



## TRS Announcements

### TRS has hired an auditor

We are pleased to announce that Chris Fish has been selected to fill our new Auditor position. Chris has been a dedicated member of our staff for 11 years and may have helped many of you with “working retiree” requirements and other matters in the past.

Chris will schedule audits with a small number of TRS employers each year, coordinating with the Public Employees' Retirement System (PERS) auditor to ensure our two organizations do not audit the same employers at the same time. If selected for an audit, you'll receive an “audit engagement” letter that specifies Chris's planned audit timeframe and the types of records you will be asked to provide.

We'd like to reassure you that TRS audits are not adversarial in nature; they are intended to ensure all workers are reported to the correct retirement system and to provide corrective guidance if errors are found. Reporting errors can be costly for the employer to resolve, and more importantly, they can harm members, whose retirement date and monthly benefit amount are dependent on the accuracy of their employers' reporting from their first day of service to their last.

### Reference materials for TRS employers

#### Fact Sheet: *“Which Positions Are Reportable to TRS?”*

One misconception we hear occasionally is that, once workers have been reported to either TRS or PERS, they can stay in that retirement system even if their roles change. This is untrue. State law requires that you report individuals to the correct retirement system *based on their job duties and functions*. The TRS Fact Sheet *“Which Positions Are Reportable to TRS?”* (posted on our [Fact Sheets](#) webpage) is a helpful reference. New or revised positions should be referred to TRS for determination.

Several other Fact Sheets are available on related topics. These include:

- *Substitute Teaching*
- *Terminating Employment and Retiring With TRS*
- *Working After Retirement*

### New Hire Procedure for Employers

In the spring of 2020, TRS announced a streamlined new-hire procedure that was intended to reduce the number of steps you must follow and forms you must collect from your newly hired TRS members. With a new school year under way, we encourage you to review this new-hire procedure, which is available in the “Employer Forms” section of the [TRS Forms](#) webpage.

### TRS Employer Training Presentation

TRS Fiscal Manager Nolan Brilz delivered his popular training presentation for monthly reporting at the Montana Association of School Business Officials (MASBO) summer conference in June. To watch the video and hear the discussion that took place, visit the [TRS Workshops & Presentations](#) webpage.

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### Questions? Call us!

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