



Exciting MSRB News:

MSRBeyond

Member Self-Service Project

At the end of March, the Massachusetts State Retirement Board kicked off its

MSRBeyond

Member Self-Service project, which will create a secure and user-friendly portal with access to member account information and documentation.

Features will include:

- **Personalized Dashboard:** Provide members with tailored information and quick access to services.
- **Profile Management:** Allow members to update personal information and preferences.
- **Document Access:** Enable secure viewing and downloading of relevant documents.
- **Service Request Submission:** Allow members to submit and track service requests.

The multi-year project has three major releases over the next three years. Stay tuned for updates along the way!

April Pension Payment

The next pension benefit will be direct deposited on Wednesday, April 30, 2025, the last business day of this month.

The **MSRB 2025 Pension Payment Calendar** is available on our website and can be downloaded; [click here](#).

Did You Know? Working in Retirement

If you are interested in working in retirement, it's important to be aware of the limits.

Those receiving a superannuation retirement benefit and working in the public sector must stop working if they work 1,200 hours in a calendar year and/or earn the difference between the current salary of the position they retired from and their pension. After being retired one full calendar year, they can earn an additional \$15,000.

As a retiree, you must cease employment whenever either one of the above two conditions is met. You must waive your retirement allowance if you are at your allowable limit and wish to continue working.

These restrictions do not apply to superannuation retirees working in the

Governor Proposed a 3% COLA for FY'26

Governor Healey included a proposed 3% COLA (Cost-of-Living Adjustment) increase for retired state employees within her [FY'26 budget proposal](#). Per the budget proposal, this would apply to the first \$13,000 base of the pension benefit.

At the time of this publication, the House and Senate had not yet submitted their FY'26 Budget drafts.

If enacted by the Legislature, the COLA will go into effect on July 1, 2025, for those who retired before July 1, 2024. As the COLA is a legislative item, please direct any questions about the amount, base, or drafting of COLA to your [local State Legislator](#) or the [Governor's Constituency Services Office](#).

Moving to Another Country in Retirement

Some retirees decide to move to another country or live part-time abroad. There are a few things that Massachusetts State Employees' Retirement System (MSERS) benefit recipients should remember before they retire abroad.

One important thing you must do is update your address with the retirement board. To do so, complete a [Benefit Recipient Change of Address Form](#) and mail it to our office. The form must be mailed, as we need an original ink signature.

Another factor to consider is taxes. You should contact the IRS about any tax liability as a US citizen living in another country. You also may want to speak to the tax agency of the country you live in to see if it has its own rules about foreign income. Please note that Board staff cannot provide any tax advice.

private sector; however, disability retirees are subject to earning limits for work in both the public and private sectors. For more information, [click here](#).

Celebrate Financial Literacy Month with a Free Financial Wellness Checkup



If you're feeling uncertain about the next steps on your

financial journey, now is a great time to reflect on your goals and take steps toward a more secure future. The State Treasurer's Office of Economic Empowerment invites you to explore **Enrich**, a free digital financial education platform available to all Massachusetts residents. Take a financial wellness checkup, create a personalized plan, and access tools to help you build confidence with money—all at no cost.

Get started today at masstreasury.enrich.org.

Stay connected: Make an appointment with your SMART Retirement Plan Advisor



It has never been easier to schedule a conversation with your SMART Plan Retirement Plan Advisors (RPA) via an

online meeting or a phone call. Appointments are generally available the same week you reach out, and you can tackle plenty in your meeting even if you

Lastly, the Retirement Board cannot direct deposit into a foreign bank account. If you move to another country, you will want to ensure that you have access to an American-based bank or that your current bank has overseas branches.

GIC Annual Enrollment Ends on May 1

The Group Insurance Commission's (GIC) Annual Enrollment period began on April 2 and will end on Thursday, May 1, 2025. You can review your health, dental, and life insurance benefit options and compare plan offerings during this time. [Click here to view the Benefit Decision Guides](#).

If you have questions about your health and other insurance benefits or premiums, please call GIC at 617-727-2310 or complete their online "[Contact the GIC](#)" request form.

Turning Age 65 and Medicare Enrollment with GIC Health Coverage

The Group Insurance Commission's (GIC) website provides information to help members understand if and when to enroll in Medicare Part A and Part B if they have GIC health coverage. They also have a short video and FAQ page on the subject. Visit: [Turning age 65 and Medicare enrollment with GIC health coverage | Mass.gov](#).

IMPORTANT NOTICE: Fake MSRB Facebook Pages

Board staff noticed several fake "MSRB" Facebook pages, and they advertise selling T-shirts and other items.

haven't met with an RPA before.

Your RPA can help you get the answers and personalized support needed to meet your retirement goals. Find your local representative and schedule an appointment directly from the website via the [SMART Plan Territory Map](#) or email SMART@Empower.com, or if you prefer, just call 1-877-457-1900.

Your local Retirement Plan Advisor can:

- Review your retirement income needs and discuss whether your current spending and investing has you on track to meet your goals.
- Work with you to decide whether your investment options are still right for you.
- Review the SMART Plan tools and distribution options available to help you achieve the retirement you want.

Schedule an appointment with your Retirement Plan Advisor to make the most of your participation in the SMART Plan and remember there's never a cost for these critical conversations.

Third-Party Financial Advisor Emails

Board staff have been alerted by Massachusetts State Employees' Retirement System members that they have been receiving unsolicited emails from third-party financial advisors. These emails are unaffiliated with the Massachusetts State Retirement Board or the Office of the State Treasurer and Receiver General. We advise our members not to provide personal account information to anyone they don't know or trust.

The only organizations that provide financial advice sponsored by the Office of the State Treasurer are the

Massachusetts State Retirement Board Staff **DO NOT SELL ANY ITEMS**, including T-shirts. Those pages are scams. Please do not click on any links or attempt to buy anything. Please report those pages to Facebook.

Our official Facebook page can be found by [clicking here](#). Here is a screenshot of our official Facebook page.



Social Security Number Safety Reminder

Board staff occasionally receive inquiries and emails in which members provide their full Social Security numbers. We want to remind you that such information can be stolen when transferred over the Internet. We strongly encourage you to refrain from including it when emailing the MSRB. Exposing such information puts you at risk of identity theft and scams. The MSRB will never need your full Social Security number through email.

When contacting the Board, please provide your MSRB ID number instead of your Social Security number. You can find your MSRB ID number at the top-right of every letter you receive from the MSRB. For more information, please watch our ["What is Your MSRB ID Number?"](#) video here.

Is there something you would like us to communicate in an upcoming **Retiree eNews Bulletin**? If so, let us know!

Email your request or comments to

[Massachusetts Deferred Compensation SMART Plan](#) or the programs provided by the [Office of Economic Empowerment](#).

Direct Deposit Changes

You can update your direct deposit information by completing a ***Change of Direct Deposit for Retirement Benefit Form***, which can be [downloaded from our website](#). The form cannot be faxed or emailed; we need your original ink signature. It's also important to note that the Board must receive direct deposit changes by the 15th of the month to be effective for that month's pension payment.

Friendly Reminder: Make Sure Forms are Neatly Filled Out

An easy-to-read form helps our staff accurately enter or update your information and avoid potential processing delays. If you cannot complete a form using your computer, please use clear and neat handwriting. Thank you!

Contact us:

Boston Office:

Downtown Crossing
One Winter Street, 8th Floor
Boston, MA 02108

Springfield Office:

436 Dwight Street, #109A
Springfield, MA 01103

Tel: 617-367-7770

Note: MSRB phones are answered Monday - Friday, 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., except on state holidays.

MSRBCommunications@tre.state.ma.us.

We look forward to hearing from you!

Past issues of our newsletter publications can be found on our [website](#).

Quick links: Visit our website:
mass.gov/retirement

Like us on Facebook:
facebook.com/mass.state.retirement

Follow us on X @MassStateRet:
x.com/massstateret

**Drop-off hours at both offices are
Monday-Friday, 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.,
except on state holidays.**