

MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM OF LOUISIANA

MEMORANDUM

TO: MUNICIPAL CLERKS, AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVES & FINANCE DIRECTORS

FROM: SUSITA SUIRE, RETIREMENT BENEFITS ADMINISTRATOR

RE: MERS' RETIREES RETURNING TO WORK – NEW REQUIREMENTS

DATE: OCTOBER 12, 2016

New legislation was passed in the last session regarding MERS' retirees returning to work either part-time or full-time with any employer that participates in our retirement system. There are certain requirements that must be met:

- 1) The retiree must request the amount of gross earnings he/she are allowed to earn without offsetting their monthly retirement benefit. This request must be requested in writing or by completing an 'Earnings Limit Request' (located at www.mersla.com).
- 2) If a retiree is first rehired on or after 7/1/2016, both the retiree and employer must remit to the retirement system contributions on the monthly gross earnings paid to the retiree. New contribution forms for retirees returning to work are now available on our website.
- 3) The retiree will not accrue additional service credit, nor will the retiree receive any additional retirement benefit. Upon termination of re-employment, employee contributions paid since re-employment shall, upon application, be refunded to the retiree or transferred to another qualified plan without interest.
- 4) It is the responsibility of both the retiree and the employer to notify the retirement system of re-employment with a participating employer and the reporting of all monthly gross earnings, whether you are required to pay contributions or not.

Please make sure any employee that has recently retired or is anticipating retirement are informed of these requirements that went into effect July 1, 2016.

If anyone has any questions or concerns regarding this matter, please call our office immediately at 225-925-4810 or 800-820-1137.