

# **Brief Description of TRS**

This information is provided in compliance with the Illinois Freedom of Information Act, 5 ILCS 140/4.

#### Purpose

TRS is the retirement system for educators employed in public schools outside the city of Chicago in positions requiring licensure under the Illinois School Code. TRS administers retirement annuities, disability and survivor benefits as provided in Illinois Pension Code 40 ILCS 5/16 for over 448,000 members, annuitants and beneficiaries. TRS administers a governmental tax-qualified defined benefit plan under Internal Revenue Code Sections 414(d) and 401(a). TRS also administers an optional eligible deferred compensation plan under Illinois Revenue Code Section 457(b).

## **Operating Budget**

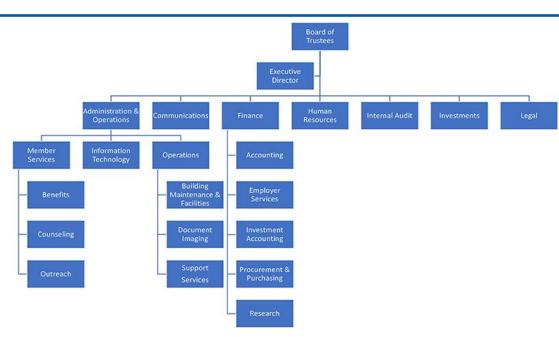
The total TRS operating budget for fiscal year 2024 is \$49.9 million which represents 0.075 percent of the \$66.5 billion market value of the total TRS fund on June 30, 2023.

#### Offices

TRS has three office locations. The main office is in Springfield, Illinois. A regional counseling office is in Lisle, Illinois. A regional investment office is in Chicago. The mailing address for all locations is P.O. Box 19253, Springfield, IL 62794-9253.

## **Employees**

At June 30, 2023, TRS had 220 full-time employees, one part-time employee and one intern. Refer to the block diagram showing functional subdivisions of TRS administration.



#### **Governing Board**

The System's 15-member Board of Trustees includes the state superintendent of education, seven trustees appointed by the governor, five trustees elected by contributing members and two trustees elected by annuitants. The board is responsible for the general administration of the System. All TRS Board and committee meetings are conducted in accordance with the Illinois Open Meeting Act, 5 ILCS 120. An executive director appointed by the board is responsible for daily operations at TRS.

#### **Public Record Requests**

TRS responds to all public record requests in compliance with the Illinois Freedom of Information Act, 5 ILCS 140.

#### Note to TRS Members

**TRS members do not need to submit a FOIA request to receive benefit information.** Please contact the Member Services Department, **members@trsil.org**, to allow us to efficiently respond to your needs.

#### Submit a Public Record Request

You may request TRS records through the TRS Public Records Center on the TRS website, **trsil.org**. Select the FOIA/Public Record link on the bottom of the home page or use **trsil.org/FOIA/foia-public-record**.

TRS responds within five business days to non-commercial requests and within 21 days to commercial purpose requests. A request is received on the next business day if submitted during non-business hours. TRS business hours are 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. CST Monday through Friday. TRS observes all state holidays.

There is no charge for electronic records. For paper copies, the first 50 pages are free and pages in excess of 50 are 15 cents per page. TRS reserves the right to charge for shipping. Charges may be reduced or waived for requests in the public interest. For commercial purpose requests, TRS reserves the right to charge for staff time gathering responsive records as allowed by law. For in-person record inspection, please contact the FOIA Officer to make arrangements.

## **Questions About TRS**

Email: FOIAOfficer@trsil.org

If you have questions about TRS but are not asking for TRS records, please review information on the website. For questions not answered on our website, please contact the TRS Communications Department at **trs\_communications@trsil.org** rather than submitting a FOIA request.

#### **FOIA Officer**

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TEACHERS' RETIREMENT SYSTEM OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS

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