



Return-to-work rules have changed for TRS and SERS retirees who use the 2008 Early Retirement Factor

The rules for using the 2008 Early Retirement Factors (ERF) have changed. If you're a retiree of Plan 2 or 3 of the Teachers' Retirement System (TRS) or School Employees' Retirement System (SERS) who used the 2008 ERF, you can now return to work in a nonadministrative position for up to 867 hours without impacting your benefit.

Keep the following rules in mind so you can continue to receive your monthly pension benefit while working:

- You must be a retiree of Plan 2 or 3 of the Teachers' Retirement System or School Employees' Retirement System

- You must retire under the 2008 ERF
- You can only return to work in a nonadministrative position (see the definition at drs.wa.gov/news/rrtw-2019)
- You must have reentered employment on or after May 8, 2019
- You must wait at least 30 calendar days after your retirement date before returning to work
- Training, orientation and classroom preparation time all count as returning to work

Nonadministrative positions with certain employers are the only ones that qualify. Find out more on the DRS website (drs.wa.gov/news/rrtw-2019).



New DRS record keeper coming in 2020

In September 2020, DRS will transition to a new record keeper to serve customers in the Plan 3 retirement systems, the Deferred Compensation Program (DCP) and the Judicial Retirement Account (JRA) program.

DRS selected Voya Financial to provide recordkeeping services for the investment accounts of Plan 3, DCP and JRA customers. The change is the result of a comprehensive record keeper procurement process DRS performs every five to 10 years. Customers can expect additional information mailed in March 2020.

Inside this issue

Coming soon: The U.S. Census — 2

Changes to the lineup of Plan 3, DCP Retirement Strategy Funds — 2

DRS open for business during building renovation — 3

Some DRS webpage addresses are changing — 3

Enhanced security for accessing your DRS online account — 3

2020 pension payment schedule — 4

1099-R tax form available online Jan. 23 — 4



Coming soon: The U.S. Census

Once every 10 years, the U.S. Constitution requires a full count of the population to reapportion seats in the U.S. House of Representatives. That exercise — the U.S. Census — begins this spring. Washington state is working hard to ensure our residents are fully counted.

Census results determine congressional representation and the number of our Electoral College votes, and are used to draw boundaries for state and local election districts. The federal government also uses census numbers to distribute more than \$800 billion to states, counties and cities for education and health programs, highways, roads and bridges, water and sewage systems, and other important projects.

Starting this March, the U.S. Census Bureau will begin to contact households with a postcard explaining how to complete the census. 2020 will be the first year the census form may be completed online, using a computer, tablet or smartphone. People also may respond by phone or by using a paper form they return through the mail.

It will take about 10 minutes to answer the 10 census questions, according to the U.S. Census Bureau. One person living in the household fills it out for everyone. Federal law protects the confidentiality of the data that is collected.

For more information, visit ofm.wa.gov/census2020 or www.census.gov.



Changes to the lineup of Plan 3, DCP Retirement Strategy Funds

The lineup of DRS Retirement Strategy Funds (RSFs) underwent some changes at the beginning of the new year. RSFs (also known as target date funds) are offered to customers in the Plan 3 retirement systems and the Deferred Compensation Program.

The oldest of the target date funds — the 2005 Retirement Strategy Fund — was closed Dec. 31 and investor accounts in that fund were transferred to the Retirement Maturity Strategy Fund. At the same time, a new fund — the 2065 Retirement Strategy Fund — was added to the lineup effective Jan. 2. The newest fund is designed for those born in 1998 or later.

No action is required from participants because of the RSF lineup changes. As these updates occur, however, it's a good opportunity to evaluate your circumstances and make sure you're investing in the fund that will best align with your personal financial goals. See the Investments sections for Plan 3 (drs.wa.gov/plan3) or DCP (drs.wa.gov/dcp) for more information, including options for updating your fund selections.



Retirees ask:

Why did my monthly benefit amount change in January?

If your benefit amount has changed with the new year, it is usually because of insurance premiums or federal income tax withholdings.



DRS open for business during building renovation

Most retirees don't need to pay us a visit at the DRS building in Tumwater, but if you do – pardon our dust! We're modernizing the building to make better use of the space and strengthen our ability to serve you, our customers. Renovation work is underway and will continue through the fall of 2020. At certain times during the project we'll have a temporary lobby set up in another part of the building. If you visit DRS between now and the fall of 2020, be sure to watch for posted signs with directions for parking and entering the building. And keep in mind that in most instances you can connect with us by email or telephone. See all DRS contact information at drs.wa.gov/contact.

Some DRS webpage addresses are changing!



If you have bookmarked or created "favorites" for pages on the DRS website, some may need updating in the near future. DRS website

content is moving to a new platform in early 2020, which will result in changes to some webpage addresses (also known as hyperlinks or URLs).

The main website address (www.drs.wa.gov) will remain the same, as will the full navigation menu and links to most-visited sections (including online accounts). However, many individual page addresses within various sections of the site will change. If you use a bookmark that isn't current, a "Page Not Found" message will appear along with help on re-locating the page. If you're not able to find what you're looking for, contact DRS and we'll be happy to assist you.



Enhanced security for accessing your DRS online account

DRS is adopting an additional security measure to safeguard your online retirement account. This enhancement, known as multi-factor authentication (MFA), provides an extra layer of protection beyond your user ID and password.

As MFA is implemented, it is important that your mobile number (if available) and email address are current in your DRS online account. To securely update and verify this information, log in at drs.wa.gov/oa and select "My Account." If you have questions or need assistance, please contact DRS (drs.wa.gov/contact).



About Multi-Factor Authentication

MFA is a two-step process used to verify that you are the owner of your DRS online account. With MFA, you may be required to enter an authentication code that is sent to your registered mobile number or email address when you log in or sign up as a new user.

2020 pension payment schedule	
January 31	July 31
February 28	August 31
March 31	September 30
April 30	October 30
May 29	November 30
June 30	December 31

1099-R tax form Available online Jan. 23

Looking for your 1099-R form for tax purposes? Beginning Jan. 23 you can access it by signing in to your retirement account (drs.wa.gov/oa) and then selecting the 1099R link from the main menu. From there you can view it or print a copy. Hard copies of the form will be mailed by the end of January.

For Plan 3 and DCP members, starting Feb. 1, any additional 1099-R forms for your investment accounts will be available under “Statements and Documents” when you select your plan from your online account.



The Washington State Department of Retirement Systems publishes *Retirement Outlook* for retired members twice a year.

Tracy Guerin, Director
David Brine, Editor
Website: drs.wa.gov

Email: drs.reception@drs.wa.gov
Phone: 360.664.7000 or 800.547.6657
TTY: 711
Viewing this in print?
Online version with clickable links:
drs.wa.gov/outlook/retiree