

Human Resources Memorandum

SUBJECT: 1959 Survivor Benefit Program Rate Increase	NUMBER: HR 17-015
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DISTRIBUTION: All CDFW Employees	EXPIRES: N/A

On June 30, 2017, the California Public Employees' Retirement System (CalPERS) released a Circular Letter that outlined the most current 1959 Survivor Benefit Program eligibility and premium rates for state employees and employers.

Introduction

The 1959 Survivor Benefit Program, 5th Level is administered by the CalPERS. This program provides a monthly allowance to eligible survivors of CalPERS members who are not covered by Social Security and dies prior to retirement.

Eligible Members

State employees who are in classes or positions designated state safety, peace officer/firefighter, and patrol are subject to the 1959 Survivor Benefit Program, 5th Level. State employees who are eligible for this program are automatically enrolled upon appointment to the eligible class or position.

2017-18 Premium Rates

On April 19, 2017, the total monthly premium rate approved by CalPERS Board of Administration is \$10.40. State employees and employers will pay an increased monthly premium rate from \$5.15 to \$5.20 each for Fiscal Year 2017-18.

Rate Determination

The state employee and employer monthly premium rates are determined annually by CalPERS actuarial staff and requires approval by CalPERS Board of Administration prior to implementing any premium rate changes.

Pursuant to CalPERS law, Government Code section 21581(c), the contribution for state employees may be \$2.00 per month as long as the combined employee and employer cost for this benefit is \$4.00 per month. If the total cost of this benefit exceeds \$4.00 per month, the employer and employee shall share equally the cost of the benefit. The State Controller's Office will implement the contribution rate changes for all state employees.

If you have any questions related to this memorandum, please contact Cathy SooHoo, Payroll & Benefits Manager at (916) 653-9075 or Dawn Weiss, Personnel Supervisor at (916) 651-8587.