



Boise | Coeur d'Alene | Pocatello

PERSpectives

FOR ACTIVE MEMBERS

Public Employee Retirement System of Idaho

Second Quarter 2020

TOPICS / Our Lobbies Are Open And We Are Here To Help You! pg. 1-2 / The CARES Act And Your PERSI Choice 401(k) Plan Account pg. 2 / What Can You Do With myPERSI pg. 2 / Remembering Retired Trustee J. Kirk Sullivan pg. 3 / We Are Live With Online Workshops! pg. 3 - 4 / Empower Retirement Counselors pg. 4 / A Message From Our Friends At The Idaho Transportation Department's Division Of Motor Vehicles pg. 5 / Protect Yourself And Your Family pg. 5

OUR LOBBIES ARE OPEN AND WE ARE HERE TO HELP YOU!

Our staff continues to work and are available to assist you. Our call center is fully-staffed and ready to support members or employers needing assistance. We encourage everyone to use the call center.

PERSI lobbies in Boise, Coeur d'Alene, and Pocatello are now open.

We are following CDC guidance to promote a safe and healthy environment for staff and members. For health and safety reasons, we prefer to schedule appointments as Webex/online or phone, rather than in-person.

However, for in-person appointments, please know the following:

- ☑ In-person appointments will be limited to 60 minutes. This timeframe will be adhered to in order to allow for proper sanitation practices after each appointment and adequate preparation time before the next appointment.
- ☑ The member is allowed to have one (1) guest accompany them.
- ☑ Face masks are required in PERSI facilities. PERSI will supply face masks for your visit if needed.
- ☑ Maintain proper physical distance at all times during the appointment. Handshakes are not permitted.
- ☑ Once in the meeting room, plan on staying in the room for the duration of the appointment. Please have all necessary materials with you.
- ☑ While appointments are required, we understand that there will be circumstances where members require immediate assistance, need forms notarized, or want to drop off forms.



For these reasons, the following protocols have been established:

- ☑ Walk-in appointment openings (first come, first served) will be available for members who need immediate assistance or have traveled to an office from out of town.

continued on page 2...



...continued from page 1

- ☑ Upon arrival, the walk-in will be scheduled for an available appointment slot.
- ☑ To avoid extra persons in the waiting areas, the member will be asked to return at the time of their scheduled appointment.
- ☑ A document drop-box will be available in the lobby for member use.

CONTACT US

PERSI Answer Center | 1-800-451-8228 or 208-334-3365 | Open 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM MT

PERSI Employer Service Center | 1-866-887-9525 or 208-287-9525 | Open 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM MT

You can also email us at frontdesk@persi.idaho.gov and your email will be directed to the appropriate department.

THE CARES ACT AND YOUR PERSI CHOICE 401(k) PLAN ACCOUNT

Members that have a PERSI Choice 401(k) Plan* account have control over their asset allocation and investment options. They may choose from many different investment options located on the member or participant website.

Empower Retirement is the second-largest retirement services provider in the country, and provides record keeping services for the PERSI Choice 401(k) Plan. Here you will find perspective and resources from Empower regarding the CARES Act.

THE CARES ACT** The Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act passed by Congress allows for optional COVID-19 related distributions to qualified individuals.

Empower Retirement outlines the CARES Act, who it applies to, and its terms at <https://docs.empower-retirement.com/EE/IdahoWR/DOCS/PERSI-CARES-Act-FAQ.pdf>

REACH OUT TO EMPOWER RETIREMENT If members would like to review their PERSI Choice 401(k) Plan investments, or learn more about the CARES Act, they may login to the website at <https://mypersi401k.empower-retirement.com/> or call the Plan recordkeeper, Empower Retirement.

Empower Retirement service center representatives are ready to assist you. You may reach a representative at 866-437-3774, Monday through Friday from 6:00 AM to 8:00 PM MT and Saturdays from 7:00 AM to 3:30 PM MT.

*The PERSI Choice 401(k) Plan is a defined contribution plan. It is separate from the PERSI Base Plan.

**The CARES Act does not apply to the PERSI Base Plan.

WHAT CAN YOU DO WITH myPERSI?

You can receive your PERSI annual statements, confirmations of changes, and other documents sooner and in a secure location by setting your preferred method of communication to electronic in your myPERSI account.

[myPERSI Login](#)

[CLICK HERE](#)

By choosing electronic communication, under the Personal Information tab on your myPERSI page, you will receive an email alert when new documents are available. Then you can log into your myPERSI account to download the documents.



REMEMBERING RETIRED TRUSTEE J. KIRK SULLIVAN

We are saddened to share that retired PERSI Trustee J. Kirk Sullivan passed away this April. He was first appointed by Idaho Governor Phil Batt in 1996 and served a total of 22 years on the PERSI Retirement Board.

During his service, Trustee Sullivan guided PERSI through the booming market of the late 1990's, which led to the creation of the PERSI Choice 401(k) Plan for Idaho public employees. His steady influence also helped the Board navigate tougher times, including the "Great Recession" of 2008-2009, which decimated many public retirement systems nationwide, but from which PERSI was quick to recover.

"It was a distinct honor to work with Dr. Sullivan. He was an outstanding member of the PERSI board. The effort he put forth on behalf of the beneficiaries and members will be felt for decades." said Chairman of the Board, Jeff Cilek.



During Trustee Sullivan's twenty-two years of service, PERSI membership almost doubled, from 85,184 (FY96) to 160,489 (FY18), and the PERSI trust fund grew from \$4 billion in 1996 to \$17 billion at the time of his retirement.

Trustee Sullivan announced his retirement from the PERSI Retirement Board in December of 2018. He will be deeply missed by PERSI and its members.

WE ARE LIVE WITH ONLINE PERSI WORKSHOPS!!!



Maria Quitgua

We are excited to announce PERSI workshops are now available online in real time! We look forward to holding in-person workshops once current conditions improve. In the meantime, Maria, Ray, and Kelsey are looking forward to seeing you online and providing you the latest education through live, secure workshops about your PERSI benefits!



Ray Mikus

During each workshop, you will have the opportunity to ask questions in the Chat Room panel — during short breaks throughout the workshop, those questions will be answered. At the end of the workshop, you'll have additional time to ask further questions.

PERSI workshops are custom-designed for members in various stages of their careers, to learn how to better prepare for retirement and about their PERSI retirement benefit.



Kelsey White

READY workshops are for anyone just starting a career with a PERSI employer. They provide a general overview of what PERSI is and the benefits it provides for PERSI members.

SET workshops are for those in mid-career with a PERSI employer. SET workshops focus on how vesting changes PERSI benefits and things to consider in planning for

continued on page 4...



...continued from page 3

retirement.

GO! workshops are designed for late-career PERSI members who may be approaching or contemplating retirement.

NOTE: To protect your personal information, PERSI trainers are no longer able to provide workshop attendees with personalized benefit estimates. Members may obtain benefit estimates through the *myPERSI* portal or by calling the PERSI Answer Center at 1-800-451-8228 or (208) 334-3365.

Ask your employer to schedule a workshop for your team, or check the PERSI workshop registration page and register for any “OPEN” workshop that meets your needs and schedule! If you have a question, please call the PERSI Answer Center at 1-800-451-8228 or at 208-334-3365.



EMPOWER RETIREMENT COUNSELORS AVAILABLE FOR SECURE ONLINE CHOICE 401(K) PLAN APPOINTMENTS

It may be hard to plan for the future when the present is so unpredictable. You might even think it doesn’t make sense to prepare for a retirement that’s decades away. However, you still need a plan for reaching your retirement income goals. The good news: you’re not on your own.

Ali Belden and Oscar Lopez are retirement counselors from Empower Retirement, record keeper for the PERSI Choice 401(k) Plan. They are ready and available to help you develop a personalized strategy for your future retirement with your PERSI Choice 401(k) Plan, whether you’re just beginning your career or counting down to your planned retirement date. Ali and Oscar are salaried employees, meaning Empower doesn’t pay them commissions -- they’re here to assist you with your account, not to sell you anything.

While face-to-face meetings are on hold, Empower Retirement counselors can still meet with you one-on-one, virtually. Your counselors can connect with you online to discuss your unique situation and work with you to answer questions such as:

- How much retirement income will I need?
- Am I saving enough to reach my retirement income goals?
- How do I create a long-term strategy amid short-term volatility?
- How does the CARES Act affect my plans for retirement?
- How can I take better advantage of the services and features of the PERSI Choice 401(k) Plan?



To book a virtual session with Ali or Oscar, visit the online scheduling tool available [here](#) or contact them directly by phone or email.

- Ali Belden | Direct 208-345-5201 | Toll-Free (844)446-8658 Ext. 20461
ali.belden@empower-retirement.com
- Oscar Lopez | Direct 208-345-1120 | Toll-Free (844)446-8658 Ext. 1120
oscar.lopez@empower-retirement.com

A MESSAGE FROM OUR FRIENDS AT THE IDAHO TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT'S DIVISION OF MOTOR VEHICLES

The Idaho Transportation Department's Division of Motor Vehicles and county officials are asking drivers to use online DMV services due to increased office wait times created by COVID-19 this spring, and limited lobby access.

Idahoans are encouraged to renew their license and/or vehicle registration online, and help reduce wait times by allowing room at county DMV offices for customers who cannot complete services online.

Expanded online services at dmv.idaho.gov include:

- Renewing your license/ID
- Purchasing a replacement license/ID
- Purchasing your driving record
- Renewing vehicle registration
- Ordering personalized plates



The federal deadline for the Star Card-Idaho's REAL ID has also been extended a full year to October 1, 2021.

County DMV offices are managed by both the county sheriff's office and county assessor's office. Office hours and availability vary by county. ITD strongly suggests drivers contact their county DMV office before making the trip, as many may require an appointment.

For more information, visit dmv.idaho.gov or call 208.334.8000.

PROTECT YOURSELF AND YOUR FAMILY

Educate and protect yourself and your family against scams, product recalls, and safety alerts through trusted national and state websites.



On the United States Consumer Product Safety Commission website, you may sign up for topic-specific newsletters, the latest recalls, to join the Neighborhood Safety Network (NSN), and much more. You can even download an app! Go to www.cpsc.gov to get started.

The State of Idaho's Attorney General website has a number of resources to learn about consumer alerts, fraud, or how to file a complaint.

The website also has an extensive library of manuals discussing topics such as internet safety or landlord and tenant guidelines.

Get started at www.ag.idaho.gov/.

RETIREMENT BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Jeff Cilek, **Chairman**

Joy Fisher, **Trustee**

Celia R. Gould, **Trustee**

Park Price, **Trustee**

Darin DeAngeli, **Trustee**

Executive Director • Donald Drum

Deputy Director • Michael L. Hampton

Public Information Officer • Jenny Flint

www.persi.idaho.gov

Costs associated with this publication are available from PERSI in accordance with Idaho Code 60-202.