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update

TEACHER RETIREMENT SYSTEM OF TEXAS

Penalty Interest (PI) considerations

Due to ongoing issues and defects with the TRS Reporting Entity (RE) Portal and the continued efforts to transition to the RE Portal, many REs have been accruing PI. This may be related to the RE Portal not calculating the New Member period correctly, your software not calculating contributions accurately or various other defects with the RE Portal. If PI was charged as a result of defects within the RE Portal or your software, TRS will consider waiving PI on a case-by-case basis.

TRS understands that many REs have had to estimate their monthly TEXNET deposits and reconcile the actual amounts due when they complete the reports for that month. TRS will consider waving PI, provided the TEXNET deposit for the report month was submitted by the deadline, and the estimated TEXNET deposit amount sent for a particular report was at least equal to the amount of the deposit required for the previous month's report.

If you need TRS to consider waiving PI for one or more particular report months, please send a written request to REOutreach@trs.texas.gov. You must include a detailed explanation of how the PI is related to a RE Portal defect or your software issue.

TRS-ActiveCare Annual Enrollment for plan year 2018-19 is July 1 – Aug. 24, 2018

Annual Enrollment for TRS-ActiveCare participants will begin on July 1, 2018 and end on Aug. 24, 2018. This is the annual opportunity for your employees to make changes to their health benefits without experiencing a special enrollment event; therefore, you should expect to receive health plan questions. Aetna will send out information to benefit administrators over the next few months to help you prepare for a successful Annual Enrollment.

Important announcement about TRS-ActiveCare enrollment and billing

Effective June 1, 2018, TRS-ActiveCare enrollment and billing will transition to bswift – an Aetna company. Aetna's relationship with WellSystems will end with the posting of the June 2018 TRS bill. With this change, Aetna will be able to manage this important aspect of TRS-ActiveCare administration within the company.

If your RE is affected by this change, it will mean changes in your weekly enrollment files. Aetna and bswift are working closely with your third-party administrators and have contacted all REs that use benefits enrollment directly on bswift. Please call Aetna's Benefit Administrators Advocate line for any additional questions.

Member education videos coming soon

TRS is pleased to introduce a new series of videos designed to generally explain your TRS pension plan benefits. The videos will answer TRS members' and retirees' most common questions. They will feature Chief Benefit Officer Barbie Pearson, Benefit Services employees and TRS members. Videos to be released in May of this year include: *Welcome to Membership*, *Naming a Beneficiary* and *What Tier Am I?* TRS will continue to release videos through the end of the calendar year. The following videos are planned to be released during 2018:

- *Employment after Retirement*
- *Selecting a Retirement Benefit Option*
- *Purchasing Service Credit*
- *Disability Retirement*

Completed videos will be posted on the [TRS website](#) and [TRS' YouTube page](#) as they become available. Stay tuned!