

Inside TRS

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

Winter 2022

TRS Membership Automatic for Certain Paraprofessionals

On October 29, 2021, a New York State law was enacted, granting TRS membership to City paraprofessionals in these titles:

- Auxiliary Trainer
- Bilingual Professional Assistant
- Educational Assistant
- Educational Associate
- Teacher Aide

The law applies to new hires as well as about 3,000 paraprofessionals who were in those titles as of October 29.

What happens next:

- DOE paraprofessionals will be auto-enrolled in the same way as appointed teachers.
- TRS will contact these paraprofessionals soon to communicate next steps.

The 3,000 paraprofessionals already working in eligible titles will be TRS members with a membership date of October 29, 2021. TRS will contact these members in December with information about their situation. Paraprofessionals who are already enrolled will maintain their initial membership date.

Paraprofessionals in other titles (such as Family Aide/Assistant/Worker) are no longer eligible to join TRS if they didn't already. But they may qualify for membership in another New York City retirement system. Paraprofessionals in those titles who previously joined TRS will remain TRS members.

TRS extends a warm welcome to our new members. We look forward to helping paraprofessionals prepare for a comfortable retirement.

TRS Calendar

Office Closures

2021

December 23 – 1:00 p.m.

December 24 – Christmas (Observed)

December 31 – New Year's Day (Observed)

2022

January 17 – Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

February 21 – President's Day

Member Deficit Billing Resumes

TRS has resumed billing members for deficits in pension contributions after suspending billing earlier in the pandemic. Employers will see an increase in payroll processing in January.

Help reduce employee deficits by keeping TRS up to date with:

- Enrollment status
- Salary changes
- Members who are on a leave of absence

New Year – New Member Contribution Rates

January's payroll should include changes in pension contribution rates for some Tier VI employees. The rates, 3% to 6%, are recalculated based on the salary and wage information you provided for the previous year. Deficits occur when a member's salary changes and pension contributions continue to reflect the old salary level.

Does TRS have current salary and wage information for all your employees? If not, employees who have a rate increase will incur a deficit until their pension contributions are up to date. For more information, see pages 12 and 13 of the [TRSNYC Employer Manual](#).

2021 in Review

As the year ends, TRS is highlighting what we've accomplished. Here are some of the important innovations we implemented for stakeholders and members during a challenging year:

- Automated enrollment process for CUNY employees
- A streamlined e-form for filing online retirement
- Automatic member deduction reminders for Charter Schools and CUNY
- Ability to accept TDA funds for large deficits
- Addition of deficit amounts on the Annual Benefits Statement

We look forward to continuing our partnership with you in 2022. From all of us at TRS to you: Best wishes for a healthy, happy holiday season and new year!

IRS Raises TDA Contribution Limit

In 2022, the general limit on contributions to the TDA Program will be \$20,500, a \$1,000 increase from 2021.

Retirees on Your Payroll?

Are there any retired TRS members working at your location? They may be subject to earnings limitations under New York State law. The limitations were suspended temporarily due to the pandemic, but earnings after June 24, 2021 count toward the annual limit of \$35,000. See the article in [Benefits Report](#) (Fall 2021) for more information.

Fall 2021 Member Newsletters Available

This issue of [In-Service News](#), for nonretired TRS members, contains articles on the paraprofessionals law, the 2022 TDA contribution limit, and a fun piece about keeping track of passwords. The newsletter is available on our website and will be mailed to members soon. Please share the news with your employees.

Staffing or Employee Changes?

Please inform TRS of employees who retired, took a leave of absence, or changed their employment status. Here's where you can share the news and give us new school contact information:

Employer@trs.nyc.ny.us

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



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InsideTRS 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.

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