

# EMPLOYER BULLETIN

## PROFESSIONAL SERVICES FIRM WILL PERFORM GEMINI PROJECT ASSESSMENT

September 2020



For all of us, 2020 continues to be a challenging year. Work patterns, projects, expectations and schedules in schools across Illinois have been disrupted.

With this in mind and to ensure a seamless transition from our current annual reporting process to pay-period reporting, the TRS Board of Trustees has announced plans to hire a professional services firm to perform a project assessment of Gemini. This assessment will help the staff and board identify any obstacles to a successful go-live and ensure that our members have an excellent enrollment experience as they engage with the new TRS Supplemental Savings Plan (TRS SSP).

This assessment will delay the start of accepting production payroll data on a pay-period basis. TRS will announce the new target implementation date once the assessment is completed.

In the meantime, the Gemini Team and TRS will continue to work during 2020 and into 2021 on all development aspects of Gemini. We are not taking our foot off the proverbial pedal and we'll need your full cooperation and input to make Gemini and the launch of the SSP successful.

As employers, here is what we need and what you can expect in the coming months:

- Continue to work with your payroll vendors or internal IT teams to ensure they are working with TRS toward certification (successful file creation and submission of payroll data to TRS in the Gemini file format).
- Be prepared to send pay-period data when the go-live date is announced. *Note:* Sufficient notice will be provided and catch-up payroll data for the 2020-2021 school year will not be required.
- For the 2020-21 school year, all employers will file an annual report with TRS with a due date of August 15, 2021.
- Employer training for Gemini will be scheduled as soon as it is practical.

TRS will continue to update you about the progress of Gemini and the SSP, as well as your role in these projects, through future Employer Bulletins.

Thank you for your understanding and your cooperation.