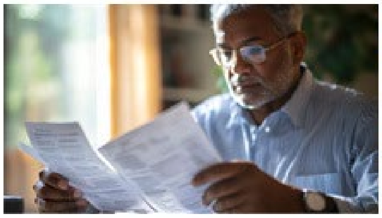


# PERspectives

Public Employee Retirement System of Idaho

RETIREE / September — December 2026


## 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.”

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 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**
At the time of your retirement, if you selected 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 selected a Regular retirement option and you have a balance remaining in your account, 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.

## RETURN TO SENDER?

*From the PERSI Programs Team*

Have you recently moved, changed your email address or phone number, 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.

Especially in retirement it's important that PERSI can reach you. An accurate mailing address, email address and phone number all help ensure you receive important information about your PERSI Base Plan retirement benefit, tax documents, account updates and other communications when you need them. Keeping your information current can also help prevent important correspondence from being delayed or returned.

Fortunately, checking on and updating your information is quick and easy. Simply log in to your secure *my*PERSI Member Portal to review your information and make updates at any time. Even if nothing has changed recently, taking a few minutes to confirm that everything is correct is an easy way to help keep your retirement information up to date and give yourself peace of mind.

If you haven't registered for *my*PERSI yet - or if you'd simply like some help learning about the tools and resources available to retirees, we're here to help! Visit our website at: www.persi.idaho.gov/retirees to view video resources where a PERSI Member Educator will walk you through how to register, log in and navigate your account. You'll also learn where to find important information and resources available to you throughout retirement.

As a reminder, if you still have money in your PERSI Choice 401(k) Plan account, you'll need to update your information with Empower as well.
Your relationship with PERSI doesn't end when you retire. A quick check today can help make sure we're able to stay connected with you throughout your retirement.

## A REMINDER ABOUT NEW LEGISLATION THAT IS NOW EFFECTIVE

During this past legislative session, amendments were made to Idaho Code pertaining to PERSI's return- to-work provisions. The following amendments are now effective.

**Senate Bill 1261** amended Idaho Code Section 59-1356(3) by expanding the provision to include individuals who are appointed to an elected office, allowing them to continue receiving their PERSI retirement benefit under the same conditions, as if they were elected to the office.

**Senate Bill 1276** amended Idaho Code Section 59-1356(5) by removing the sunset provision that restricts retired employees from returning to work. This means that retirees currently working under this provision may continue in their roles without interruption, and no action is required from them at this time.

PERSI has sent letters directly to affected retirees confirming this update. Additionally, the bill expands eligibility to include individuals who retired prior to January 1, 2026.

## THREE EASY STEPS TO KEEP YOUR PERSI CHOICE 401(k) PLAN ACCOUNT UPDATED

*From the PERSI Choice 401(k) Plan Team*

This brief reminder is especially for PERSI retirees who chose to keep money in their PERSI Choice 401(k) Plan (Choice Plan) account after retirement. Even in retirement, a few simple updates with the Choice Plan record keeper (Empower) can help keep your information current.

You're busy. We get it. We all have packed schedules and never-ending to-do lists. But if you have 10 minutes to spare, you can complete some basic maintenance on your retirement account that can make your life a little easier and your account more secure. Here's how:

1. **Register your account** – If you haven't yet registered for online access to your Choice Plan account, take a few minutes to complete the process. You can do it at www.mypersi401k.com or the Empower mobile app. Why is registering your account important? It allows Empower to send you proactive security alerts whenever certain changes are made to your account, so you're always aware of

any activity. It also makes it easier for you to monitor your account, review investment performance, and stay on track toward your goals.

2. **Update your contact information** – People often change email addresses, phone numbers, or relocate. Keeping your contact information up to date is important so Empower can reach you when necessary. This is an important step in helping protect you from potential fraud.
3. **Verify/update your beneficiary designation** – By keeping your beneficiary information current, you can make it easier for the people you care about to access the funds in your account in the event of your death.

See, that wasn't so hard! Visit www.mypersi401k.com to complete these three tasks, and you'll have accomplished something important. And if you feel like tackling some bigger items, like reviewing your investment selections, more power to you!