

Employer Retirement Verification Instructions

What is an ERV?

- Employer Retirement Verification
- The form completed by employers and used by TRS to verify the compensation, service credit, and unused sick leave for retiring members

Why TRS needs ERVs

- Retirement benefits are calculated using Member Service Records (MSR) for each employment year
 - Members must have a MSR for every employment year with contributions
 - MSRs are created yearly when the employer submits the Employment Year End Report
- In most cases, retirement estimates must be created before all required Employment Year End reports have been submitted
 - Example: A member who requests an estimate in October 2023 for a June 2024 retirement will not have a MSR for 2024 and possibly not for 2023
- Completion of ERVs provides missing MSRs to be used in calculating retirement benefits



TRS User Accounts

ERV contacts

- Must use their own MyERS user account to complete electronic ERVs. NEVER use another person's account or let someone else use your account!
- Any person with a MyERS user account can complete ERVs
- The person whose name is on the user account will be accountable for the information provided on the ERV

New users

- Employers must notify TRS of all new users, including ERV Contacts by emailing their name, title (include that they are the ERV contact), phone number and email address to <u>helpdesk@trs.ok.gov</u>
- New user will register for an account at <u>https://mas.trs.ok.gov/Account/Logon</u>
- TRS will approve the new user account provide TRS has first been notified by the employer



ERV Process Overview

Member Applies for Retirement



- Available once TRS prints retirement contract*
- Due approximately 60 days prior to retirement
- Report the expected final compensation, service credit and sick leave



ERV2

- Available 7 days before retirement date*
- Due on the 15th of the month of retirement
- Report the **final** compensation, service credit and sick leave

*ERV contacts will receive emails, both initial notification and reminders, when ERVs are to be completed



Navigating MyERS



• Home Tab – Dashboard

- View ERVs with approaching deadlines
- Due Dates listed to help avoid missing deadlines

Retirement Verification Tab

- ERVs (1 & 2) can be accessed from this tab
- Once completed, the corresponding box will be checked
- Current tab will show ERV1s and ERV2s which have not passed the deadline and can be edited or viewed
- ERV2s which are past the due date are moved to the Completed/Deadline Passed tab



ERVs on MyERS:



	Retire	nent Verification 1s	
RV1s Wit	h Approaching De	adline	
Due On	Retiree Name	Employment Year	Retirement Date
<u>2/8/2022</u>	Tammie Teacher	2022	04/01/2022
<u>4/1/2022</u>	Adam Admin	2022	06/01/2022
4/1/2022	Cassie Cafeteria	2022	06/01/2022
<u>4/1/2022</u>	Peter Principal	2022	06/01/2022
<u>5/1/2022</u>	Bobby Bus Driver	2022	07/01/2022
5/1/2022	Bobby Bus Driver	2023	07/01/2022

Retirement Verification 2s ERV2s With Approaching Deadline Due On Retiree Name Employment
Year Retirement
Date Is
Disability 2/15/2022 Rachel Retiree 2022 02/01/2022 Image: Contact Information

ERVs on MyERS:





ERV 1

- First step of the two-step process
- The ERV1 is sent to MyERS when the member submits an Application to Retire and their retirement contract is printed
- If the member has more than one employer, an ERV will be sent to each employer
- The ERVI should report <u>EXPECTED</u> information for a retiring member
 - Compensation
 - Base salary plus eligible employer-paid fringes on which contributions will be paid
 - Service credit
 - Unused sick leave
- ERVIs are submitted with the understanding that the information may change before the member retires
- A tentative retirement benefit for the member will be calculated using this information



ERV 1 Deadline

- WARNING: If the deadline for the ERVI is missed by the employer the member's retirement may be delayed or cancelled. The member will not be able to retire as planned. ERVIs are due 60 days (2 months) prior to retirement
 - July 1 retirement date due May 1
 - December 1 retirement due October 1
- Because members can apply to retire 60 days (2 months) prior to retirement TRS will extend a 5 business day grace period for ERV1s to allow for short turnaround times
- Absolutely no exceptions after the grace period
- ERV deadlines will be strictly enforced-Set by statute and rules
- TRS recommends having more than one person watching ERV deadlines



Completion of the ERV1

- Log into MyERS using individual user account
- Review upcoming deadlines on the Home Dashboard and go the Retirement Verification tab and locate the ERV1 to be completed
- Click Edit
- Once open, always verify the member's name and Employment Year before completing any ERV
- In the example below, a 2022 ERV must be completed because the 2022 Employment Year End Report has not yet been submitted
- With a retirement date of July 1, 2022, this member may also have an ERV1 for the 2023 employment year





Completion of the ERV1

- Enter <u>expected</u> information into each field
 - See section on Fields for detailed descriptions
- If the member has no service, compensation or sick leave, check the box for a shortcut to auto populate "O" information
- Last Day on Payroll
 - If the member did not terminate in this employment year leave the field blank and check "Allow saving without Last Day on Payroll"
- After all information is entered click "Save"
- By marking "Are you sure this information is complete and correct", the user submitting the report confirms that the data entered is correct, complete, and as accurate as possible
- Click Save <u>again</u>... and then WAIT! It takes a few seconds to calculate the new retirement benefit
- If the ERV is reopened, the information previously saved will auto populate





Employer Retirement Verification 1

Due Date: 5/6/2022



	Position Information
Optional Membership	No 🛩
FTE Hours Per Day	7
FTE Hours Per Week	35
FTE Months Per Year	10
FTE Days Per Year	180

By clicking "Save" below you are confirming that the data entered is correct and complete.

- □ Allow saving without Last Day on Payroll
- Are you sure this information is complete and correct

Save

Input Errors

 Please verify all information is complete and accurate and check the confirmation checkbox.



Corrections and Updates to the ERV1

- Small updates are not necessary
- Mistakes or significant changes can be made in MyERS while the Save button is available
- Edit: The ERVI can be reopened, changed and saved with new information-The Save button will be available
- View: The ERV1 can be reopened and viewed but not edited
 - Once the member's retirement has been finalized, the Save button disappears and updates or corrections must wait for the ERV2.
- If the Save button is not available, changes must wait for the ERV2
- Significant changes to the ERV1 that require TRS attention can be emailed to <u>Lisa.Miranda@trs.ok.gov</u> or <u>helpdesk@trs.ok.gov</u>



ERV 2

- The second step of the two-step process
- ERV2s will be available for completion the last week before the retirement date
- The employer will verify information submitted on the ERVI or make any necessary changes
- The ERV2 must reflect accurate and final information
- TRS will use this information to calculate the final retirement benefit of the member

ERV 2 Deadline

- ERV2s are due no later than the 15th of the month of retirement
- Don't miss the deadline: Per 70 O.S. § 17-105(1)(a)(1)(2), if the deadline is missed, the retirement will be cancelled and the employer must rehire the member for up to 2 months
- <u>There is no grace period for ERV2s</u>, no exceptions including personnel issues
- TRS recommends having more than one person watch out for ERV deadlines



Completion of the ERV2

- One week prior to the member's retirement date, the ERV2 will be available for completion
- Open, edit and save in the same manner as the ERV1
- The ERV2 will be auto populated with the information submitted on the ERV1
- Due no later than the 15th of the month of retirement, there is no grace period
- If the deadline is missed, the retirement will be cancelled, and the employer must rehire the member for up to 2 months
- Click "Are you sure this information is complete and correct" to verify that the data entered is correct, complete, and as accurate as possible





Corrections to the ERV2

- Corrections and updates can be made in MyERS before the 16th of the month
- Click Edit, make changes, save
- On the 16th of the month, the ERV will move to the Completed/Deadline Passed tab and no changes can be made

Corrections or updates after the ERV2 Deadline

- Accuracy of the ERV2 is vital
- TRS must be notified if the reported ERV2 information was incorrect or has changed EVERY TIME and as soon as possible
- To report corrections or changes to the ERV2 information after the 15th of the month, send an email to
 - Lisa. Miranda@trs.ok.gov
 - <u>helpdesk@trs.ok.gov</u>
 - <u>David.Tinker@trs.ok.gov</u>

Exceptions: No ERV1, only ERV2

- The following types of retirement bypass the ERVI requirement. Only an ERV2 will be completed at the time of retirement.
- Disability retirement
 - Qualifying members can retire with no age reduction if approved by TRS medical board
 - <u>Terri.Giddens@trs.ok.gov</u>

Secondary retirement (re-retire)

- A retiree suspends their retirement benefit and makes contributions as an active member
- <u>Lisa.Miranda@trs.ok.gov</u>
- Joint Annuitant retirement
 - Spouse of deceased active member can choose Option 2 retirement in lieu of cash payout under certain circumstances
 - <u>Frances.Jackson@trs.ok.gov</u>

ERV Fields

- Fields are divided into two categories
 - **Employment:** person (individual employee information)
 - **Position:** position the employee works
- Service credit is calculated by comparing what the <u>person</u> actually worked to what the <u>position</u> is required to work for the full year

Person		Position
Employment Information	Position Information	
Sick Leave	Optional Membership	\sim
Hours Per Day Worked	FTE Hours Per Day	
Hours Per Week Worked	FTE Hours Per Week	
Days Per Year Worked	FTE Months Per Year	
Reg. Annual Compensation	FTE Days Per Year	
Federal Compensation		
First Day To Report	By clicking "Save" bel	ow you are confirming that the data
Last Day Physically on the Job	entered is correct and	complete.
Last Day on the Payroll	Allow saving without	Last Day on Payroll
Sabbatical	5	

Employment Information

- Complete this information for the employee (the individual person)
- Sick Leave
 - Total number of unused sick leave DAYS, not hours
 - If sick leave is calculated in hours, convert hours into days per FTE requirement
 - Include all unused sick leave days available for TRS use which includes days banked and days transferred from another employer
 - Do not include vacation, personal, or any other type of leave
 - Sick Leave must be between 0 and 120 with no decimals

Hours Per Day Worked

- The number of hours per day this employee actually worked
- Can have 2 digits after the decimal: 7, 7.5 or 7.25
- Hours Per Week Worked
 - The number of hours per week this employee actually worked
 - Can have 2 digits after the decimal: 35, 35.5 or 35.75

Days Per Year Worked

- The number of days this employee (person) actually worked or was on paid leave
- When contributions are paid, the day counts whether the employee is physically at work or on paid leave
- Sub-pay days are counted as days worked
- This number will be less than the FTE Days Per Year required for the position if the employee started late, quit early, or had days without pay
- Leave without pay is not counted as a day worked
- Whole numbers only: 180, 175, 220

Regular Annual Compensation

- The total salary plus eligible employer-paid fringes on which contributions have been or will be paid in the designated employment year
- Include any contributions that will be submitted for the employment year after the ERV has been completed
- Example: the ERV2 for a teacher who retires June 1 will be due no later than June 15th, but summer checks will still be paid after that date. ERV2 information should include these contributions
- The reported compensation on the ERV2 must match the total contributions paid for the employment year.
- Do not include ineligible contributions such as payment for unused leave

Federal Compensation

- The portion of the total Regular Annual Compensation that is paid by federal funds or other external sources
- This salary cannot be larger than Regular Annual Compensation

• First Day to Report

- The first day this employee was required to report to work (physically show up for work)
- Teachers usually report to work in August do not report July 1
- If the employee started late in the year, report the actual first day worked
- If this employee started the year on paid leave (with contributions paid), report the first day of paid leave
- Paid leave (with contributions paid) is counted as a day worked
- Leave without pay is not counted as a day worked

Last Day Physically on the Job

- The last day this employee physically worked or was on paid leave
- This is NOT the last day they will receive a paycheck or the last day contributions are remitted to TRS
 - Checks are usually received after employment ends
 - Checks can be spread out over the summer for teachers and faculty whose last day is in May

• Last Day Physically on the Job Continued

- If this employee is on paid leave (with contributions paid) report the last day they used paid leave
- If this employee was on leave without pay, list the last day on which contributions were paid
- Leave without pay is not counted as a day worked
- Examples
 - An administrator who is required to work through June 30 takes paid leave for the entire month of June will have a Last Day Physically on the Job of June 30 because they are on paid leave
 - A teacher who stops working on December 23 due to illness and is on paid leave through March 30 will have a Last Day Physically on the Job of March 30

• Last Day on the Payroll

- Employee termination date
- The last day the employee is considered to be an employee of the school
- This is the last day the employee was required to show up for work
- It is not the day the employee turned in their resignation
- It is not the last day the employee will receive a paycheck
- It is not the last day contributions are submitted to TRS
- It IS the last day of the employee's employment

Last Day Physically on the Job vs. Last Day on the Payroll - What's the difference?

- In most cases these two dates will be the same
- The reason for two separate dates
 - Termination: to be eligible for retirement, members must terminate employment. Last Day on the Payroll verifies the member has terminated employment.
 - Post-retirement employment: Retirees must have a 60 day break before returning to work as a retiree. Last Day Physically on the Job helps to determine when a retiree is eligible to return to work.

Sabbatical

- No if no sabbatical was taken
- Yes if any part of the year was sabbatical leave

Position Information

- NOT for the individual employee
- Report information for the position the employee worked
- Every employee of the school who works this position will have the same FTE requirements
- Optional membership
 - Yes if the position this employee works is optional
 - No if the position this employee works is mandatory

• FTE Hours Per Day

- Number of hours per day that must be worked by any full-time employee in this position
- Can have 2 digits after the decimal: 6, 7.5 or 7.25

• FTE Hours Per Week

- Number of hours per week that must be worked by any full-time employee in this position
- Can have 2 digits after the decimal: 30, 37.5 or 39.75

• FTE Months Per Year

- Number of months per year that must be worked by any full-time employee in this position
- Whole numbers only

FTE Days Per Year

- Number of days per year that must be worked by every full-time employee in this position for the full year
- Do not reduce these days if this individual employee started late, quit early, or had days without pay
- Report the number of days every employee in this position is required to work for the full year
- Whole numbers only

Field Formats

- Whole numbers only (days and months):
 - Sick Leave
 - Days Per Year Worked
 - FTE Months Per Year
 - FTE Days Per Year
- Up to two decimal places (hours and money):
 - Hours Per Day Worked
 - Hours Per Week Worked
 - Reg. Annual Compensation
 - Federal Compensation
 - FTE Hours Per Day
 - FTE Hours Per Week

Validations

• Validations help ensure correct information is entered in each field

Format Error

- The information entered is not in the correct format
- Example: Sick leave must be whole numbers only. If a fraction is entered the box will become red and instructions will say you must enter a valid value

Employment Infor	mation
Format Error Sick Leave	119.5
	You must enter a valid value

Input Error

- Information doesn't fall within expected range
- The Input Errors will explain the reason for the error
- Example: Sick leave must be between 0 and 120. If less than 0 or more than 120 is entered, the field is highlighted red and the Input Errors box will explain that it must be between 0 and 120

Sick Leave	125	Ontional Membership	No. ×	
Journe Days Days Worked	8.00	CPGONal Membership		
Hours Per Day Worked	8.00	FIE Hours Per Day	8.00	
Hours Per Week Worked	40.00	FTE Hours Per Week	40.00	
Days Per Year Worked	180	FTE Months Per Year	9	
Reg. Annual Compensation	90.00	FTE Days Per Year	180	
Federal Compensation	50000.00			
First Day To Report	7/1/2017	By clicking "Save" below y	ou are confirming that the data	
Last Day Physically on the Job	6/30/2018	entered is correct and com	plete.	
Last Day on the Payroll	6/30/2018	Allow saving without Last Day on Payroll		
Sabbatical	No 🗸	Save		
		Input Errors		
	Input Errors Box	SickLeave must be between the between	een 0 and 120.	

Contact Information

Contact Member Services at: 405-521-2387 or 877-738-6365 <u>mail@trs.ok.gov</u> Contact Employer Services at: 405-522-3130 <u>helpdesk@trs.ok.gov</u>

