



DECEMBER 2022

# NERB Connect

*The latest news from the New Mexico Educational Retirement Board*



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## Director's Message

BY DAVID ARCHULETA, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear Educational Retirement Act Plan Participants,

As always, I hope this message finds you well and delightfully prepared for the upcoming holiday season.

For some, the season marks a time when our members begin preparing for or moving into the retirement stage of their careers. If you fall into one of these two categories, I would like to encourage you to register for an account under our Member Self Service Portal where you can review your pension earnings and contributions, benefit estimates and print copies of your annual statements. For more information, please visit our [website](#) and click on the [MyNMERB Tutorial link](#).

*Director's Message continued on Page 2*

As the 2023 legislative session approaches, the Educational Retirement Board is preparing to seek changes to the Procurement Code and Educational Retirement Act (ERA). The first change proposes to add ERB's pension administration system to the list of exemptions that would allow ERB to avoid initiating the procurement process after a customized information technology system is developed around our current laws, rules, and business practices. Proposed changes to the ERA include adding the Southeast College to the list of eligible employer groups who are allowed to participate in the Alternative Retirement Plan. Lastly, ERB is proposing to align the language included in the ERA with Internal Revenue Services Code requirements related to a persons required minimum distribution age. None of the changes will have a fiscal impact on the agency or the state's finances.

As a reminder, there are a number of return-to-work opportunities for people wanting to help fill vacant roles across the state, all of which require prior approval from ERB before work commences. Failure to submit a return-to-work application and receive approval prior to actually commencing work with an employer in the ERB system will result in the suspension of your pension benefits and the requirement that ERB collect all pension payments made to you during the period of ineligibility.

If you have questions, concerns or need to verify your return-to-work status or eligibility, please contact our office by dialing 1-866-691-2345.

I hope your holiday season is filled with joy, good health and many blessings.

Until the Spring Message, stay safe.

David



## NEW MEXICO'S 56TH LEGISLATIVE SESSION DATES

For more information about the legislative session visit: [www.nmlegis.gov](http://www.nmlegis.gov)

January 3, 2023 - January 13, 2023 Legislation may be prefiled

January 17, 2023 Opening day (noon)

February 16, 2023 Deadline for introduction

March 18, 2023 Session ends (noon)

April 7, 2023 Legislation not acted upon by governor is pocket vetoed

June 16, 2023 Effective date of legislation not a general appropriation bill or a bill carrying an emergency clause or other specified date



## ERB Investment Process

BY BOB JACKSHA, CHIEF INVESTMENT OFFICER

The process used to make investments is broadly outlined in the Board of Trustees' [Investment Policy Statement \(IPS\)](#). The IPS includes an allocation plan with targets and limits for asset classes (stocks, bonds, real estate, etc.). The allocation employs a variety of assets with the goal of structuring a well-diversified portfolio to reduce the volatility of returns. In allocating these assets, we ask two fundamental questions: Should we invest in active management or use a passive index, such as the Dow Jones or S&P 500 index? Should we hire an outside manager or manage the investments internally?

Where we believe active management can add value, we employ it. If not, we invest in a passive index. Where we have the staff resources to properly invest in an asset class, we do so internally, which is the most cost-effective choice. Where we do not have the resources, we hire external managers.

When choosing external managers and consulting firms, we subject them to a rigorous due diligence process that includes written questionnaires, meetings, background, and reference checks. All managers and consultants must be approved at a meeting of the Staff Selection Committee, which includes various members of the ERB Investment staff.

We and our consultants continue monitoring manager activities on an ongoing basis. This includes reviewing documents and periodic in-person meetings to ensure contractual compliance and acceptable performance. The process is time and resource intensive, but the goal is to deliver the best results possible for the ERB fund.

[You may find our investment policies and related information on our website.](#)

# New Digital Updates for You

BY HOPE BAKKER, COMMUNICATIONS

As a state agency, ERB is becoming part of a more cohesive internet presence for all New Mexicans who use technology and content provided by the state. The Department of Information Technology has spearheaded this change to increase security and efficiency with the goals being better access and service to you.

The changes include:

- A new website address: [www.erb.nm.gov](http://www.erb.nm.gov)
- A new member portal address. The Member Service Portal is located in the upper right-hand corner of the website menu as it was before. When visiting the [ERB website](#), click on the blue “MyNMERB Account” button in the upper right hand of the ERB Home page and bookmark the new address for the Member Portal.
- Multi-factor authentication was implemented and is now required for Members with existing accounts to login.
- Agency email addresses now include the suffix “@erb.nm.gov”. Please be sure to update your contact list so we will be able to stay in communication.

If you experience any difficulties with the website or email addresses, please reach out to us by using the [Contact ERB Communications form](#) so we can address issues as quickly as possible.



## A Note About 1099-R Forms

With tax season quickly approaching, please update your mailing address by January 1, 2023 as 1099-Rs are mailed to the address on file. 1099-R's will be mailed out by January 31, 2023.

To update your information, complete a Change in NMERB Records form. The form is located on the [Forms page](#) of the ERB website and gives you the option of completing a fillable PDF or using DocuSign.

## Retirement Tip

Interested in returning to work?

Learn more by reading the [Return to Work Comparison Table](#) on the ERB website.

For more information or questions, please call our Retirement Specialists at 1-866-691-2345.

## 2022 Holiday ERB Office Schedule

All ERB offices will follow this schedule.

Closed: Monday, December 26th  
Open: Tuesday, December 27th, 8:00 am

Closed: Monday, January 2nd  
Open: Tuesday, January 3rd, 8:00 am



### ERB Office Hours

Santa Fe & Albuquerque  
Monday - Friday  
8am - 5pm

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## ERB CONTACT US



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[member.help@erb.nm.gov](mailto:member.help@erb.nm.gov)



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Email ERB Connect comments and suggestions to:  
ERB Communications

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### ERB CONNECT STAFF

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