go to and click on http://www.java.com/download/index.jsp Supports Java version 6 or higher.

*Issues related to ESS forms are known to exist upon using these browsers.

As of 05/05/2014