

THE

Inside

STORY

A Utah Retirement Systems Newsletter for Employers

Pension Contribution Rates

Time to Review Your Rates

Confirm you have correct rates in your reporting software

[Pension contribution rates](#) for 2017-18 are now available. Though most rates are unchanged from last year, please systematically review new rates each year

to confirm they are correct and updated in time in your reporting software. If you have any questions, please contact your Employer Support Technician directly or contact us at 800-753-7318.

» [See Contribution Rates](#)

Learn About URS Benefits Online

It can be challenging to keep up with managing your employees' retirement benefits. That's why we regularly update the [Knowledge Corner](#) of the Employers section of www.urs.org with useful information to fill your training and educational needs. Please take some time to view our monthly [webinars](#), [How-to Videos](#), and [Employer Publications](#). We cover topics ranging from contribution reporting to exemptions to website navigation to the how and why and beyond! If you have questions about online educational opportunities, please contact our office at 800-753-7318. ■

Thank You For Participating

We appreciate your participation in the statewide Comprehensive Employer Training sessions that wrapped up in May. We changed the format this year by offering two sessions within each event, a hot topics session, and a general topics review session. Our mission was to keep you current on the latest news and to refresh your memory on retirement topics. We feel the mission was accomplished, and we hope you do too. If you have any follow-up questions, please contact Beverly Snyder at 801-366-7493 or Matthew Judd at 801-366-7386. ■

Thank you!



You Asked, We Acted » See how we've responded to focus group requests, Page 2

Focus Group Responses

You Asked, URS Acted

In response to your requests, we've addressed several of your needs, with others in the works

Last fall, we conducted focus group sessions of participating employer contacts throughout the state to better understand where we can improve our service to you. Consistent needs were brought up by our focus group participants.

Some of these needs can't be addressed until system upgrades, currently under way, are completed. However, other needs have already been addressed in the following ways.

» You asked for more detail on the clearing account statements. We responded by implementing procedures to provide enhanced itemization and improved customization. These enhancements better identify names and details surrounding your clearing account activity, allowing you to better understand specific names and reasons behind this activity.

» You asked that retirement lingo presented in the URS Employer's Guide be clarified and simplified into layman's terms. We responded by adding links throughout the guide to state retirement laws, URS Board Resolutions, and outside sites that go into greater detail on various subjects. We added further value to the guide by regularly updating content to give you new, timely information. We will update the guide further to include a glossary of frequently used terms.

» You identified ACH/e-check as the most popular payment submission method for contribution reports and adjustments. We are happy to report that we already provide this functionality for the contribution reports. And we will address the matter for the adjustments in conjunction with our system upgrades.

Thank you for the opportunity to better understand your needs. To participate in our focus group sessions this fall, please contact James Hammer, Records Control Manager, at 801-366-7786, or at james.hammer@urs.org. ■

Divorce Will Revoke Designation of Former Spouse as a Beneficiary

Under Utah law, beginning July 1, 2017, a divorce or annulment will revoke a member's designation of a former spouse as a beneficiary for any URS benefit. A member may re-designate the former spouse as a beneficiary by completing a

new beneficiary designation form after the date of divorce and submitting it to URS or by making the re-designation at [myURS](#). We encourage members to review their beneficiary designations at least once a year at [myURS](#). ■

Attention Web Administrators

Manage Users for Employer Portal

URS recently upgraded the Employer portal on our website and asked you, the Web Administrator, to complete some steps to access the upgraded site. You created a Service Master Account to access this upgraded site. The Service Master Account is different from your individual Web Administrator account. Think of a door to a house – you should have multiple keys to get in, just in case you lock yourself out. Your Service Master Account is the key you could hide under your doormat, and your individual Web Administrator account is the key you

use on a regular basis.

As the Web Administrator, you can use the User Management Tool to add, delete, or modify user accounts for individuals who access your URS and PEHP Employer Portals. For security purposes, we encourage you to create separate user accounts for each person needing access to your portals.

The [How-to Video Website Viewing Rights](#) can help you with this function. If you have more questions, please contact our office at 801-366-7318 or 800-753-7318. ■

Need Retirement Content for Your Employee Newsletter?

We'd be happy to provide retirement-related content for you to share with your employees. If you have an employee newsletter or internal homepage, we can provide articles with news and information about URS benefits. To learn more, email brian.holland@urs.org. ■

Seeking Member Testimonials

We're looking for employees willing to talk about their positive experiences with URS or what their retirement benefit means to them. We may include their story in our internal newsletter to help our staff understand the impact of their work. Email brian.holland@urs.org. ■

2016 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report Now Available

The URS pension fund grew by \$1.86 billion in 2016, with total year-end assets of \$28.5 billion, an all-time high. The fund earned an 8.8% investment rate of return in 2016.

These figures are reported in the [2016 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report](#), now available online. Email publications@urs.org to request a printed copy. ■



Targeted Newsletters on the Way

The summer editions of URS member periodicals, *ViewPoint* and *Cycles*, are being mailed this month, along with the *Summary Annual Report*.

Cycles goes to retirees, while *ViewPoint* is for active members. To reach members with information most relevant to them, this year we've created five targeted editions of *ViewPoint*.

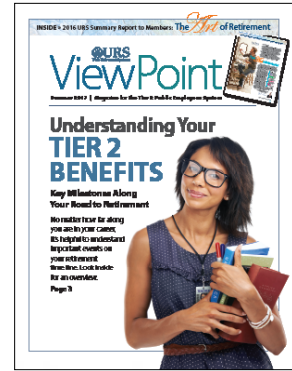
Members will receive the edition applicable to them in the mail by the end of June. Click the covers at right to read each issue. ■



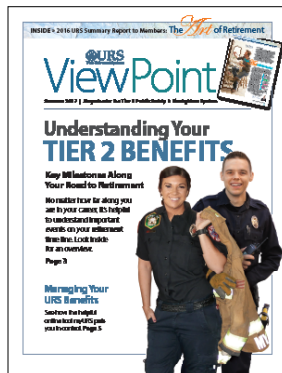
Retirees



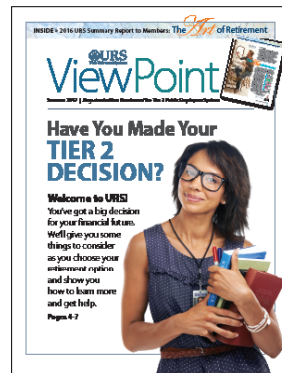
Tier 1 Members



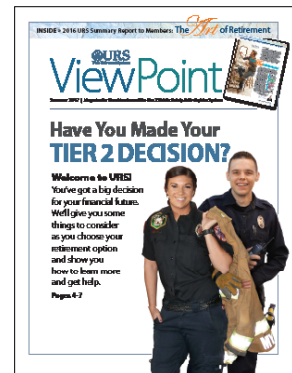
Tier 2 Public Employees
(at least a year service credit)



Tier 2 Public Safety & Firefighter
(at least a year service credit)



Tier 2 Public Employees
(less than a year service credit)



Tier 2 Public Safety & Firefighter
(less than a year service credit)

Is Phased Retirement Right for Your Organization? See How to Learn More

Phased retirement employment means returning to work for the same participating employer you retire from following your retirement date with URS.

If you're an employee in phased retirement, you work on a half-time basis with your employer while receiving 50% of your retirement allowance. You must be eligible to retire and begin phased-retirement within 120 days of your retirement date. In addition, you must have been employed full time not less than four years immediately before your retirement date.

Employers decide whether to participate in phased retirement by establishing a written policy. Contact our office to request a Phased-Retirement agreement form. This form must be completed by the employer and the employee before the employee can begin Phased-Retirement employment.

Learn more about phased retirement, and whether it's right for you as an employer, with these resources:

- » [Webinar: Phased Retirement](#)
- » [Employer Panel: Phased Retirement](#)