

403(b) Plan Annual Notice

To All School District Employees:

The new school year is an ideal time to make you aware of your eligibility to participate in your employer's 403(b) retirement plan. The 403(b) plan (often called a "tax sheltered annuity" or TSA) is a voluntary plan that allows you to defer a portion of your paycheck to a retirement plan.

This is a great benefit offered by your employer to help you bridge your retirement income gap and lower your taxes. Under federal tax law, you do not have to pay income taxes on your contributions or account earnings until you take the money out of the plan.

Please read below for details on how to enroll and how easy it is to start saving now. Also explore why it is a good idea to invest for retirement.

Why Do I Need to Save if I have TRS?

Your pension may not replace all of your income in retirement. The average retiree receives 60-65 percent of their income at retirement.

For example, if your current salary is \$5,000 per month and your retirement benefit equals 65 percent of your current salary, you will receive \$3,250 each month. However, TRS research indicates that retirees must receive 90-95 percent of their income in retirement to maintain their current standard of living. In the following example the member has a shortfall of \$1,750 per month.

Why Should I Contribute to a 403(b) Plan

- Bridge your retirement income gap
- Lower your taxes
- Easy to start saving now

*If you do not have Internet access or need assistance, please call us at (800) 943-9179 and we can assist you with these services by phone. *To make a 403(b) salary reduction election or change online please follow the instructions below.*

1. Go to www.region10rams.org
2. Click on "Login to Retirement Solution" on the left side of the screen
3. If you are currently a participant in the 403(b) plan:
 - a. Click on "Login"
 - b. Enter your Social Security Number as the User ID and the last four numbers of your Social Security Number for the Password, then click on "Participant"
4. If you are *not* currently a participant in the 403(b) plan:
 - a. Click on "Login"
 - b. Choose "New to the System, Enroll Now"
 - c. Enter Your Social Security Number as the User ID
 - d. Enter Your Social Security Number as the User ID and the Plan Password for your employer (this is available online under "Plan Description.")
5. If you have any problems, please call JEM Customer Service at (800) 943-9179

Thank you,

The JEM Administration Team