

PERspectives

Public Employee Retirement System of Idaho

ACTIVE / September 2026 — February 2027

PUBLIC SAFETY CONTRIBUTION RATES

At the August Board Meeting, the Board adopted recommended new actuarial assumptions for the line of duty catastrophic and death benefits for the public safety class. The total impact of the Board's actions were negligible to public safety contribution rates, decreasing employer contributions by .01% and increasing employee contributions by .01%.

Effective July 1, 2027 the public safety class contribution rates will be:

- Employer contribution rate will decrease from 13.98% to 13.97%.
- Employee contribution rates will increase from 10.36% to 10.37%.

BEWARE OF SOLICITATIONS OFFERING RETIREMENT SERVICES

Be on the alert for scams targeting PERSI members. PERSI occasionally receives reports from members and others that they have received either an email, a mailing, and/or phone call offering free retirement services.

THESE OFFERS ARE NOT AUTHORIZED OR AFFILIATED WITH PERSI, NOR ANY OTHER GOVERNMENT AGENCY.

Scammers often claim that "As a valued employee of the state of Idaho, you are eligible to receive a free one-on-one consultation for answers to your retirement benefit questions." Or they may offer information that will help you determine your expected income when you retire, how much longer you will have to work, and options you have when you retire.

In addition, impostors may alter their caller ID to make it look like an Idaho area code is calling. Scammers often use an email address that appears very business-like to "phish" for additional, information. Scammers may also leave an "urgent" callback or email request.

SIGNS OF A SCAM

Scammers often call, email, or mail to demand:

- Your personal identifying information.
- Information about your annuitant(s).
- A donation, contribution and/or pledge to safeguard your PERSI benefits.

If you suspect, they are an impostor:

- Do not engage with the caller – **hang-up.**
- Do not reply to the email – **delete it.**
- Do not reply to the mailing – **shred it.**

Scams like these are carried out by extremely skilled impostors, who often sound very convincing and helpful. Don't respond, they don't want to help you. They want to help themselves to what you have earned: your PERSI benefit.

Be suspicious of phone calls, messages or mailings from people claiming to be from PERSI. If PERSI does have a reason to contact you, we will not ask for personal information, information about your finances or beneficiaries, or ask you for payment.

If you are contacted, and think it might be legitimate PERSI business, we recommend you disconnect or delay and first verify with the PERSI Answer Center.

If you have any questions and/or concerns, please call the PERSI Answer Center at 1-800-451-8228 or 208-334-3365.

IS YOUR DESIGNATED BENEFICIARY(IES) CURRENT? UPDATING YOUR BENEFICIARY(IES)

If you have become married, had a child, got divorced, or had a significant change in your life since you last listed your beneficiary(ies), you may need to review who you have listed as your beneficiary(ies) and update them to reflect your wishes.

When naming a beneficiary(ies), you may select one or more people and direct whether the benefit is paid in equal shares or in different percentages.

Your beneficiary designation may be changed at any time, but to be valid, PERSI must have received the designation form prior to your death. In the event of a claim, you want to ensure the benefit is paid to the correct individual(s).

BASE PLAN DEATH BENEFITS

When you prepare to retire from your PERSI-covered employer, you will select a Contingent Annuitant (CA) Option, Idaho Statute 59-1361(2), your CA will receive a monthly allowance for the remainder of their life at the time of your death.

If you select a Regular retirement option at the time of retirement, and you have a balance remaining in your account at the time of your death, that will be paid to your Base Plan beneficiary as a lump sum.

REPORTING A DEATH TO PERSI

PERSI is not automatically notified of a PERSI member's death. PERSI respectfully requests that a representative of the member's estate call PERSI to inform us of the death. Once PERSI is notified of a member's death, PERSI will review and finalize the member's account.

Correspondence addressed to the surviving spouse, estate representative, and/or to the estate of the member will inform them of the process moving forward.

If additional information is needed to finalize the account, PERSI will reach out to the member's estate for that information. Additionally, if necessary, PERSI will give a status of benefit overpayments which can arise due to the timing of the death in relation to the notification. Benefit overpayments must be returned to PERSI.

If you have questions, please call the PERSI Answer Center at 1-800-451-8228 or 208-334-3365.

MISSED CONNECTIONS

From the PERSI Programs Team

Have you recently moved, changed your email address or simply haven't reviewed your contact information in a while? Now is a great time to make sure PERSI has your most current information.

Last month, PERSI sent out the 2026 Annual Statements to members - and many were returned because of incorrect or outdated addresses. While your annual statement contains important information about your retirement account, it isn't the only reason to keep your contact information current. PERSI is definitely an organization you want to be able to reach you! An accurate mailing address, email address and phone number all help to ensure you receive important account information, benefit updates and other communications when you need them.

Fortunately, checking or updating your information is quick and easy - Simply log in to your secure *my*PERSI Member Portal. You can review and update your PERSI Base Plan contact information at any time. Even if you haven't moved recently, taking a moment to confirm that everything is correct can give you peace of mind and help prevent important information from being delayed or returned.

If you haven't registered for *my*PERSI yet or if you just want help learning about all the new tools and resources available, **attend a Your *my*PERSI Member Portal workshop**. In these live workshops, a PERSI Member Educator will walk you through how to register, log in and update your information. You'll also learn how to use the benefit calculator to see all six available retirement options, get an estimate for Purchase of Service and more!

Register for an upcoming Your *my*PERSI Member Portal workshop on the Education section of our website or you can use this link: Register for an upcoming myPERSI Member Portal workshop.

Learn better in person? Ask your HR or Payroll representative to invite a PERSI Member Educator to your workplace for a face-to-face workshop – we can come to you!

As a reminder, if you have money in your PERSI Choice 401(k) Plan account, you'll need to update your information with Empower as well.

A quick check today can help ensure PERSI stays connected with you throughout your career - and into retirement.

SAVE FOR TOMORROW, PROTECT YOUR PERSI CHOICE 401(k) PLAN ACCOUNT TODAY

From the PERSI Choice 401(k) Plan Team

Next month, October, brings together two important reminders: National Retirement Security Month and Cybersecurity Awareness Month. National Retirement Security Month encourages participants to focus on the benefits of saving through an employer-sponsored retirement plan, while Cybersecurity Awareness Month highlights everyday actions that can help reduce online risk. Together, they offer a simple message: building your financial future also means protecting it.

Retirement confidence does not come from one big decision. It often comes from small choices repeated over time: saving consistently, understanding your financial picture, and knowing how to keep your account secure.

Financial wellness begins with understanding where you are today. That may include your monthly budget, emergency savings, debt, healthcare expenses, and competing priorities. When you have a clearer picture of your current finances, it can be easier to decide how much you can save and whether small adjustments make sense.

Even a modest increase in savings can help build momentum over time. The key is to choose a step that feels realistic, whether that means increasing your contribution, reviewing your paycheck deductions, or using your plan’s tools to see how today’s choices may affect your future income.

Your PERSI Choice 401(k) Plan account is one part of your future income picture. Pension benefits, Social Security, IRAs, personal savings, or other income sources may also play a role. Looking at these pieces together can help you better understand how your savings may support your lifestyle in retirement.

Now is a good time to ask: What kind of retirement am I planning for? How much income might I need each month? Are my savings habits aligned with that goal?

As your retirement savings grow, account security becomes even more important. Scammers may use urgent messages, fake websites, impersonation calls, or requests for verification codes to try to access personal information. Strong security habits can help protect the progress you have made.

Use this month as a reminder to keep your contact information current, use strong passwords, review activity, and be cautious with unexpected messages. Financial wellness and account security work together. Saving consistently can help you build toward your future goals, while strong security habits can help protect the progress you have already made.