

PSERS Employer Bulletin

Employer Bulletin - Vol 1 2026

Publication #9266

Inside...

Fiscal Year 2026-27 Employer Contribution Rate

Coming Soon:
PayerExpress
to replace PNC
CashCon

2026 Spring Employer Workshop

& More

Public School Employees' Retirement System

5 N 5th Street
Harrisburg PA 17101

Toll-Free
866.353.1844

Local
717.787.1755

FAX
717.783.8760

Email
ContactESC@pa.gov

Uri Monson Selected as PSERS' New Executive Director

The PSERS Board of Trustees approved Uri Monson's appointment as the system's next Executive Director at its December meeting following a nationwide search that spanned several months. Monson, who officially began his role on December 13, brings nearly 30 years of experience in public finance, operations, and leadership. His background will help guide PSERS as the system continues its work to support retirement security for Pennsylvania's public school employees.

Monson succeeds Terrill Sanchez, who retired in June. Since that time, Chief Investment Officer Ben Cotton has served as Interim Executive Director.

Prior to joining PSERS, Monson served as Pennsylvania's Secretary of the Budget, appointed by Governor Josh Shapiro in January 2023. His previous experience spans nearly 30 years in senior roles across federal, state, and local government, including Deputy Superintendent of Operations and Chief Financial Officer of the School District of Philadelphia; Chief Financial Officer for Montgomery County; Executive Director of the Pennsylvania Intergovernmental Cooperation Authority; and Assistant Budget Director for the City of Philadelphia. Monson also held multiple roles with the U.S. Department of Education and worked in the Office of the Vice President of the United States with the Reinventing Government initiative.

Monson holds a master's degree in public policy from Columbia University's School of International and Public Affairs. He also holds two bachelor's degrees, one in political science from Columbia University and one in midrash from the Jewish Theological Seminary of America.

Monson is an active member of his synagogue, served as Vice President and Treasurer of Camp Ramah in the Poconos, and is a former President of the Philadelphia Committee on City Policy. He was named as a person to watch in Philadelphia Magazine's 2009 "Best of Philly" Issue and cited as the top "Wonk" in the City. Monson currently resides in Wynnewood, PA with his wife and three children.

PSERS is excited to welcome Executive Director Monson and looks forward to the experience and perspective he brings to support the retirement security of its more than 500,000 members.

Employer Service Center Staff

Scott Rainey
Regional Office Administrator
scorainey@pa.gov

Deanna Brown
Regional Office Administrator
deabrown@pa.gov

Region 1 - Vacant
*Erie, Crawford, Warren, Forest,
Venango, Mercer, Lawrence, Butler,
Beaver, Jefferson, Clarion*

Region 2 - Beth Jones
bethjones@pa.gov
*McKean, Potter, Tioga, Bradford,
Cameron, Elk, Clearfield,
Centre, Clinton, Union, Snyder,
Northumberland, Schuylkill,
Carbo, Lehigh, Montour, Columbia,
Sullivan, Lycoming*

Region 3 - Daniel Tapia-Ortiz
dtapiaorti@pa.gov
*Susquehanna, Wayne, Wyoming,
Pike, Lackawanna, Luzerne,
Monroe, North Hampton, Bucks,
Montgomery*

Region 4 - Catherine Nollau
cnollau@pa.gov
*Allegheny, Washington, Greene,
Fayette*

Region 5 - Kathleen Pajtis
kpajtis@pa.gov
*Armstrong, Indiana, Westmoreland,
Somerset, Cambria, Bedford, Blair,
Huntingdon, Mifflin, Fulton.*

Region 6 - Rachael Riddle
rariddle@pa.gov
*Juniata, Perry, Franklin,
Cumberland, York, Adams,
Dauphin, Lancaster, Lebanon,
Berks*

Region 7 - Jeanette Riedel
jeariedel@pa.gov
Chester, Delaware, Philadelphia

Fiscal Year 2026-27 Employer Contribution Rate

The employer contribution rate for fiscal year 2026-27 will be 33.59%, a decrease from the current fiscal year rate of 34.0%. The rate applies to salary and wages earned from July 1, 2026, through June 30, 2027.

The rate was determined by PSERS' actuary and certified by the PSERS Board of Trustees at its meeting on December 12, 2025.

Of the 33.59% employer contribution rate for fiscal year 2026-2027, 32.52% will be allocated for pension costs, including 27.31% that represents payment toward the system's unfunded liability. An additional 0.56% will be allocated for premium assistance payments. The remaining 0.51% represents estimated defined contribution (DC) costs. The DC rate is an average estimate, and the actual employer DC contribution rate will vary based on each employer's Class T-G, Class T-H, and Class DC-only membership.

The [FY 2026-2027 Employer Contribution Rate Fact Sheet](#) is available online.

Contact PSERS to Confirm Successful Transmission of Your Fax

It is strongly recommended that you contact your Employer Service Center (ESC) representative to confirm successful transmission of your fax, particularly if using something other than a traditional fax machine, even if you receive confirmation of a successful transmission on your end.

Reminder: Report Service for Employees Who Terminate During the Year

One of the most forgotten aspects of reporting a terminated employee mid-year is the employee's service. It is important to submit the termination contract record with the accurate last day of work, populate the Balance of Contract (BOC) flag with the last work report that PSERS should expect, and complete the Service (Svc) flag to indicate when the final days or hours will be reported. This service flag **MUST** be followed up with reporting the employee's service for the year.

Because salaried days are not required to be reported until the June work report, it is possible for salaried members terminating at any time other than the end of the school year to miss service credit due for their final fiscal year. This oversight can impact the member's retirement benefit calculation or delay when the employee receives their finalized retirement benefit.

(continued on next page)

(Reminder: Report Service..continued)

Employers may need to edit the final work report submission for a terminating salaried employee to include the salaried service days worked prior to June. Final pay and service reporting for salaried members should be included on the last work report and include any balance of contract, as well as any remaining service due for that fiscal year. If supplemental work was rendered, any unreported additional hours worked also needs to be reported to the fiscal year it was earned with the final work report. If the payroll database does not include service days on each monthly work report, employers may submit the service days using a manual adjustment. For per diem and hourly wage type positions, the service units (i.e., days and hours) are required by ESS when submitting each work report.

Generate Your Total Service Credit Report On-Demand

At the beginning of January, PSERS sent an email with instructions on generating and reviewing the details of the Total Service Credit Report. This on-demand report includes the member's rate, membership class, qualification status, and after-tax. The report should be generated for your records at least once every year. This report helps keep your contract records accurate and ensures you are withholding contributions at the correct rate. It's also a great way to confirm you have your qualified members in your payroll system and to double check if you have any members with an After-Tax Contribution (ATC) election on file, in addition to confirming overall years of service for employees.

Coming Soon: PayerExpress to replace PNC CashCon

At the end of February 2026, PNC CashCon will be replaced by PayerExpress, a new electronic payment platform. While the functions available will remain the same, the navigation and process for submitting payments will be different. Please watch for an invitation to attend a virtual training in February along with additional reference materials that will provide detailed guidance on using the new platform.

Username and bank account information currently on file in PNC CashCon will be transferred over to PayerExpress. The email address of the business manager in ESS will be populated in PayerExpress. The business managers will then have an opportunity to create an additional user and update the email address. Employers will be required to use the temporary password that will be provided to them by PSERS to initially log into the new PayerExpress system. Please note that previous payment history will not be transferred over to PayerExpress, and there will be no overlap between the two systems. Once CashCon is decommissioned, PayerExpress system will be available the next day for all payments to be made going forward.

All of this will be reviewed in more detail at the upcoming training webinars.

ESC Welcomes Beth Jones

In July 2025, ESC welcomed Beth Jones to the team. Beth is the new ESC Representative for Region 2. Beth has worked for the Commonwealth of PA for over 7 years at the Lancaster County Assistance Office as an Income Maintenance Caseworker determining initial and ongoing eligibility for assistance programs including SNAP, Medical Assistance, LIHEAP, Long Term Care MA, and in-home care services for elderly and disabled Pennsylvanians.

Beth has a Bachelor of Social Work Degree from Millersville University and over 15 years of experience working in community mental health. Beth looks forward to using her social work experience within ESC including her customer service experience, skill of interpreting and applying complex policy, empowerment through training and education, and ability to work through challenges and implement solutions. Outside of work she enjoys walking, reading, cooking and eating plant-based food, and spending time with her husband and two children – ages 10 and 13.

Beth is excited for the opportunity to partner with employers and conduct trainings and workshops to demystify PSERS reporting.

Beth's advice to employers: "We share the same goal to ensure PA's public school employees have a secure retirement after years of dedicated service. To accomplish our shared goal, we need to work diligently to ensure accurate and timely reporting. I am here to help. Please do not hesitate to reach out with questions as they arise."



Follow Us Online!

We are excited to announce that PSERS now has an active [LinkedIn page](#). The page will highlight member and employer events throughout the year, so we invite you to follow the page and share it with your fellow public school employees!