11410 SW 68th Parkway, Tigard OR 97223 Mailing Address – PO Box 23700, Tigard OR 97281-3700

Phone – 503-598-7377, toll free – 888-320-7377

Fax - 503-598-0561, website - http://oregon.gov/pers

Divorce Unit phone – 503-431-8295

## Guidelines for Completing PERS Divorce Forms for Oregon Public Service Retirement Plan (OPSRP) Pension Program and the Individual Account Program (IAP) Benefits

Only authorized PERS divorce forms for dividing OPSRP Pension Program and IAP benefits can be used. You can download them from the PERS website or request them by calling the PERS Divorce Unit at 503-431-8295. The forms are intended to simplify the process by replacing pages of narrative or paragraphs of legal language that do not always cover all situations and can be subject to interpretation. They are designed to eliminate any need for interpretation.

Complete the PERS divorce form(s) that fit the terms of the annulment, separation, divorce, or property settlement, and attach the form(s) to the court order as an exhibit. The form title indicates whether the form is for a retired or non-retired member and the type of division method. The forms also specify whether a separate account is to be established for an alternate payee at the time of divorce or whether the award is to be a reduction (alternate payee is responsible for taxes) or deduction (the member pays the taxes) from the member's benefit at the time of payment. The divorce forms for dividing OPSRP Pension Program/ IAP are listed below. Tier One/Tier Two Program benefits are listed on the fact sheet Guidelines for Completing PERS Divorce Forms for PERS Tier One/Tier Two Benefits, #459-046.

Once the court approves both the order and PERS divorce forms as exhibits to the order, send PERS a court-certified copy with the PERS forms attached. PERS will confirm receipt as well as acknowledge what the attached forms direct PERS to do regarding the alternate payee's award.

The effective date for divding an IAP account, if the member has not retired, is December 31 of the calendar year before the date of the divorce or a prior year if specified in the final court order.

A reduction or deduction to a retired member's gross monthly benefit will be effective the first of the month following PERS' administration of the court order, which is usually 45-60 days.

A reduction or deduction to a non-retired member's gross monthly benefit will occur when the first retirement benefit payment is issued to the member.

The Social Security numbers, addresses, and dates of birth for the member and alternate payee must be provided to PERS under separate cover. Incorrect information can delay benefit payments.

PERS can only administer the benefits covered by these forms, which include the the OPSRP Pension Program and the IAP. Awards involving PERS Tier One/Tier Two benefits require separate forms.

## **Available forms:**

IAP, Non-Retired Member Divorce Award of Separate IAP Account(s) to Alternate Payee, form #459-531.

IAP, Retired Member Divorce Award of Separate IAP Account(s) to Alternate Payee, form #459-530.

IAP, Free and Clear Divorce, form #459-592.

IAP, Beneficiary Changes/Restrictions Due to Divorce, form #459-593.

OPSRP Pension Program Alternate Payee Divorce Award of Payment Reduction or Deduction Method (Non-Retired), form #459-535.

OPSRP Pension Program Alternate Payee Divorce Award of Payment Reduction or Deduction Method (Retired), form #459-536.

OPSRP Pension Program Alternate Payee Divorce Award of Disability Benefits to Alternate Payee, form #459-529.

OPSRP Pension Program Free and Clear Divorce, form #459-565.

OPSRP Pension Program Beneficiary Changes/Restrictions Due to Divorce, form #459-594.

PERS Oregon Administrative Rules govern the use of these forms. These rules can be found on the Internet on the Secretary of State's and PERS website.