

RE: Retiree Return to Work (RRTW) Hour Limits

December 23, 2011

Your employer has identified that you are a retiree from a DRS-administered plan and are currently participating in a Higher Education Retirement Plan (HERP).

Beginning January 1, 2012, DRS retirees from the Public Employees' Retirement System (PERS), Public Safety Employees' Retirement System (PSERS), School Employees' Retirement System (SERS), and Teachers' Retirement System (TRS) working in HERP-eligible positions are subject to annual hourly work limits, due to the passage of [Engrossed Substitute House Bill 1981](#) in the 2011 Legislature.

<i>If you retired from:</i>	<i>How you will be impacted effective January 1, 2012</i>
PERS Plan 1	We will stop your benefit if you exceed 867 work hours in a calendar year. If you exceed your hourly limit and your benefit is stopped, your benefit will restart when you terminate employment or in January with the start of the new calendar year.
TRS Plan 1	We will stop your benefit if you exceed 867 work hours in a fiscal year (July – June). Hours you have worked since July 2011 are included in the current fiscal year (July 2011 – June 2012). If you exceed your hourly limit and your benefit is stopped, your benefit will restart when you terminate employment or in July with the new fiscal year (whichever occurs first).
Other DRS Plans	You will follow the return to work rules that apply to the plan you retired from. The most up-to-date rules are explained in “ <i>Thinking About Working After Retirement?</i> ” brochures available on our website at www.drs.wa.gov .

If you retired as a member of more than one DRS-administered retirement system (known as dual membership), please contact us to determine the possible impacts on your benefit.

To learn more about return to work changes effective this January, visit the Retiree News section of our website at www.drs.wa.gov and look for *Changes to the rules for retirees who return to work*.

If you have any questions about your HERP position, including how many hours you've worked this year, please contact your employer. For questions about return to work hourly limits, contact us toll free at 800-547-6657 or in the Olympia area at 360-664-7000.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Dahl
Assistant Director
Retirement Services Division
Department of Retirement Systems