

# October 2025 \*\*STATES\*\* \*\*Control of the control of the control



# Retirement Board Election Update

As a reminder, the Massachusetts State Retirement Board (MSRB) is currently conducting a regularly scheduled election. Three candidates have qualified and will be featured on the ballot.

Ballots are expected to be mailed on Tuesday, October 28, 2025. Please allow 7-10 business days to receive your ballot. Votes must be received, or ballots must be post-marked before midnight on November 28, 2025, to the Board's designated agent.

Click here for more information

### Did You Know?

The GIC (Group Insurance Commission) is a separate agency! If you have questions about your GIC health, dental, and life insurance benefits or premiums, please contact them directly at 617-727-2310 and select option # 2 or complete their online Contact the GIC request form. Thank you.

# **Social Security**

Social Security is a federal benefit that has nothing to do with state pension benefits. If you have any questions about

# 2026 Pension Payment Calendar Now Available

The *MSRB 2026 Pension Payment Calendar* is now available on our website. Click here to download.

The next pension benefit will be direct deposited on Friday, October 31, 2025, the last business day of this month. The *MSRB 2025 Pension Payment Calendar* is available at the above link.

# Notice of 2025-26 PRIM Board Election

Pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws c.32, §23 (2A)(a), the Pension Reserves Investment Management Board (PRIM) will conduct a regularly scheduled election for the Massachusetts State Employees' Retirement System (MSERS) representative on the PRIM Board. The elected member will serve for a three-year term without compensation beginning July 1, 2026.

Nomination forms and Election Rules will be available beginning November 17, 2025, through the Board's website.

Completed original nomination forms containing a minimum of 75 active or retired MSERS members' valid signatures must be received by mail at the Board's Boston office, located

your social security benefits, please call the Social Security Administration at 1-800-772-1213. Telephone hours are 8:00 AM - 7:00 PM local time, Monday through Friday. Automated telephone services are available 24 hours a day.

For additional information, visit their website **here**.

# **Tax Filing Deadline Extended for Some Taxpayers**

For taxpayers who requested to file an extension in April, the due date for filing your taxes without penalty was October 15, 2025. Some taxpayers in areas covered by the Federal Emergency Management Agency and those returning from a combat zone may have additional time to file.

<u>Please visit the IRS website</u> to find information on areas eligible for a tax filing deadline.

# Need a Social Security Benefit Verification Letter? Get It Online!

According to the Social Security
Administration's (SSA) website, a Benefit
Verification letter, sometimes called a
"budget letter," a "benefits letter," a "proof
of income letter," or a "proof of award
letter," serves as proof of your retirement,
disability, Supplemental Security Income
(SSI), or Medicare benefits.

You may use your letter for loans, housing assistance, mortgages, and other income verification purposes. You can also use it to prove that you don't receive benefits, have applied for them, or have never received Social Security benefits or SSI.

You can request your Benefit Verification letter online by using your personal "my

at One Winter Street, 8th Floor, Boston, MA 02108, by 5:00 PM, Monday, January 26, 2026. PLEASE NOTE: The Board's drop-off hours are Monday through Friday, 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM, except on state holidays.

Notice to nominees who qualify as candidates will be issued by February 5, 2026. After qualification of candidates, official ballots will be mailed to all eligible voters on or about March 27, 2026, and must be returned by May 22, 2026, to the designated mailing address at or before 5:00 PM EST; or electronically submitted before midnight EST.

You may obtain a complete set of the PRIM Election Rules from the Retirement Board's offices or through its website. If you have any questions, please email Paula Daddona, Director of Member Experience, Communications & Operations,

pdaddona@tre.state.ma.us, or contact Francesco Daniele, Director of PRIM's Client Services at (617) 946-8416.

# Monthly Coffee or Tea with MSRB Facebook Live Stream

Join us for our <u>Facebook Live show</u> every first Wednesday\* of the month. *Monthly Coffee or Tea with MSRB* is your chance to ask general pension questions to State Retirement Board staff.

Please note that we are not able to answer any specific questions regarding personal information. Please do not provide us with any personal information, such as your Social Security number, bank account number, or home address, as Facebook is a public platform that can be viewed by anyone.

Email your questions in advance to MSRBCommunications@tre.state.ma.us. We hope to see you during our next Social Security" account, which will allow you to immediately view, print, and save a copy of the letter. If you don't have a "my Social Security" account, you can create one by clicking here.

Alternatively, you can request one by calling SSA at 1-800-772-1213 (TTY 1-800-325-0778), Monday through Friday, from 8:00 AM to 7:00 PM local time.

# **Breast Cancer Awareness Month**

October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month. According to the American Cancer Society, the 5-year relative survival rate is 99% when breast cancer is detected early. Click here to learn about early detection.



### Massachusetts 211

In an emergency, you should call 911. However, who do you call if it's not an emergency, but you still need crucial information in a crisis? For example, finding essential community services for a family member, such as housing information, behavioral health services, or locating the nearest food bank.

Massachusetts 211 is available to help you. With staff members available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, you can dial Facebook Live *Monthly Coffee or Tea with MSRB* on Wednesday, November 5, at 10:00 AM.

\*The schedule is subject to change. Be sure to check our Facebook web page for updates.

### Thank You to Our Veterans

Veterans Day is November 11, 2025. Board offices will be closed in observance of this holiday. This is a time to remember and pay tribute to the brave men and women of the United States Armed Forces.

Their commitment to service is valued and appreciated by us all. Board staff thanks all Veterans for their sacrifice, service, and all they have done for us.



## **Direct Deposit Changes**

You can update your existing 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 20th of the month to be effective for that month's pension payment.

211 or 1-877-211-6277 to speak with a team member or <u>visit their website</u> for additional resources.

# Board Staff Wish Everyone a Happy and Safe Halloween!



Have you, or are you, planning to move? If so, be sure to notify the Board of your address change! Retirees who already have summer and winter addresses on file with the Board can call us to request the address update. Otherwise, you must notify the Board in writing by completing and submitting a Benefit Recipient Change of Address Form. You can download it here!

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

# **Daylight Saving Time**

It's that time of the year again, Daylight Saving Time ends on Sunday, November 2, 2025, at 2:00 AM. Make sure to set your clocks back an hour!



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 <a href="mailto:MSRBCommunications@tre.state.ma.us">MSRBCommunications@tre.state.ma.us</a>.

We look forward to hearing from 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 AM - 5:00 PM, except on state holidays.

Drop-off hours at both offices are

Monday-Friday, 10:00 AM. - 3:00 PM, except on state holidays.