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## 2017 Legislative changes

The Legislature approved a small number of bills impacting PERS during the 2017 legislative session. Upon approval of the Governor, these two bills are of interest to all PERS-participating employers.

**Senate Bill 712** establishes that an OPSRP member on workers' compensation who returns to PERS-covered employment is eligible to receive service credit for the time he or she is on workers' compensation. This is already the case for Tier One and Tier Two members.

Employers and/or members will have to notify PERS about the time periods away from work and when the member has returned to a PERS-covered position. This legislation applies to OPSRP members on workers' compensation now and in the future but not to people who were previously on workers' comp but have since returned to work.

**Senate Bill 1067**, characterized as the "cost containment" measure, includes three pieces that impact PERS.

First, the bill provides flexibility for employers to establish side accounts or make deposits into side accounts more frequently. We are revising administrative rules to reflect this direction and are seeking feedback about what would be most helpful to employers.

Second, the bill requires PERS to report the unfunded actuarial liability (UAL) reflecting side accounts. PERS currently reports UAL with and without side accounts, and we will continue to provide that information.

Third, the bill establishes the funding level of the contingency reserve at no more than \$50 million. This fall the PERS Board will discuss redirection of excess funds in the reserve. The bill also eliminates discretion of Board use of the contingency reserve, but it may continue to be used for issues related to insolvent employers and certain legal expenses or judgements.

## Password resets

If you are your organization's Web Administrator, you can email [PERS.EDX.Support@pers.state.or.us](mailto:PERS.EDX.Support@pers.state.or.us) to reset your password. Otherwise, please contact your organization's Web Administrator to reset your EDX password. Contact your [employer representative](#) if you have any other questions.

PERS is aware of a separate issue with EDX not recognizing existing User IDs and passwords, and we are working to resolve the issue.

## Posting Terminations

Please remember to submit a DTL1 record with a 02 termination status code after all final wages have been reported to close an employee's active employment segment.

## **Employer Satisfaction Survey/Did I get two emails about surveys in one day?**

On Tuesday, August 1, you should have received two emails from the Employer Service Center email listserv ([pers\\_employer\\_email\\_contacts@listsmart.osl.state.or.us](mailto:pers_employer_email_contacts@listsmart.osl.state.or.us)). First, you received an email titled “Employer Satisfaction Survey – share your feedback,” which contained a link to our [Employer Satisfaction Survey](#). Any staff member in your agency who interacts with PERS’ Employer Service Center is encouraged to complete the survey. We appreciate your feedback, which will help us provide excellent customer service to our employers. A link to the survey is also available on the [Employer home page](#) and will be live through August 31, 2017.

Secondly, the August 2017 editions of *Perspectives* were sent to all employers to forward onto employees. As is noted in *Perspectives*, since 2015 when the active editions of our member newsletter went digital, we have relied on employers to get that information to their employees. Through GovDelivery, our new email subscription system, members (and employers) will be able to [sign up](#) for the resources and information they want, including when new editions of *Perspectives* are available. Emails from GovDelivery come from [OregonPERS@public.govdelivery.com](mailto:OregonPERS@public.govdelivery.com), so please add that address to your address book so they are not flagged as spam. We will share more information about GovDelivery and email communication with employers in the future. We appreciate you forwarding *Perspectives* to your internal staff, as it contains a link to our [Member Satisfaction Survey](#). That survey is also available on the PERS homepage.

## **IAP contribution posting error**

Due to a technical error, Individual Account Program (IAP) contribution data is not posting correctly to VOYA, PERS’ third-party administrator. The error has no impact on member account balances or investment earnings or losses. PERS has received IAP contributions.

However, recent contributions are not currently available to review through [IAP.VOYA.com](http://IAP.VOYA.com) or through Online Member Services (OMS). Please be assured that all IAP contributions will be visible once the issue has been resolved.

## **Hire intent**

The hire intent entry on the DTL1 Member Demographics record states the employer’s expectation of hours to be worked by any employee in a specific position in any calendar year. The reported hire intent will set the “position type” for at least the year of hire.

Position type can change each calendar year based on total service time over 600 hours in that year or when a demographic correction request (DCR) is submitted requesting PERS staff to change the position type.

To understand what hire intent to enter, ask yourself, **“Would any employee in this position normally be expected to work 600 or more hours in any calendar year while working for me, the employer?”**

If “yes” the hire intent is qualifying.

- DTL1 status code is 01
- DTL2 wage code is 01
  - Wage codes 04, 05, 08 are used in periods of “qualifying” service for specific reporting requirements

If “no” the hire intent is non-qualifying.

- DTL1 status code is 15
- DTL2 wage code is 02

**Detail 1 - Member Demographics:**

SSN*	<input type="text"/>
Status Code	00 - No Change in Status <input type="button" value="v"/>
Status Date: (MM/DD/YYYY)	<input type="text"/>
Last Day Service (MM/DD/YYYY)	<input type="text"/>
Old SSN:	<input type="text"/>
First Name*	<input type="text"/>
Last Name*	<input type="text"/>
Middle Name:	<input type="text"/>
Name Change Indicator:	N <input type="text"/>
Address - 1*	<input type="text"/>
Address - 2:	<input type="text"/>
Address - 3:	<input type="text"/>
City:	<input type="text"/>
State:	NONE <input type="button" value="v"/>
Zip - 1:	<input type="text"/>
Zip - 2:	<input type="text"/>
Province:	<input type="text"/>
Country Code:	USA <input type="button" value="v"/>
Postal Code:	<input type="text"/>
Date Of Birth: (MM/DD/YYYY)	<input type="text"/>
Gender:	<input type="button" value="v"/>
PERS Job Class Code	<input type="button" value="v"/>
Average Overtime Hours	<input type="button" value="v"/>
Unused Sick Leave Hours	<input type="text"/>
Contract No. of Months	00 <input type="button" value="v"/>
Employer Site Distribution Code	<input type="text"/>
Non PERS Data Memo	<input type="text"/>
<input type="button" value="Save"/> <input type="button" value="Cancel"/>	

**Status code** tells EDX what type of work status is being reported.

At hire, select the status code that best matches the determined hire intent set by the employer - the expectation of hours to be worked in that position.

## Reporting Average Overtime Hours

The Average Overtime Hours entry on the DTL1 Member Demographics record represents the average overtime in any calendar year allowed for those positions in a class of employees with an employer (teacher, firefighter, receptionist, payroll specialist, etc.). This value controls how much overtime money paid

in any calendar year can be used in the calculation of an OPSRP member retirement benefit for those in a class of employees with an employer.

**Detail 1 - Member Demographics:**

SSN*	<input type="text"/>
Status Code	00 - No Change in Status <input type="button" value="v"/>
Status Date: (MM/DD/YYYY)	<input type="text"/>
Last Day Service (MM/DD/YYYY)	<input type="text"/>
Old SSN:	<input type="text"/>
First Name*	<input type="text"/>
Last Name*	<input type="text"/>
Middle Name:	<input type="text"/>
Name Change Indicator:	N <input type="text"/>
Address - 1*	<input type="text"/>
Address - 2:	<input type="text"/>
Address - 3:	<input type="text"/>
City:	<input type="text"/>
State:	NONE <input type="button" value="v"/>
Zip - 1:	<input type="text"/>
Zip - 2:	<input type="text"/>
Province:	<input type="text"/>
Country Code:	USA <input type="button" value="v"/>
Postal Code:	<input type="text"/>
Date Of Birth: (MM/DD/YYYY)	<input type="text"/>
Gender:	<input type="button" value="v"/>
PERS Job Class Code	<input type="button" value="v"/>
Average Overtime Hours	<input type="button" value="v"/>
Unused Sick Leave Hours	<input type="text"/>
Contract No. of Months	00 <input type="button" value="v"/>
Employer Site Distribution Code	<input type="text"/>
Non PERS Data Memo	<input type="text"/>

PERS Job Class Code	<input type="button" value="v"/>
Average Overtime Hours	<input type="button" value="v"/>
Unused Sick Leave Hours	<input type="text"/>
Contract No. of Months	<input type="text"/>
Employer Site Distribution Code	<input type="text"/>
Non PERS Data Memo	<input type="text"/>

0	<input type="text"/>
100	<input type="text"/>
200	<input type="text"/>
300	<input type="text"/>
400	<input type="text"/>
500	<input type="text"/>
600	<input type="text"/>
700	<input type="text"/>
800	<input type="text"/>
900	<input type="text"/>
1000	<input type="text"/>
1100	<input type="text"/>
1200	<input type="text"/>
1300	<input type="text"/>
1400	<input type="text"/>
1500	<input type="text"/>
1600	<input type="text"/>
1700	<input type="text"/>
1800	<input type="text"/>
1900	<input type="text"/>

Incorrect coding of this benefit can significantly affect the amount of overtime money available for use in the benefit calculation for those in a class of employees with an employer. You may find the recorded Average Overtime Hours value for any of your employees using this procedure:

- 1) In the Site Navigation of any EDX page, click the “View Employee Info” link.
- 2) When the Search screen appears, enter the employee’s last name, Social Security number, or PERS ID number, and then click Search.
- 3) The Employee Employment History Details screen will appear. The recorded Average Overtime Hours value for the member is located on this screen.

OR...

Contact your ESC Account Team representative to request a list of all your active employees, which will include the Average Overtime Hours value currently coded for each of those employees.