

Agency 85 - Public Employees Retirement Board

Statutory Authority:

The laws governing the Public Employees Retirement Board and each retirement plan under its administration are as follows:

- Retirement Board - 84-1501 to 84-1514
- County Employees Retirement Act - 23-2301 to 23-2332;
- Judges Retirement Act - 24-701 to 24-714;
- School Employees Retirement Act - 79-901 to 79-977.03;
- Nebraska State Patrol Retirement Act - 81-2014 to 81-2040;
- State Employees Retirement Act - 84-1301 to 84-1333

Vision Statement:

To administer the various retirement systems in an efficient, accurate and trustworthy manner, while providing timely service to plan members.

Mission Statement:

"The Nebraska Public Employees Retirement Systems recognizes the importance of a successful retirement and is dedicated to providing the highest quality service necessary to assist members in achieving this goal."

Goals:

Agency Goals are:

- 1) To operate the agency efficiently and responsibly, in order to maintain the trust of our members, our plan employers, the separate branches of government and the public as a whole.
- 2) To guard the integrity of system assets and the accuracy of system data.
- 3) To provide ongoing informational and educational opportunities for members in a timely manner.
- 4) To administer each retirement plan in full compliance with applicable federal and state laws.
- 5) To continuously gather data and observe benefit levels for the various plans in order to make recommendations to policy makers from time to time.

Financial Data:

	Actual FY04	Approp FY05	Request FY06	Recom FY06	Request FY07	Recom FY07
General Fund	15,926,774	17,048,711	33,775,259	18,320,103	33,775,259	18,320,103
Cash Fund	6,231,167	6,846,422	7,111,348	7,008,043	7,043,670	7,003,649
Federal Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Revolving Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Agency	22,167,941	23,895,133	40,886,607	25,328,146	40,818,929	25,323,652

Agency 85 - Public Employees Retirement Board Program 041 - Retirement Systems Administration

Program Objectives:

To meet the Agency/Program Goals during the biennium, objectives are:

- 1) To finalize any outstanding items with the new PIONEER system. This includes training of the in-house project team to assume all support and maintenance of the system at the earliest possible date.
- 2) Continue to streamline work processes in order to avoid a backlog of requests and to continue to improve member services.
- 3) Improve financial audits.
- 4) Review salaries of technical staff and add one employee to the tech support area.
- 5) Continue educational efforts with members and employers.
- 6) Rebid the recordkeeping contract for State, County and DCP.

Financial Data:

	Actual FY04	Approp FY05	Request FY06	Recom FY06	Request FY07	Recom FY07
General Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cash Fund	6,214,306	6,808,970	7,080,004	6,976,699	7,012,036	6,971,915
Federal Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Revolving Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	6,214,306	6,808,970	7,080,004	6,976,699	7,012,036	6,971,915

Performance Measures:

Based on agency/program objectives NPERS has established the following performance measures for the biennium:

- 1) Process member retirements and benefit payments within 45 days of final pay.
- 2) To work closely with all employers to maintain accurate data within the PIONEER system so as to improve member service.
- 3) To train the project team to support and maintain the new system within 15 months of the completion of the new system.
- 4) To continue member/employer education programs statewide, utilizing the most efficient means possible.
- 5) To study the possibility of creating a component unit report within the State's Comprehensive Annual Financial Report.
- 6) To continue to improve response time to member requests, with a goal of no more than 20 working days on general requests and 5 working days on priority requests.
- 7) To improve financial audits for all plans by reviewing controls, completing written procedures and implementing check points and reviews in a cost-efficient manner.
- 8) To answer incoming calls within the first three rings and returning phone messages within 24 hours.
- 9) To continue the effort to control agency expenses without compromising service to members.

Agency 85 - Public Employees Retirement Board Program 042 - Board Member Expenses

Program Objectives:

The primary objective is to separately account for the expenses incurred by Retirement Board members in the performance of their duties. These include, travel and board and lodging expenses associated with monthly board meetings. Board membership as of January 2005 will increase by one, for a total of eight members, per recent legislation.

NPERS maintains funding for key educational opportunities for board members. This includes speakers to address the board on a variety of topics, during the regular monthly meetings.

Financial Data:

	Actual FY04	Approp FY05	Request FY06	Recom FY06	Request FY07	Recom FY07
General Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cash Fund	16,861	37,452	31,344	31,344	31,634	31,634
Federal Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Revolving Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	16,861	37,452	31,344	31,344	31,634	31,634

Performance Measures:

- 1) The Board will seek to educate its members in the least expensive manner, but understands the need to meet with other pension representatives, necessitating occasional travel.
- 2) When new members are appointed, they will be required to attend a basic course in public pension systems sponsored by the International Foundation of Employee Benefits.
- 3) All conference travel requests, must be approved by the affirmative vote of four members of the Board and must be submitted 30 days in advance.
- 4) Up to three existing Board members will be allowed to attend an educational conference per year. Travel outside the forty-eight contiguous United States will require the affirmative vote of at least five members.
- 5) Any Board member who attends a conference paid for in whole or in part by the Retirement System funds shall present a report to the Board at the next regular meeting following the member's return.

Agency 85 - Public Employees Retirement Board Program 515 - Funding

Program Objectives:

The law stipulates the rate of pension funding required by the State each year as follows:

- 1) State Service Annuity for School and OPS plan is 7/10 of 1% of salaries - Sections 79-966 & 79-9,100.
- 2) COLA benefits are funded in part for the School & OPS Plans - Sections 79-940 - 79-947.02 and 79-975; State Patrol & Judges COLA funding - Sections 81-2017(1);81-2027.03 & 04;81-2035;81-2036 & Sections 24-703(9);24-710(4);24-710.07 & 710.08.
- 3) Additional payments may be required if investment returns or other actuarial assumptions are not what is expected.

Financial Data:

	Actual FY04	Approp FY05	Request FY06	Recom FY06	Request FY07	Recom FY07
General Fund	15,926,774	17,048,711	33,775,259	18,320,103	33,775,259	18,320,103
Cash Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Federal Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Revolving Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	15,926,774	17,048,711	33,775,259	18,320,103	33,775,259	18,320,103

Performance Measures:

Each year the actuary under contract to the Retirement Board completes a valuation of all plan assets and liabilities for the School Employees, State Patrol and Judges Retirement Systems. The actuary relies on member data and financial statements provided by the Retirement Office to determine the funding needs of each system.