

Update

December 2012

Vol. 31 No. 4

TEACHER RETIREMENT SYSTEM OF TEXAS

Important tax reporting information for employers

The Affordable Care Act added additional employer reporting requirements relating to amounts paid for employee health coverage, beginning with the 2012 Forms W-2. In two separate notices, in an effort to assist employers, the Teacher Retirement System of Texas (TRS) provided information concerning these new Internal Revenue Service requirements. The notice to all Reporting Entities can be viewed on the Employers section of the TRS website www.trs.state.tx.us. The notice to TRS-ActiveCare Participating Entities can be viewed on the TRS-ActiveCare section for Employers under Active Members at www.trs.state.tx.us.

December reports and deposits due 1/4/13

Holiday time is here and everyone will be enjoying their winter break soon. Time seems to speed up and things get hectic this time of year! In order to start the new year off on the right foot when we all return in January, please remember that TRAQS due dates have not changed. Because January 6th falls on a Sunday, December 2012 deposits and reports are due by 6:00 p.m., Austin time, on Friday, January 4, 2013. If your employer will still be on winter break at that time, please make arrangements to submit the TEXNET deposits by the due date to avoid penalty interest.

Most importantly, have a wonderful holiday!

Reminder: Watch for the TEAM Web page in the new year!

As part of the TRS Enterprise Application Modernization (TEAM) Program, the TRS Reporting and Query System (TRAQS) will be replaced by late 2015 to early 2016. To keep all Reporting Entities (REs) and Software Providers abreast of important project developments, TRS will be adding a new TEAM Web page to the Employers section of the TRS website in early 2013. It will include a summary of the TEAM Program, an archive of e-mails sent to REs and Software Providers, and an "About TEAM" section which will feature *Update* newsletters, a TRAQS replacement project timeline, FAQs, and TRS contact information. We encourage you to check it out for the latest project news!

2013 TRS Board election nomination forms must be filed by Jan. 22

TRS members who are active public school district employees have until Jan. 22, 2013 to file a petition to have their names listed on the official ballot as candidates for nomination to a position on the TRS Board of Trustees. In Spring 2013, an election will be held to nominate the candidates who are eligible for appointment to fill one of the two public education positions on the board of trustees. The position will be for a six-year term beginning as early as September 1, 2013. Members who are currently employed in a TRS-eligible position by a public school district may have their names listed as candidates on the ballot by filing an official petition.

Petitions must be signed by 250 public school district employees who are TRS members and whose most recent credited service is or was performed for a public school district. Members signing the petition, must include their printed or typed names, the first five digits of their current residential zip code, and the last four digits of their social security number. All valid nominating petitions filed with TRS by Jan. 22, 2013, will be accepted.

By March 15, 2013, TRS will mail ballots and an edition of *TRS News* containing candidate information to all TRS participants who are eligible to vote in the elections. All TRS members whose most recent credited service is or was performed for a public school district are eligible to vote in this election. TRS must receive completed ballots on or before May 6, 2013. TRS will certify the names of the three candidates who received the highest number of votes to the governor. The governor will then appoint one of those candidates to serve on the board.

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To obtain a petition form, you may:

- Print the petition form from the TRS website;
- Write TRS at 1000 Red River; Austin, TX 78701-2698;
- Call 1-800-223-8778, ext. 6366; or
- Fax a request to 1-512-542-6585.

Nominating instructions are included on the form.

TRS offices closed during upcoming holidays

TRS offices in Austin will be closed on Dec. 24, 25, 26, and 31 as well as on Jan. 1 for this year's Christmas and New Year's holidays. All of us at TRS wish you a happy holiday season and new year!