

From: PERS-Employer Info Services
To: PERS Employers
Date: 2/5/2009 4:02 PM
Subject: PERS: February 2009 employer update.

Dear PERS employer,

In this update:

- 1) 2008 Annuals reminder.**
- 2) Posting of revised Announcement #33 - USERRA**
- 3) Posting of Announcement #47 - Invalid Social Security numbers.**
- 4) Open Inactive Job Segment report.**
- 5) Spring 09 Employer outreach presentations.**

1) 2008 Annuals reminder.

We are currently half-way through the 2008 annual reconciliation process, which began Friday, 2 January 09 and will end Friday, 27 February 09.

There were 13,116 total reports due for calendar year 2008 for all PERS employers. To date, all but 141 have been posted.

We suggest that you concentrate on these points for the remainder of the 2008 annual reconciliation period:

1. Suspended 2008 DTL-2 records with contributions.
2. Missing contributions for qualifying members in 2008.
3. Removing contributions for non-qualifying employees. (Please note: if contributions for non-qualifying members are not removed, those members will receive an IAP annual statement, which will be incorrect)
4. Incorrect use of the Non-Subject Salary field or "02 - Non Qualifying" wage code (such as during waiting time).
 - a. Is the salary in the correct field?
 - b. Did the person work qualifying hours?
 - c. Refer to the Payment Categories matrix on the PERS Employer website for clarification of the "subject" status of any payment in question.
5. Retirees that may have exceeded the hours limit in 2008.
6. Contribution start dates (are they accurate?)

2) Posting of revised Announcement #33 - USERRA.

USERRA is a federal law granting employees certain rights to re-employment and benefits after completing a period of duty in the United States uniformed services. Announcement #33 was recently revised to incorporate the HEART Act of 2008, which expanded compensation subject to USERRA. The revised announcement is available on the PERS employer website, www.oregon.gov/pers/emp/index.shtml, through the "Announcement Archives" link under the "Employer Announcements" heading.

3) Posting of Announcement #47 - Invalid Social Security numbers.

Social Security numbers have received attention due to increased identity theft and national security concerns. Announcement #47 outlines PERS efforts to detect invalid security numbers and bring them to employers' attention. The announcement also describes tools available to employers to detect invalid social security numbers. The link to Announcement #47 is available under the "Employer Announcements" heading on the PERS employer website.

4) Open Inactive Job Segment report.

The Open Inactive Job Segment report is available by request, and will list employees who have an active job segment but have no DTL2 records reported for the past year. The report helps identification of employees, no longer actively employed, the employer may wish to terminate. You can request the report by e-mail to: pers-employer.info.services@state.or.us Please include your employer number in the request.

5) Spring 09 Employer outreach presentations.

Employer Outreach presentations will be given at sites throughout the state during April and May 2009. The presentation will highlight EDX changes to be introduced with the installation of EDX Release 5.0, slated for June 2009. Reporting PERS retirees returning to part-time work with PERS employers, most common EDX errors and suggested fixes, and EDX trouble-shooting hints will be covered. Sites, dates, locations and online registration instructions will be available no later than Monday, 16 March 09, through the "Presentation Schedule & Registration" link under the "Employer Education & Training" heading on the PERS employer website. Outreach presentation registration will be online only.

Best regards,

PERS Employer OCE Team