

# Member Update

Iowa Public Employees' Retirement System

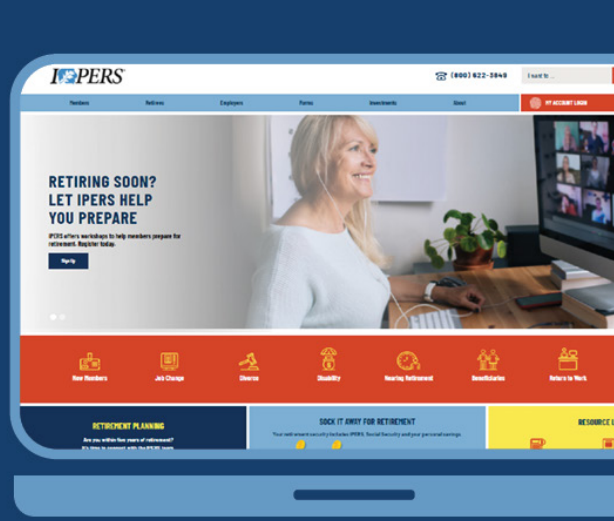
May 2021



According to Iowa law, the CEO of IPERS is appointed by the Governor and recommended to the Iowa Senate for confirmation. Last month the Senate unanimously confirmed Greg Samorajski for a four-year term at the helm of IPERS. Get to know Greg [here](#).

## NEW WEBSITE LAUNCHING SOON!

- ✓ Fresh new look
- ✓ Streamlined content
- ✓ Simplified navigation



[www.ipers.org](http://www.ipers.org)

We are excited to announce the launch of our new website in mid-May! The new site features a fresh new look and streamlined content to provide the information you need to understand your retirement benefits. (NOTE: While we made every effort to eliminate broken links, you should check any IPERS pages you have bookmarked. It's possible the links may have changed.)

Here's what you'll discover:

- **Mobile responsiveness:** Each page is designed to look great and function well whether you use the site on a desktop computer, tablet or smart phone.
- **Simplified navigation:** Allows you to access the content you want faster with fewer clicks.
- **Resource Library:** Dedicated space on the homepage and throughout the site features relevant videos, publications and forms in one place.
- **Expanded content:** Whether you're a new hire, preparing to retire or somewhere in between, our new life stage pages make it easier for you to get information that's specific to your needs.

### Share your feedback with us!

We welcome your feedback on the new website. Let us know what you like and share any suggestions for improvement at [communications@ipers.org](mailto:communications@ipers.org). We will continually work to enhance the website.

We hope you enjoy the new [www.ipers.org](http://www.ipers.org)!

## Beware of IPERS imposters

Remember that IPERS is the ONLY source that can provide confidential details about your retirement benefit. We have learned that IPERS members continue to receive emails from Fed Resource offering retirement planning assistance. Please know IPERS is not affiliated with this group, nor do we endorse whatever services they provide.

If you have questions or need information about your IPERS benefit, please [contact us](#) to schedule an appointment with an IPERS Retirement Benefit Officer.

Whenever you receive an email with IPERS-related information, you are welcome to [email us](#) to confirm the legitimacy of that email.

## Governor lifting bona fide retirement and earnings limitation provision on May 31

On May 31, 2021, reemployment and earning limitation provisions that Governor Reynolds enacted in response to the COVID-19 pandemic will expire, and all IPERS members will again be subject to IPERS' usual reemployment requirements.

IPERS members who choose to return to IPERS-covered employment after retirement must have a "bona fide retirement." This federally mandated requirement means retirees may not work in an IPERS-covered position with an IPERS-covered employer until the retiree receives four retirement benefit payments.. Further, members who are under age 65 and reemployed in IPERS-covered employment are subject to income limits.

[Governor Reynolds had waived the bona fide retirement period and earnings limitations during the COVID-19 pandemic](#) for some specific IPERS members, including employees of school districts, area education agencies, health care organizations, etc. This waiver expires May 31, 2021.

Learn more about [bona fide retirement](#) and [returning to work](#).

## Changes to IPERS Retirement Application

Effective immediately, IPERS no longer requires the notarization of retirement applications. However, signature requirements are explained below. Several months before you intend to retire, contact IPERS to receive a benefit estimate and retirement application. IPERS recommends sending the completed application at least 60 days before your first anticipated retirement benefit.

- **If you are married:** The IPERS member AND the spouse must sign the application. Notarization is not required.
- **If you are not married:** The IPERS member must sign the application. Notarization is not required.
- **Proof of birthdate:** The IPERS member must submit appropriate government identification\* that proves your birthdate. Depending upon the retirement payment option you choose, you must also provide appropriate government identification that proves your contingent annuitant's birthdate.

\* A state-issued driver's license, state-issued identification card, a current passport or other federal identification showing your date of birth.

## Upcoming Workshops

Take advantage of these upcoming opportunities to help you understand more about IPERS and your overall retirement planning process. To register for one of the following workshops, call 800-622-3849.

- **May 19, 2021, 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.** – Creating a Secure Retirement livestream (for all IPERS members within five years of retirement)
- **June 9, 2021, 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.** – Creating a Secure Retirement livestream (for all IPERS members within five years of retirement)
- **June 10, 2021, 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.** – Ready, Set, Retire livestream (only for state employees within five years of retirement)

### On-Demand Training

We understand that not everyone can attend a scheduled workshop or presentation. Watch [these resources](#) at a time that works best for you.