

Retiree NEWSLETTER

DELAWARE PUBLIC EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM

JULY 2024



STATE OF DELAWARE OFFICE OF PENSIONS

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(Must include DPERS in Message)

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(215) 689-3885
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Post Retirement Increases

The General Assembly passed Senate Bill 326 during the legislative session ending June 30, 2024, which included a **Post-Retirement Increase (PRI)** based on the pensioner's effective date of retirement. Eligible pensioners will receive the increase in their July pension payment.

Effective Date of Retirement	Increase
On or before 6/30/2004	2%
7/1/2004 - 6/30/2019	1%

Who is entitled to receive the PRI?

- State Employees' Pension Plan
- New State Police Pension Plan
- Revised Judicial Plan
- County and Municipal Plan – Police/Firefighters




What form is used to change the beneficiary of my \$7,000.00 Burial Benefit?


As a retiree if you are trying to update the beneficiaries of your \$7,000 burial benefit, please go to our website at: delawarepensions.com navigate to "Retiree Forms" and select "\$7,000 Burial Benefit Designation/Change of Beneficiary Form (Form GL)". Eligibility for the burial benefit only applies to retirees from the State Employees' (including Legislators), New State Police, and Closed State Police pension plans as well as members of the County and Municipal Police and Firefighters' pension plan who are actively employed upon their passing.

Recently, we've received many "Designate or Change Beneficiary for Pension Contributions" forms, also called a BEN-1, from pensioners who have been retired for many years. This form is not for retirees who have been on pension more than 2 years and is for pension contributions only, not the burial benefit. Most retirees exhaust their pension contributions within 2 years of being on a pension.

This is a friendly reminder to ensure you're selecting the correct form when wanting to update the beneficiaries of your \$7,000 burial benefit.

 \$7000 Burial Benefit Designation / Change of Beneficiary Form (Form GL)



 Pension Contribution Designation / Change of Beneficiary Form (Form BEN-1)





Get the DPERS App and stay informed!

Go to Google Play or the Apple Store and get the new DPERS app. There is Plan Information, Notifications, and even a Count Down to Retirement. Scan the QR Code to the right to get the app.



Community Corner
Opportunities to get connected to your community!



DELAWARE GROWN ROAD TRIP

Hop in the car to explore the farms and flavors of Delaware agriculture!

Have your Delaware Grown passport stamped at three locations to receive a free Delaware Grown t-shirt. A passport can be obtained [here](#).

For more information, please visit the Delaware Grown website at delawaregrown.com.



UPCOMING STATE HOLIDAYS

The Office of Pensions will be closed on the following State holidays:

Labor Day

Monday, September 2, 2024

Election Day

Tuesday, November 5, 2024

Veterans Day

Monday, November 11, 2024

Thanksgiving Day

Thursday, November 28, 2024

Day After Thanksgiving

Friday, November 29, 2024

Christmas Day

Wednesday, December 25, 2024



The Department of Elections is recruiting Election Officers for the 2024 Elections.

Duties include:

- Open and Close Polls
- Operate Voting Equipment
- Check Voter Eligibility
- Process Voters
- Complete Polling Place Documents

Pay:

- Inspectors: \$400
- Judges: \$325
- Clerks: \$300

For more information, visit: <https://de.gov/electionofficers>

Read Aloud Delaware needs your help!

Read Aloud Delaware needs your help to realize its vision for every child in Delaware to have the foundational literacy skills needed to succeed in school and in life. Volunteer to read aloud 5-15 minutes, one-on-one with children in preschool classrooms, to build literacy skill.

Go to www.readalouddelaware.org/volunteer to volunteer in your county.



Notice a difference in your July 2024 pension check?

If you or a dependent are enrolled in a non-Medicare health plan, your health premiums increased as of July 1, 2024.

Rate tables are available on delawarepensions.com. Navigate to the Retirees tab, select your pension plan, then click the "Health Insurance" icon for more information! Your new rate can also be seen by viewing your paycheck on your Employee Self-Service portal and checking your deductions.

Keeping Your Address Updated



Not having an updated address with our office could jeopardize receiving future monthly pension benefits in a timely manner.



As a pensioner, it's important to keep your address updated with the Office of Pensions. Why is this so important? Primarily because not having an updated address with our office could jeopardize receiving future monthly pension benefits in a timely manner. We receive thousands of pieces of returned mail between February and June to include Retiree Annual Statements, Tax Forms, Open Enrollment Documents, etc. When we receive three pieces of returned mail and we cannot contact you via phone or email, we automatically hold your pension check until we can confirm and/or get a signed change of address. This is because we want to protect you. We don't want your pension check or other information relating to your pension benefits falling into the wrong hands. Please understand we cannot change addresses over the phone.

All address changes must be submitted in writing and include a "live"/manual signature. You can print out a [Change of Address Form](#) on our website at delawarepensions.com. Select "Retiree Forms" then "Change of Address."

You must then mail, fax, or email the completed and signed form to the Office of Pensions. The Office of Pensions information is at the bottom of the Change of Address form. You may also send us a handwritten note with your change of address information. Please ensure you provide your old address, new address, effective date of the new address, and your signature.

Please also include a current phone number and email address to contact you with any questions.

If you are a retiree enrolled in healthcare, updating your address with our office will also update your address with your healthcare vendor (e.g. Aetna).

Lastly, please note that if you update your address via My.Delaware.gov login, that **does not** update the pension system. You will need to submit the change in writing to the Office of Pensions with your signature.

Get the Facts on What's Happening with Retiree Healthcare

Be an active participant in your retiree healthcare and stay informed!

The Statewide Benefits Office has introduced a new monthly resource document that advertises what's being discussed related to the Group Health Insurance Plan (GHIP) at the State Employee Benefits Committee (SEBC) and SEBC Subcommittee meetings and important actions taken by the SEBC.

The Get the Facts on What's Happening FAQs are located at

<https://dhr.delaware.gov/benefits/sebc/whats-happening.shtml>

Upcoming Pension Benefit Check Dates

**Wednesday,
July 31, 2024**

**Friday,
August 30, 2024**

**Monday,
September 30, 2024**

**Thursday,
October 31, 2024**

**Wednesday,
November 27, 2024**

**Tuesday,
December 24, 2024**