



NEWS TO USE

A newsletter for PERSI employers

February, 2014

- Pocatello Office Moving
- New Training Modules
- Take a Short Survey



DON'T FORGET GASB!



Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement 68 directly impacts the way you will prepare financial statements for fiscal years starting after June 15, 2014. You will be required to report your organization's share of PERSI

unfunded liability on your balance sheet. As we all move in the direction of complying with GASB, your accounting and auditing personnel will likely need to be in communication with PERSI while generating the specific information required.

PERSI Employer Service Center

Toll-free 1-866-887-9525

Treasure Valley 208-287-9525

Email: [Click here to email PERSI](#)
(GASB is on the dropdown menu)

PERSI encourages employers to consult with their own auditor about the recent GASB changes.

NEW TRAINING MODULES FOR EMPLOYEES

By now you are probably aware that PERSI trainers are being dispatched around the state, working with employers on IRIS training, as well as employees nearing retirement.

The Training Department is also hard at work, updating workshop opportunities for employees just entering public service, and those who may not have put much time or thought into planning for retirement.

New Employee Orientation

This 75 minute workshop is an introduction to general PERSI information for members. It focuses on fundamental basics of the PERSI benefit, history, eligibility, the benefit formula, Rule of 80 and 90, service retirement, the Choice 401(k) Plan, buybacks and myPERSI. It provides a foundation for what employees can expect from PERSI throughout their career and into retirement.

Schedule a group workshop!
Call 1-800-451-8228 or
208-334-3365.

**Trainers are typically available for workshops in and around the Treasure Valley at an employer's request.*

The Value of Your Benefit

This 90 minute workshop helps members understand just how valuable their PERSI benefit is outside

of just being a retirement plan. It allows participants to travel through time from the beginning of a public service career -- considering possible job changes and life events. Topics include PERSI basics, financial resources and planning and a tour of the PERSI website. To find out when we'll be in your area, check out our [travel calendar](#).

Note: In an effort to better understand and serve our employers, we have decided it's time to find out what you think.

To that end, I've attached a link below to a short employer survey.

This time around, the questions are mainly about the training we provide, and the best ways for us to deliver workshops.

Selfishly I sneaked in a question about this newsletter. If you don't mind, please take a few minutes to share your thoughts.

And as always, feel free to email me directly. Thanks, and Happy New Year!

-- Editor, Kelly Cross



POCATELLO OFFICE RELOCATING

In order to provide the best possible customer service in Eastern Idaho, PERSI is moving the Pocatello office to a more convenient and accessible space in mid-February. Located in the Oakwood Plaza Office Complex (North of Office Max), the new space will be easy to get to and provide enough space for group training as well as private areas for PERSI specialists to assist members one on one.

The moving process will take a couple of days and will be relatively fluid; no interruption of service is expected. However, if you're planning to visit the Pocatello office during the month of February, you may want to call the PERSI Answer Center ahead of time to confirm which location will be open. The new address will be 1246 Yellowstone Avenue, Suite A5, Pocatello, ID 83201. (Map Below)



We are thrilled to report that notifications have been sent out for training and transition dates for our last group of employers using our online system for

reporting, PETRA. This last group is located in North Idaho and will begin reporting in IRIS March 10th. Referred to as “Roll-Forward” in the new system, PETRA reporters account for roughly 60% of all employers reporting and contributing to PERSI.

The remaining 40% of employers upload their files to the system and are referred to as “File Uploaders” in IRIS. We have been working directly with employers and software vendors to certify that their new file format is compatible with IRIS before the employer switches from the old system to IRIS. The City of Meridian was the first to certify followed by three software vendors; 2M, Stephenson Computer Consulting, and Computer

Arts. These three vendors and the City of Meridian make up just over 25% of our file-upload employers and are ready to begin reporting in IRIS. These employers should watch for training and go-live dates which are currently being planned and will likely occur within the next few months.

Additional employers and vendors that are nearing completion of the certification requirements are the College of Southern Idaho, Tyler Technologies Schools Division, and Idaho State University. We are communicating with and planning for the remaining 22 file upload employers and vendors to finish testing and begin reporting in the new system as soon as possible.

Any File Uploader unsure where they are in the process for certifying, training, or the date they will begin reporting in IRIS is asked to please contact Erik Brischler, Project Management Executive Assistant at 208-287-9260. You may also email him at erik.brischler@persi.idaho.gov.