

Inside TRS

Information from the Teachers' Retirement System of the City of New York

Fall 2019

Introducing TRS' Employer Management Group

TRS is proud to announce the creation of a new business unit, the Employer Management Group (EMG). The unit will work directly with representatives from all our employers (Department of Education, CUNY, and charter schools) and other key stakeholders including payroll systems, unions, and peer retirement systems. The Employer Management Group is responsible for managing all issues related to employment, salary, and wage data for our members.



Members of TRS' New Employer Management Group, led by Ival Grant-Williams (top left)

TRS depends on the integrity of the employment data we receive from our stakeholders to provide accurate benefits and timely, quality service to our members. To streamline operations, our new Employer Management Group will be the single point of contact for all TRS

stakeholders. Consequently, you no longer need to contact individual TRS staff members with inquiries about enrollment, contribution rates, title and employment changes, etc. Instead, effective immediately, please send your general questions and member-specific updates to employer@trs.nyc.ny.us.

The new Employer Management Group is led by Deputy Director Ival Grant-Williams. Her team includes many of the same TRS staff that you have previously worked with; what's different is that inquiries will be submitted and addressed through this one centralized channel: employer@trs.nyc.ny.us.

With this organizational change, TRS hopes to create an even more effective partnership with stakeholders to serve our members—your employees.

On November 21, the group will host a Stakeholders Meeting and Leadership Roundtable. Look for more information in your inbox soon!

TRS Member Outreach Begins Busy School Year

Although our new Employer Management Group is designed to serve as the single point of contact for all TRS stakeholders on operational matters, our Member Education Unit continues to handle our member outreach efforts. The team is led by Member Education Manager Monique Providence. In August and September, the team attended 9 outreach events, but the schedule heats up in October with another 16 events.

If your organization would like to have TRS representatives at an upcoming event, please contact trsmembereducation@trs.nyc.ny.us—with as much advance notice as possible, please.

TRS Calendar

October

- Annual Benefits Statements available

November

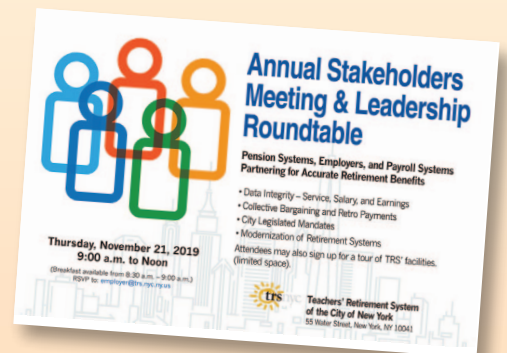
- Quarterly Account Statements available
- TRS' first annual Stakeholders' Meeting and Leadership Roundtable (see article on this page)

December

- Expected availability of Fall 2019 TRS member newsletters

TRS will be closed on the following dates:

- Tuesday, **November 5** (Election Day)
- Monday, **November 11** (Veterans' Day)
- Thursday, **November 28** (Thanksgiving)
- Wednesday, **December 25** (Christmas)



Upcoming Changes for TRS Passport Funds

TRS recently announced changes to the Passport Funds, the family of investment choices available to TRS members.

- The **Socially Responsive Equity Fund** was renamed the **Sustainable Equity Fund** as of October 1 to reflect a change in manager and fund focus.
- Two new funds, the **U.S. Equity Index Fund** and the **International Equity Index Fund**, will be introduced as of January 1, 2020.
- The **Inflation Protection Fund** will be discontinued as of April 1, 2020. TRS is contacting members with Inflation Protection Fund investments this fall because they must redirect those investments to other Passport Funds.

More information about the changes to the Passport Funds is available on our website.

Information Needed from Charter Schools

Missing wage information for Tier VI charter school employees must be entered into the Charter School Payroll Interface on a timely basis. For entries 90 days or older, the deadline is November 30. If your school's entries are not up to date, please enter the missing data as soon as possible.

Wage information is essential for determining pension contribution rates and contribution deficits, as well as for TDA contribution rate calculations.

Enrolling New CUNY Employees in TRS

Please encourage new staff who will become TRS members to use the online enrollment application on the TRS website at www.trsnyc.org. This will help to speed up the enrollment process, although we are still dependent on verification and information from the employer.

As a reminder, members who are "forced in" to TRS membership (such as appointed pedagogues) do not need to file the online enrollment application.

Updated Materials

The following publications have been updated since our last issue and are available on our website:

- **TRS Membership for CUNY Employees** brochure, which includes a side-by-side comparison of both retirement programs to help employees make this important decision and learn more about TRS benefits and resources.
- **Your TRS Benefits in Brief**, for Tier IV and Tier VI members, respectively, which introduces employees to enrolling in TRS, summarizes their benefits, and describes vital information at a glance.



Stay informed between issues of *Inside TRS*. Please follow TRS on social media.



55 Water Street, New York, NY 10041
www.trsnyc.org • 1 (888) 8-NYC-TRS

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Inside TRS is a publication for stakeholders of the Teachers' Retirement System of the City of New York (TRS). Please direct any comments or distribution list changes to TRS' Public Information Office at publicinfooffice@trs.nyc.ny.us. For inquiries about TRS benefits and services, please contact our Member Services Center at 1 (888) 8-NYC-TRS.