

EMPLOYER BULLETIN

CBA COLLECTION NOW ONLINE; EMPLOYER SUBMISSIONS REQUIRED

Feb. 2019

On February 4, 2019, Teachers' Retirement System will activate its new CBA/Contract Collection Portal within the Employer Access Area of the TRS website. This new portal has been established to help TRS and employers administer Public Act 100-0587, signed into law June 4, 2018, that may affect the amount of employer contributions paid to TRS.

Under this law, an employer's contribution to TRS may rise for a member who was granted a salary increase on or after July 1, 2018 that exceeds 3 percent over the previous year's salary – if the resulting higher salary is used to determine the member's final average salary upon retirement.

Prior to the effective date of PA 100-0587, the salary increase threshold triggering a higher employer contribution was set at 6 percent. The underlying law, which has been in place since 2005, requires employers to pay TRS a contribution equal to the actuarial value of the pension benefit created by the portion of a salary increase that exceeds the threshold.

The law setting the threshold at 3 percent contains a "grandfather" clause that applies the old 6 percent threshold on all raises after July 1, 2018 if the raise was authorized under a collective bargaining agreement (CBA) or individual employment contract that was entered into, amended or renewed prior to June 4, 2018.

Employers will submit the required CBA or employment contract information online. Visit https://employer.trsil.org/subsections/employeraccess/security/signIn.aspx and sign in. Then, select the CBA Collection menu item from the left menu bar.

Access rights to the CBA Collection area have been given to all district employees who have access rights to complete and submit the district's Annual Report. If the person who will be completing the CBA certification process does not have access, he/she needs to receive access rights from the system administrator.

To ensure that employer contributions are calculated correctly, submit the requested information to TRS by March 29, 2019.

If the required information is not received by TRS, any year-over-year salary increases in the 2018-19 and future years will be subject to the 3 percent threshold.

For additional information please refer to the following resources: <u>Frequently Asked Questions</u> web page, Completing the <u>CBA Collection Process</u> tutorial and <u>Employer Bulletin 19-09</u>. If you have any questions, contact TRS Employer Services at <u>employers@trsil.org</u> or 888-678-3675, option 1.

TEACHERS' RETIREMENT SYSTEM

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