

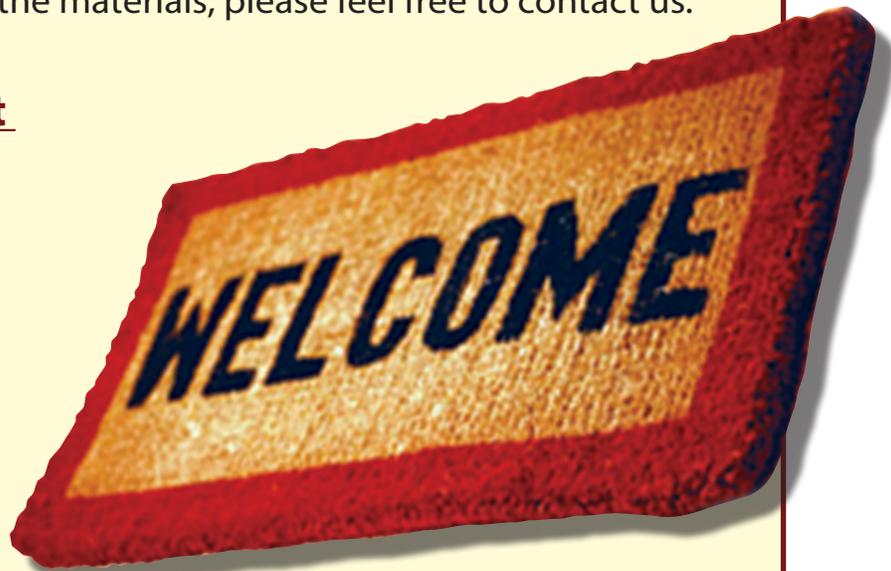
Welcome, New County Plan Member!



Welcome to the Nebraska Public Employees Retirement Systems (NPERs). Whether you are beginning your career or you previously worked for the County, we welcome your membership and the opportunity to help you with your retirement plan.

We have created this document to provide new members with important information regarding the retirement benefits offered to County employees. Click on the links or visit our [website](#) to obtain copies. **If you do not have internet access, your employer should provide these documents.** If you have questions about the materials, please feel free to contact us.

- [County Retirement Plan Handbook](#)
- [Beneficiary Designation Form](#)
- [Application for Vesting Credit](#)



Rev. 12/2024

Nebraska Public Employees Retirement Systems

1526 K Street, Suite 400 or P.O. Box 94816 Lincoln, NE 68509-4816
402-471-2053 or 800-245-5712 Fax: 402-471-9493

npers.ne.gov

The Basics

County Retirement Plan

New employees participate in the **mandatory Cash Balance** benefit immediately upon employment.

Participation is voluntary for permanent, part-time employees age 18 or older and permanent part-time seasonal employees age 18 or older. To enroll, employees must submit a Cash Balance Voluntary Enrollment Form to NPERS within their first 30 days of employment.

- Members contribute 4.5% of salary pre-tax and the County matches contributions at 150%.
- Members are “vested” after three years.
- Member accounts receive an “interest credit rate” (rate of return) based on the federal mid-term rate plus 1.5% and are *guaranteed* a minimum annual rate of return of 5%.
- Members have multiple payment options of their account at retirement.
- For more information, please refer to the [plan handbook](#).

Deferred Compensation Plan (DCP)

County employees may participate in their County’s tax-sheltered, **voluntary** retirement plan if employed on a permanent fulltime or parttime basis.

- Participants may set and change contribution amounts, or cease and resume contributions at any time. (A County that does not offer a 457 Plan may participate in the plan offered to State of Nebraska employees.)
- Taxes on the contributions and earnings are deferred until disbursement.
- Plan participants choose their own investments from multiple funds.
- This is a *long-term* retirement plan, **not** a short-term savings plan. Members cannot remove funds until they cease employment.
- For more information, please contact your employer.

NPERS Financial Resources

Is your budget SICK?.... Are your savings skills anemic and your bank account suffering from imbalance?

If you are like most of us, your answer might be “YES”, but as a Nebraska County employee you have a wealth of excellent resources at your fingertips.

These resources can be found on our website, NPERS.NE.GOV. The way to bring health to your wealth is to begin your investment strategy by connecting with our Investment Information Website Resources. Investment Reports, Videos, Publications, and more are available! On the Home Page of our Website, npers.ne.gov, navigate to Member Info and then click on Investment Info.

More incredible resources are available through the partnership of Nebraska Public Employees Retirement Systems with the Nebraska Council of Economic Education, who together are announcing financial medicine to bring your finances back to health.

From the Home Page of our Website, npers.ne.gov, hover on Member Info and click on Financial Resources. Get started today by accessing the fun and engaging [Enrich](#) education hub, watching the entertaining [Nebraska Financial Wellness](#) webinar recordings or [NPERS Financial Planning Seminar video](#), and dive in deep with the [Nebraska Financial Education Networks Resource!](#)

For those closer to retirement!

NPERS Retirement Planning Seminars

All employees are eligible to attend *up to three* full-day in-person seminars. The focus is on your County Plan and your options at retirement. The cost is \$30 per member and for an additional \$30 you may bring a guest. Food and materials are provided and your employer will allow you a day off *with pay* to attend. We also offer half-day seminars at a cost of \$15 per member.

Enroll in a seminar, or webinar!

Each year NPERS provides seminars to help our members learn about their retirement plans and plan for retirement. Members can take advantage of these seminars, which are now available both in-person and online! For more information visit our [State/County](#) seminar page.

Forms, Forms, Forms...

Beneficiary Designation Form—Upon the death of a plan member, NPERS needs to know who should receive the funds remaining in their retirement account. Complete this form and be sure to update as needed. Please be aware that selecting beneficiaries for your retirement account is separate from selecting beneficiaries during “open enrollment” for insurance purposes through your employer. Additional beneficiary forms may be printed from our website.

Application for Vesting Credit—If you have participated in another Nebraska governmental pension plan, that participation may count toward the three years required to be vested in the County Plan. To qualify, you must complete this form and submit to NPERS within 180 days of your date of hire.