

## News Release

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## TRS of Texas Recognized as a National Top Workplace

AUSTIN – The Teacher Retirement System of Texas (TRS) is among a select group of U.S. employers honored with a 2021 national <u>Top Workplaces USA</u> award.

The first-time recognition comes entirely from employee feedback measured across 15 culture drivers that reflect: strong values, employee/manager communication and the ability to innovate and operate efficiently. This year's honor serves as a powerful message that the largest pension system in Texas, and one of the top 10 funds nationally, is a highly regarded place to start and build a career.

"We make it our mission to work hard at meaningful work," **TRS Executive Director Brian Guthrie** said. "This ranges from our contact center employees who engage directly with members, to our investments team which drives pension fund performance, to our leadership groups which nurture a collaborative, engaging and diverse work environment. At TRS of Texas, every employee understands we have a responsibility of being fiduciary caretakers of our more than 1.6 million active and retired Texas educators."

This past year in particular, TRS employees demonstrated their unwavering dedication with successful work-from-home strategies in light of the national pandemic. These efforts align with the agency's employee-driven core values which include:

- Employee Fulfillment: We have a workplace where each employee has a strong sense of purpose, feels good about coming to work and is highly engaged.
- **Accountability**: We hold ourselves accountable and take responsibility for our actions, behavior and outcomes.
- **Respect**: We treat each other with respect, fairness and kindness and are in constant pursuit of a trusting environment.

In November, TRS employees helped the agency win recognition as an <u>Austin, Texas Top Workplace</u> for the 9<sup>th</sup> time.

"We celebrate our achievements along the way. Our employees possess remarkable talents and an unwavering commitment to excellence. We are big believers in recognizing and celebrating the outstanding achievements of the entire group," Guthrie said.

The Teacher Retirement System of Texas (TRS) is one of the largest retirement systems in the nation. The system's core mission is to make a positive difference in the lives of Texas educators by prudently investing and managing trust assets and delivering member benefits. As of 8/31/2020, the TRS pension fund had nearly 800 employees and a market value of \$165.4 billion.

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