

# The NMERB Connection

NEW MEXICO EDUCATION RETIREMENT BOARD

FIRST QUARTER 2011

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**Rick Scroggins** Deputy Director

#### MEMBER ANNUAL STATEMENTS NOW ON CALENDAR YEAR

In order to provide more useful information to NMERB's active members, the NMERB is switching from a fiscal year statement to a calendar year statement. Annual statements are mailed to the employers for distribution.

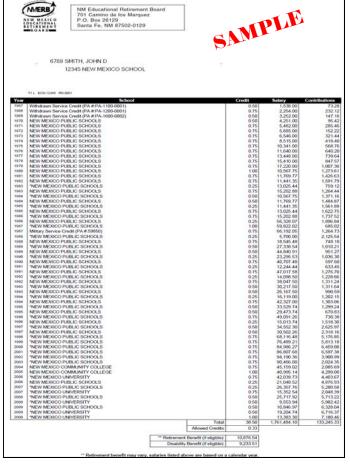
In these annual statements, active members will now be able to see a breakdown of the following, based on a calendar year:

NMERB

- work history
- total years of service credit earned
- salary history
- contribution history

Similar to previous statements, also included is a calculation of the retirement and disability benefit, if applicable to the member. Please note that these calculations are based on fiscal years. (If you are using the retirement calculator provided on the NMERB website, be sure to use fiscal year dollar amounts.)

The active member annual statements were mailed to employers during the month of March. If you did not receive your annual statement, have questions about your annual statement and are an active member, please contact the NMERB, at 1-866-691-2345.



## NMERB WELCOMES NEW DEPUTY DIRECTOR

The New Mexico Educational Retirement Board in March welcomed Rick Scroggins to the agency's staff. Rick serves as the NMERB Deputy Director, a position that oversees the management of NMERB's Financial Services, Information Technology, Human Resources, and Member Services.

"I am very excited to start this new venture at the NMERB," Scroggins said, "I believe my experience in financial and administrative management will help to continue the improvement of financial reporting and member services."

Scroggins came to NMERB from the New Mexico State Investment Council where he served as the Chief Financial Officer. His experience with investment and administrative accounting, financial reports and schedules, and audit processes will be most beneficial to NMERB. He will also use his expertise to improve NMERB operations. Please join the staff in welcoming Rick Scroggins to the NMERB.

#### NMERB COMPLETES CAFR

The NMERB's Financial Services Department recently completed its Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) for fiscal year ended June 30, 2010.

The purpose of the CAFR is to demonstrate the commitment of the Board and staff to timely, complete, and accurate reporting of the activities and soundness of the NMERB membership's retirement plan.

The NMERB received the prestigious Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting Award for its CAFR for FY 2009. This award is given by The Government Finance Officers Association of the US and Canada. It is an honor for a state agency to receive such high recognition for its hard work and dedication to its members.

NMERB's CAFR and other related financial news and reports are currently available at www.nmerb.org.

#### ELIGIBLE NMERB RETIREES TO RECEIVE COLA

The NM Educational Retirement Board recently announced that the Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) is 1.6% and will be applied to eligible retiree pensions beginning July 1, 2011.

NMERB's COLA is based on the change in the Consumer Price Index (CPI). If the CPI change is less than 2%, the COLA is equal to the CPI change. If the CPI change is greater than 2%, the COLA is one-half that amount with a maximum of 4% and a minimum of 2%. If the CPI decreases, the retirement benefit will remain the same.

NMERB members who retire before age 65 are eligible to receive the COLA during the year they turn 65. Members who retire after age 65 will receive the COLA in July of the year following their effective date of retirement.

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#### SIGN INTO MYNMERB

Did you know that if you are a member of the NMERB, you have direct access to your retirement account?

You can log into your 'myNMERB' account by visiting the NMERB-website at the following address: www.nmerb.org and clicking on "sign into myNMERB" located on the right side of the webpage.

You will need to register yourself by entering your social security number, last name, zip code and date of birth. You will then be asked to create a username and password. Upon completion of the

registration process you will be able to:

- View your current
   Final Average Salary
   (FAS)
- Calculate a retirement benefit
- Calculate beneficiary option amounts
- Calculate estimates to purchase allowed service credit
- Calculate estimates to purchase withdrawn service
- View your statement of account
- Request an application for retirement or application to refund member contributions

Logging into your myNMERB account can be very helpful while thinking about retiring because you can enter different dates of retirement and different beneficiary dates of birth to see how benefit amounts can vary based on years of service, Final Average Salary and age of beneficiary. This access to your account can be very beneficial to help you make the best decision about this exciting milestone in your life.

For help logging into your *my*NMERB, please call 505-827-8030 or 1-866-691-2345.



## myNMERB Account A

Member Log in

#### NMERB AND THE 2011 LEGISLATURE

Each year, all state government agencies, in some way, participate in the annual NM Legislative Session. Participation can vary from agency to agency, but in most cases, cabinet secretaries and agency directors attend many committee meetings and hearings to provide information to State Representatives and Senators in regards to bills that will have an impact on their respective department or agency.

To see a list of legislation that may impact NMERB visit www.nmerb.org. You will be directed to the State's legislative website where you can see the status of bills that have been introduced this year.

Visit

www.nmerb.org to see bills that affect NMERB.

Visit

www.nmlegis.gov

to see all

information

regarding the 2011

NM Legislature.

## **Retiring in July?**

If you are planning to retire at the end of the school year, it is imperative that you submit your retirement application as soon as possible. NMERB asks active members to submit their applications at least 60-90 days prior to their effective date of retirement. This means that if you terminate employment in May or June, NMERB strongly recommends that you submit your application no later than April to ensure a timely first retirement check.

Applications can be accessed at www.nmerb.org (click on download forms) or from your

Human Resources (HR) Office. You will complete the Member Information page, gather copies of the necessary accompanying documents, take these pages to your HR office, which will complete the Employer Certification and will submit the entire packet to NMERB.

For help in completing the application please call 1-866-691-2345 and ask for Member Services.



1-866-691-2345 (toll free)

6201 Uptown Blvd. Ste. 204 Albuquerque, NM 87110 (505) 888-1560

701 Camino de Los Marquez Santa Fe, NM 87505 (505) 827-8030

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