Regular Compensation

Public Employee Retirement Administration Commission

Five Middlesex Avenue, Third Floor, Somerville, MA 02145 ph 617 666 4446 | fax 617 628 4002 tty 617 591 8917 | web www.mass.gov/perac





Chapter 32 Section 1

Regular Compensation

 Compensation received exclusively as wages by an employee for services performed in the course of employment for his employer.

Chapter 32 Section 1

Wages

■ The base salary or other base compensation of an employee ...

Helps define "other base compensation":

Pre-determined, non-discretionary, guaranteed payments paid by the employer to similarly situated employees

Payments made by the employer to the employee because of:

- the character of the work
- the employee's length of service
- the time at which the work takes place
- educational incentives
- and payments for training and licensing

Also lists what payment types are not regular compensation

Same list of payment types as Section 1 definition of "wages"

Some payment types have never been regular compensation:

- overtime
- bonuses
- unused vacation and sick pay
- severance
- payments due to member's retirement

Some payment types are newly excluded

- housing
- clothing allowance
- automobile usage

PERAC Memo #33/2011

Can a payment be included in base salary but not be regular compensation?

Yes

Example - Salary augmentation plan

PERAC Memo #33/2011

Can a payment that is not included in base salary be regular compensation?

Yes

Base Salary vs. Other Base Compensation

PERAC Memo #33/2011

Overtime- not necessarily paid at time and a half

Regularly scheduled to work 25 hours per week

Occasionally works 29 to 32 hours

Extra pay is not regular compensation

New Pay Codes

Board should be notified by payroll department

Effective 2/16/2011: Board should receive all collective bargaining agreements

Ultimate Decision

Made by Retirement Board