State of Wisconsin

OFFICE OF STATE EMPLOYMENT RELATIONS

- COMPENSATION & LABOR RELATIONS BULLETIN -

Date: December 16, 2011

Locator No: OSER-0292-CLR

Subject: 2012 Employee Required Wisconsin Retirement System Contributions

The purpose of this bulletin is to inform appointing authorities of the 2012 employee required Wisconsin Retirement System (WRS) contribution rates based on the total required WRS contribution rates for 2012 approved by the Employee Trust Funds Board. **Appointing authorities are asked to provide this information to their employees.**

SECTION I. 2012 WRS EMPLOYEE-REQUIRED CONTRIBUTIONS

A. State Patrol Titled Classifications Hired Prior to July 1, 2011. Employees in State Patrol titled classifications who were already in employment status on July 1, 2011, will pay 2012 WRS contributions at 0.9% of earnings (unless changed by a new collective bargaining agreement). Employment status includes employees in pay status, employees on approved leaves of absence, and employees on layoff but eligible for continuous service during the layoff period upon return to state service.

In accordance with 2011 Wisconsin Act 32, all new employees in State Patrol titled classifications hired on or after July 1, 2011 ("new" public safety employees), will pay 2012 WRS contributions in accordance with C., below.

"New" public safety employees include:

- Individuals new to state government;
- Individuals who leave state service and later reinstate;
- Individuals who were non-public safety employees and become public safety employees.

The following individuals would *not* be considered "new":

- Individuals who move within the public safety classifications from represented to nonrepresented or the reverse;
- Individuals who are restored to state service or return from a leave of absence, *only* if *both* the position last held *and* the position restored to are in one of the public safety classifications.

B. **Executive Category Employees.** The executive category employee (including elected officials) will pay one-half of the total required 2012 WRS contribution rate of 14.1%. Therefore, employees in the executive category will pay 7.05% of their earnings.

C. **All Other Employees.** All WRS participating employees in the general category will pay one-half of the total required 2012 WRS contribution rate of 11.8%. Therefore, employees in the general category will pay 5.9% of their earnings. Employees in the protective category, except employees covered in A., above, will pay the same percentage contribution as general category employees. Therefore, employee-paid WRS contributions will be 5.9% of earnings for all general and protective category employees (excluding employees covered in A., above) in 2012.

SECTION II. REFERRAL OF QUESTIONS

Employee Questions:
Employees with questions regarding the contents of this bulletin should contact their agency Human Resources or Payroll Office directly.

Employer Questions:
Employers with questions regarding the required WRS contribution rates approved by the Employee Trust Funds Board should consult http://www.etf.wi.gov/employers/bulletins_all/eba20110728.pdf or contact the Department of Employee Trust Funds. Employer questions regarding the contents of this bulletin should be directed to Paul Ostrowski by phone at (608) 267-0343 or by e-mail at paul.ostrowski@wisconsin.gov, or Lynn Maulbetsch by phone at (608) 267-5164 or by e-mail at lynn.maulbetsch@wisconsin.gov.

Employer questions regarding ***payroll processing*** should be directed to the appropriate payroll center:

DOA Central Payroll:	**Shelley Schwartz at (608) 264-9571; or**
UW-Processing Center:	**Payroll and Financial Services (608) 262-3558**

Kathy Kopp

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