



Providing Benefits for Life

July 3, 2018

Dear PERS Employer:

The Public Employees' Retirement System of Mississippi (PERS) is seeking petitions for candidates to fill the state employee representative position on the PERS Board of Trustees. The six-year term will begin January 1, 2019, and end December 31, 2024. Candidates must be current state employees and active PERS members with at least 10 years of creditable service.

Please share this letter with your employees and direct them to www.pers.ms.gov, where interested employees may download the *Board of Trustees Candidate Nomination and Petition*.

Election schedule:	August 6, 2018	Deadline for receipt of nominations and petitions by PERS (5 p.m.)
	August 28, 2018	PERS Board certifies ballot at regularly scheduled meeting
	September 7, 2018	PERS mails ballots
	October 8, 2018	Deadline for receipt of ballots by PERS (5 p.m.)
	October 23, 2018	PERS Board certifies election results at regularly scheduled meeting

Runoff Schedule:	November 6, 2018	PERS mails ballots for runoff
<i>If necessary</i>	December 7, 2018	Deadline for receipt of ballots by PERS (5 p.m.)
	December 18, 2018	PERS Board certifies election results at regularly scheduled meeting

For further details about the election process, see PERS Board Regulation 17, *Election of Members of the Board* (www.pers.ms.gov). For questions, contact Davetta Lee at 601-359-9516, 800-444-7377, or dlee@pers.ms.gov.

Sincerely,

H. Ray Higgins, Jr.
Executive Director

Ray Higgins <i>Executive Director</i>	<i>Board of Trustees:</i>	Kelly Breland <i>State Employees Chair</i>	Brian Rutledge <i>Institutions of Higher Learning Vice Chair</i>	Bill Benson <i>County Employees</i>	Lee Childress <i>Public Schools, Community/Jr. Colleges</i>	George Dale <i>Retirees</i>
		Lynn Fitch <i>State Treasurer</i>	Chris Howard <i>State Employees</i>	Randy D. McCoy <i>Retirees</i>	Drew Snyder <i>Gubernatorial Appointee</i>	Vacant <i>Municipal Employees</i>



Board of Trustees Candidate Information

Welcome

Thank you for your interest in serving on the Public Employees' Retirement System of Mississippi (PERS) Board of Trustees. We hope the enclosed information helps you learn more about the PERS Board of Trustees and the process for becoming a board member.

Board Overview

PERS is among the largest financial institutions in the state of Mississippi and provides retirement benefits for all eligible state and public education employees, officers of the Mississippi Highway Patrol, elected members of the State Legislature, the President of the Senate, and other eligible public employees whose employers have elected to participate.

Plans administered include the Public Employees' Retirement System (PERS), which was established by legislation in 1952; the Mississippi Highway Safety Patrol Retirement System (MHSPRS), established in 1958; Mississippi Deferred Compensation Plan & Trust (MDC), established in 1973; the Supplemental Legislative Retirement Plan (SLRP), established in 1989; and the Municipal Retirement Systems (MRS), which came under the System's administration in 1987, and the Optional Retirement Plan for the Institutions of Higher Learning (ORP), which was established in 1990.

The 10-member PERS Board of Trustees is responsible for establishing policies governing general administration and proper operation of the plans administered. The Board includes the

State Treasurer, a gubernatorial appointee who is an active member of PERS, two PERS retirees, two state employees, and one representative each of public schools and community/junior colleges, Institutions of Higher Learning, counties, and municipalities. Other than the Treasurer and the gubernatorial appointee, board members are elected to staggered six-year terms by the members of the constituent group they represent.

All assets of the plans administered are held in trust for the exclusive purpose of providing benefit payments and paying administrative expenses. Board members have a fiduciary duty to manage, invest, and expand these funds in the manner provided by law.

Board members serve on six committees as assigned by the board chairman. These committees are Administrative, Audit, Claims, Defined Contribution, Investment, and Legislative.

Candidate Qualifications

To qualify as a candidate for the PERS Board of Trustees, you must be a current member of the constituent group for which the election is being held and an active member of PERS with at least 10 years of creditable service. You also must submit to PERS a completed *Board of Trustees Candidate Nomination and Petition* (see last two pages of this document) by the deadline listed in the cover letter sent to your employer. If you do not have a copy of the cover letter, you can find it posted at www.pers.ms.gov during the election

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process. The front of the nomination provides you the opportunity to share biographical information and provides you instruction on submitting your Candidate Statement. The back of the nomination includes a petition on which you must gather 25 or more signatures from other members in your constituent group to qualify you for the election. The validity of each signature will be verified by PERS before you are considered for candidacy.

Once you have completed the nomination front and back, mail or deliver the sheet, your Candidate Statement, and any additional attachments to the Public Employees' Retirement System, c/o Executive Director, 429 Mississippi Street, Jackson, MS 39201. **Neither faxed nor e-mailed petitions will be accepted.** If, after review of your nomination, you are found to meet all requirements for candidacy, you will be notified by mail before the mailing of the ballots. (See cover letter for date.)

Election Rules

1. Votes cast after the deadline will not be counted.
2. If no candidate receives a majority of the eligible votes cast, the two candidates who receive the most votes will compete in a runoff election.

The runoff election will be handled in the same manner as the primary election. PERS will notify you by mail as to the results of any election in which you are a candidate.

Service Requirements

Board members must be willing to commit the necessary time required to meet Board obligations. Attendance at board meetings is expected, and members are encouraged to attend all committee meetings. For each board meeting, members typically spend 8 to 15 hours preparing for

and attending board and committee meetings. In addition, board members are expected to participate in ongoing education and training.

The Board meets the fourth Tuesday of February, April, June, August, and October and the third Tuesday in December. Other meetings may be called by the Board chairman from time to time.

The Investment Committee meets the day preceding the regularly scheduled board meeting. Other committees generally meet the morning of the regularly scheduled board meeting and may be scheduled more often at the discretion of the committee chairman. When an outstanding appeal exists, hearings before the Claims Committee are scheduled to meet the fourth Tuesday of each month in which there is not a regularly scheduled board meeting.

Compensation

Board members receive \$300 per month as compensation. Necessary travel expenses to attend board meetings are reimbursed for board members residing outside the Jackson metropolitan area.

For More Information

For details about PERS, the plans it administers, and membership, financial, and investment data, visit www.pers.ms.gov.

For details about the election process, refer to PERS Board Regulation 17, *Election of Members of the Board*, at www.pers.ms.gov/Content/Documents/Regulations/Reg17.pdf.

If you have any additional questions, please contact PERS Counsel and Policy Advisor, Davetta Lee at 601-359-9516 or dlee@pers.ms.gov.



Board of Trustees Candidate Nomination

Mail or deliver form, completed front and back, and all attachments to PERS c/o Executive Director by the deadline listed on your employer's cover letter (available at www.pers.ms.gov during election process). See bottom of form for contact information.

1 Candidate Nomination and Information

This form and petition are to formally nominate the below-listed individual as a candidate for election to a six-year term on the Public Employees' Retirement System of Mississippi (PERS) Board of Trustees.

First Name: _____ MI: _____ Last Name: _____

Preferred Title: _____ Gender: M F Social Security No. (last four digits only): _____

Mailing Address: _____ City: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Cellular Home Work Phone: _____ Cellular Home Work

Birth Date mm/dd/ccyy: _____ E-mail: _____

2 Candidate Biography - Should you qualify as a candidate, the information you provide below will be included on ballots mailed to eligible voters. Please note that the biographical portion of the ballot is limited to 25 words; therefore, the information you provide may be edited, if necessary, to include only 25 words.

Education and Experience

Graduated from: _____

Degree: _____

Bachelor's Master's Doctorate

Relevant Experience, Awards, Licenses, and Memberships:

Credentials

Employer: _____

Position/Job Title: _____

3 Candidate Statement - Attach a Candidate Statement of no more than 100 words to be included with your biographical information on the ballot should you qualify as a candidate. Your statement should address why voters should elect you to the Board. This statement must accompany your completed form and petition when submitting your nomination.

Note: PERS does not edit Candidate Statements; therefore, any misspellings or grammatical errors will not be corrected after the statement is submitted to PERS. Statements longer than 100 words will be returned to the candidate for editing and re-submission to PERS. Re-submissions must be received by PERS by the deadline listed in the cover letter for consideration of candidate eligibility.

4 Candidate Authorization

I hereby certify that I am a current member of Public Employees' Retirement System of Mississippi (PERS) and, therefore, am eligible to hold the position of representative on the PERS Board of Trustees. Should I qualify as a candidate for the PERS Board of Trustees, I authorize PERS to include the information I have provided in the above Candidate Biography section and the attached Candidate Statement as part of the PERS Board of Trustees Ballot.

Candidate Signature: _____ Date mm/dd/ccyy: _____

5 Employer Acknowledgment of Commitment to Service - The below employer acknowledgement is not required for candidacy but is recommended to ensure the requirements for PERS Board service are met.

I acknowledge the above-listed candidate is an employee of the agency for which I serve as the appointing authority or agency head, and he or she has notified me of his or her intention to seek the position as a representative to the PERS Board of Trustees. My agency authorizes his or her candidacy with the understanding that, if elected, he or she may require time away from his or her regular work duties and/or responsibilities.

Agency Head Signature: _____ Date mm/dd/ccyy: _____

Printed Name: _____ Title: _____

Detach and complete front and back



Petition

This petition is only valid if certified by signatures and accompanying Social Security numbers of at least 25 members from the same constituent group as the potential candidate. Attach an additional page, if necessary. The validity of each signature will be verified by PERS before you are considered for candidacy.

We, the undersigned, certify that we are members of PERS-covered plans and are eligible to participate in this election.

We hereby nominate _____ as a candidate for our representative on the PERS Board of Trustees.

Signature of Employee	Printed Full Legal Name of Employee	Social Security No. of Employee <i>(last four digits only)</i>
1. _____	_____	_____
2. _____	_____	_____
3. _____	_____	_____
4. _____	_____	_____
5. _____	_____	_____
6. _____	_____	_____
7. _____	_____	_____
8. _____	_____	_____
9. _____	_____	_____
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14. _____	_____	_____
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24. _____	_____	_____
25. _____	_____	_____
26. _____	_____	_____
27. _____	_____	_____
28. _____	_____	_____
29. _____	_____	_____
30. _____	_____	_____

Detach and complete front and back