August 2026

MSRB Retiree eNews Bulletin

What Happens If a Retiree Receives a Retroactive Salary Increase, Post-Retirement?

If a retiree receives a retroactive salary increase after they have retired that covers a period when they were actively employed, the retiree's former department or agency will make the payment to the retiree of retroactive earnings owed. The department should deduct the appropriate retirement contribution from the pensionable earnings.

If the increase affects the salary average used to calculate a retirement benefit for a retiree, a benefit adjustment will be processed. Upon receipt of the retirement contribution, it would be posted to the retiree's retirement account. The Retirement Board would then send a letter to the department or agency requesting the updated salary.

Once the information is received by the Retirement Board, and as soon as administratively feasible, a review of the information will occur to confirm the accuracy of the data provided. Thereafter, an adjustment will be processed. Once the adjustment is processed, a letter with the updated information will be mailed to the retiree. Any retroactive retirement payment will be made from the effective date of retirement. This typically impacts union members whose collective bargaining agreements are pending.

August Pension Payment

The next pension benefit will be directly deposited on Monday, August 31, 2026, the last business day of this month.

The ***MSRB 2026 Pension Payment Calendar*** is available on our website and can be downloaded; **click here**.

Unclaimed Property Division Returns $424,000 to Seniors



Treasurer Deborah Goldberg's Unclaimed Property Division (UCP) is returning unclaimed money to Massachusetts residents. This year, over $424,000 has been returned during outreach visits to over 20 senior centers across the state. UCP holds forgotten checking and savings accounts, uncashed checks, stocks and dividends, and more. Search your name for free at **www.findmassmoney.gov** or call **1-888-344-MASS (6277)**.

FBI Warns of New Phone Scam

The Boston Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) has recently reported

Upon the collective bargaining agreement approval, the Retirement Board receives notification, and the agencies are required to submit the necessary information. We must rely on the agencies to respond and provide accurate data on potentially hundreds of employees. As each adjustment must be reviewed individually, we ask for your patience and cooperation.

Beware of Paper Check Thefts and Scams

Paper checks may seem secure, but they can be subject to different types of fraud. The Federal Trade Commission, or FTC, **has put together this guide** on different types of paper check schemes and how scammers may use various manipulation tactics.

The Federal Office of the Comptroller of Currency (OCC) has also put together a guide on how some scammers may forge or "wash" legitimate checks. **Click here to learn more** about staying safe.

If you still receive your pension benefit as a paper check, you can use the **Authorization for Direct Deposit Form** to request that your pension be deposited into your bank account.

PRIM Update as of July 2026

The Pension Reserves Investment Management Board (PRIM) manages the assets of the Massachusetts State Employees' Retirement System (MSERS) and more than 90 other Massachusetts public employee retirement systems. PRIM is chaired by Treasurer Deborah B. Goldberg, who also chairs the State Retirement Board.

At the end of July 2026, PRIM's total fund value stood at more than $129 billion, of

a new scam targeting people in New England. **According to this press release**, the caller will claim they are representing someone from a bank or financial institution, and claims that the recipient of the call had their identity used to purchase illegal firearms.

The call is then "transferred" to another scammer who is masquerading as an FBI agent. A follow-up call sometimes will come through that appears to be from the Boston FBI main telephone number, 857-386-2000, and the caller will provide a fake name and badge number.

The FBI has warned that this is a scam and stresses that the FBI will never call or email a private individual to demand money, threaten arrest, or request personal information. "Scammers are utilizing fear, urgency, and increasingly sophisticated tactics, including spoofing trusted phone numbers," says Special Agent Ted Docks of the Boston FBI.

The article linked above provides some guidance on warning signs and how to protect yourself. If you believe this scam has targeted you, please get in touch with your financial institution, notify your local police station, and file a complaint with the **FBI's Internet Crime Complaint Center**.

Some Late Summer Fun

Fall is around the corner, but there are still ways to enjoy the remaining summer days! Here are some exciting events coming up around the Commonwealth.

King Richard's Fair - Held on weekends from September 5 until October 25, 2026. Located in Carver, MA, the King Richard's Fair is a popular destination for families! **Click here to learn more**.

The Big E - Kicking off on September 18

which $44 billion were assets of the MSERS and $174 million were assets of the former Massachusetts Turnpike Authority Employees' Retirement System.

For more information, please click here.

Reminder: Review Your Tax Withholdings!

As we approach the end of summer, now might be a good time to check your year-to-date tax withholdings. You may recall that, beginning with your January 2026 pension payment, the new 2026 federal tax rates took effect. Therefore, some of you may have noticed a change in your NET amount. Checking your withholdings now allows you to make a timely change to ensure it aligns with your anticipated tax filing for calendar year 2026.

Want to change your tax withholding election with the Board? Click here to download the **2026 W-4P Federal Tax Withholding Form**. Please fill it out, sign it, and mail it to our Boston office.

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.

This Month's Puzzle

Did you know that this month, there is a and running until October 4, the Eastern States Exposition (aka the Big E) is one of the largest fairs in New England. Located in Springfield, MA, it is home to vendors from various New England states. **Click here to learn more**.

The Brimfield Flea Market - The last dates for the year will be September 8th through the 13th. Located in Brimfield, MA, the Brimfield Flea Market is home to hundreds of vendors from all over the country. You'll never know what you'll find! **Click here to learn more**.

Open Newbury Street - Beginning August 23, and running every Sunday until October 11, 2026, Newbury Street in Boston, MA, becomes a pedestrian-only walkway. Come check out the different stores, galleries, restaurants, and vendors on this historic street in the heart of the city! **Click here to learn more**.

We hope everyone has an exciting last few weeks of summer!

11 Unforgettable Road Trips in Retirement

Singer and songwriter Tom Cochrane once said, "Life is a Highway," and what better way to celebrate life than by taking a road trip down a famous or historical roadway?

This article from Kiplinger looks at 11 different road trips across the country that take you through some amazing locations. **Click here to learn more and plan your trip**!

Labor Day is September 7th

Board offices will be closed in observance of the holiday. Regular business hours will resume on Tuesday,

holiday called "**National Massachusetts Day**" that falls on August 17? To celebrate, we put together this word search of different Massachusetts towns. Click the image below to download the puzzle and answer key.

As a hint, some towns may be written backward from how you would typically spell them.

S	D	R	L	E	H	T	A	E	H	R	C	F	U	L
E	W	H	N	O	R	W	E	L	L	E	A	H	O	N
W	R	T	H	C	D	L	E	U	S	L	R	E	E	W
U	L	T	N	T	N	E	N	E	M	L	L	N	L	O
N	E	T	L	E	O	E	E	O	O	N	I	T	M	T
N	O	T	T	E	N	K	U	D	R	W	S	I	M	R
W	G	O	N	B	O	T	I	O	O	E	L	U	E	E
H	E	I	U	N	H	O	E	E	R	T	E	I	C	H
L	D	R	K	C	I	U	N	E	O	E	R	R	I	C
C	G	E	E	F	T	O	V	N	B	S	L	O	E	L
F	O	S	R	A	B	E	E	N	E	F	N	T	E	E
C	U	D	E	E	R	F	I	E	L	D	T	E	M	B
E	S	N	L	I	A	O	K	N	T	E	E	N	L	O
T	O	S	N	A	E	L	R	O	T	R	N	E	R	H
V	S	A	L	E	R	T	T	H	A	T	E	V	L	H

Ready to check your work? **Click here** to download a completed version of the puzzle and see if you found them all!

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 **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**

September 8, 2026.

Did you know that before it was a holiday, Labor Day was celebrated by different labor activists and states? **Click here to learn more about the history of this day**!



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

Drop-off hours at the Boston and Springfield Offices are Monday-Friday, 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m., except on state holidays.