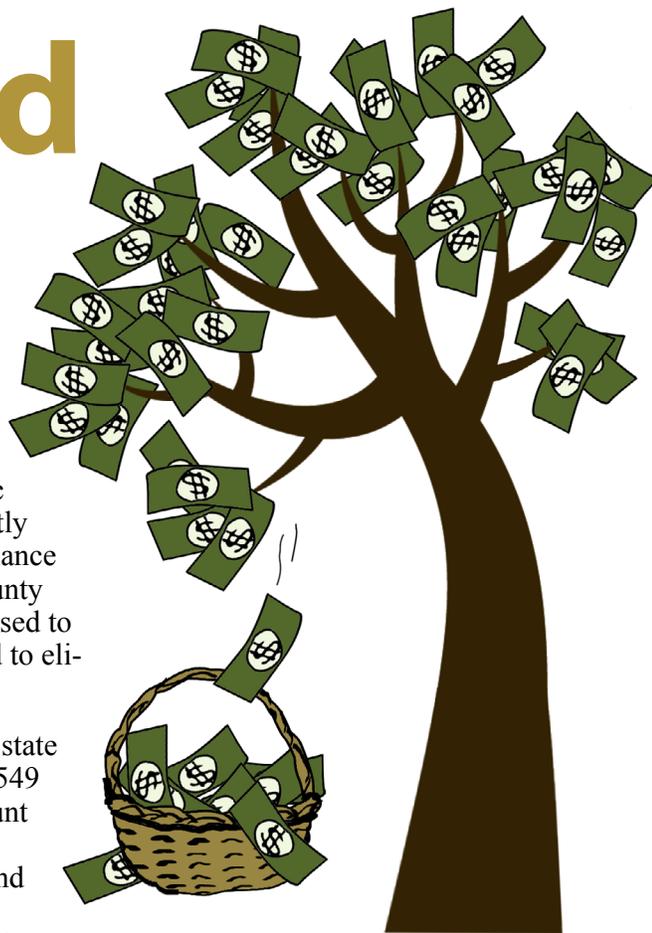


# RETIREMENT NEWS

NEBRASKA PUBLIC EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEMS STCO • OCTOBER 2015

## Dividend Issued for 2015!



As reported in the July newsletter, the Public Employees Retirement Board (PERB) recently granted a 4.53% dividend for State Cash Balance plan members and a 5.81% dividend for County Cash Balance plan members. NPERS is pleased to notify our members this dividend was issued to eligible participants on August 14, 2015!

A total of \$48,241,291 was issued to 18,475 state plan members, and \$19,697,164 issued to 8,549 county plan participants! The dividend amount was based upon the member's Cash Balance account balance as of December 31, 2014, and included the dividend rate approved by the PERB plus applicable interest from January 1, 2015, to August 14, 2015.

Each year an actuarial study will be conducted to ascertain the funded status of the State and the County Cash Balance plans. If the actuarial report indicates adequate funding, the PERB has the authority to issue a dividend based on the recommendation of the actuary. All dividends must conform to the requirements stipulated in state statute and board policy. The plan must be 100% actuarially funded before and after the dividend.

# NATIONAL SAVE FOR RETIREMENT

WEEK

OCTOBER 18-24, 2015

TAKE THE OPPORTUNITY TO REVIEW YOUR RETIREMENT PLAN!

- Check your beneficiary designations
- Plan to attend a Financial Management or Retirement Planning Seminar to learn about your options
- Explore the resources available to you on the NPERS website
- Contact NPERS if you have any questions.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

[npers.ne.gov](http://npers.ne.gov)

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# Need Info?

The NPERS website is an excellent resource for information about your retirement plan. Access beneficiary and other forms, download a copy of your plan handbook, and more!

<b>NPERS</b>
Create Your Account
About Us
Retirement Board
Investment Council
Organization Structure
Legislation
<b>Plan Info</b>
School
State
County
Patrol
Judge's
Deferred Compensation
<b>Member Info</b>
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Forms
Financial Facts
Call Center
Retirement Seminars
Benefit Estimators
<b>Employer Reports</b>
School
State
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Judge's
<b>Help</b>
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# NPERS Employees of the Year

*The Nebraska Public Employees Retirement Systems is pleased to announce our two recipients for Employees of the year, **Dennis Rohren** and **Brenda Dinges**.*

Brenda works for our Member Service department as a lead worker. She has been a part of the NPERS team for 26 years, also working as a Retirement Specialist I & II. Her duties include overseeing the NPERS Call Center, assigning and performing office visits, and calculating benefit estimates for



Brenda Dinges

State, County, and DCP members. Brenda also acts as backup for the call center. In addition, she helps audit State, County, and DCP refunds, and reviews/audits updates to the NPERS online access portal of the Ameritas website.

Dennis is a lead worker in the NPERS accounting department. He began his career at NPERS in 2012 as an Accountant III, which is the position he holds today. During his 3 years as an NPERS associate, he has been responsible for the internal monthly and annual financial statements for the School, Judges, and Patrol plans; and the external financial statements for all of the plans we administer here at 1526 K Street. Dennis is also our lead contact for assisting state auditors and has been a key figure in implementing the new GASB reporting procedures.



Dennis Rohren

*Congratulations to Brenda and Dennis! We are pleased to acknowledge their hard work and dedication to our members. **Thank you!***



## QUARTERLY CASH BALANCE RATE

For the quarter beginning October 1st, 2015, the rate of return for Cash Balance participants is 5%.

The current and historical Cash Balance rates of return are available via the "Cash Balance Rates of Return & Dividends" link on our website.

# Have You Designated Your DCP Beneficiaries?

Are you participating in the voluntary Deferred Compensation Plan (DCP)? This plan is offered to all state employees; plus employees of Lincoln, Greeley, McPherson, and Dodge Counties. DCP is a tax-deferred retirement plan that is an excellent way to save additional funds for retirement. Eligible employees may enroll *at any time* by submitting a DCP Enrollment form to their agency payroll department, but there is one additional document that also needs to be completed... a Beneficiary Designation form.

Plan Type (check all that apply)	
<input type="checkbox"/>	School
<input type="checkbox"/>	State
<input type="checkbox"/>	County
<input type="checkbox"/>	Judges
<input type="checkbox"/>	Patrol
<input type="checkbox"/>	DCP

**The beneficiary form you filled out for your mandatory retirement plan does not automatically transfer to your voluntary DCP account. You need to fill out a new beneficiary form when you initially enroll in DCP. At that time, you can designate the same or separate beneficiaries for your DCP and mandatory plans.**

**In the upper right corner of the beneficiary form there are six small boxes. If you check just the DCP box, the beneficiaries you list will apply ONLY to the voluntary DCP. If you wish to designate the same beneficiaries for both plans, be sure to check BOTH the State (or County) and DCP boxes.**

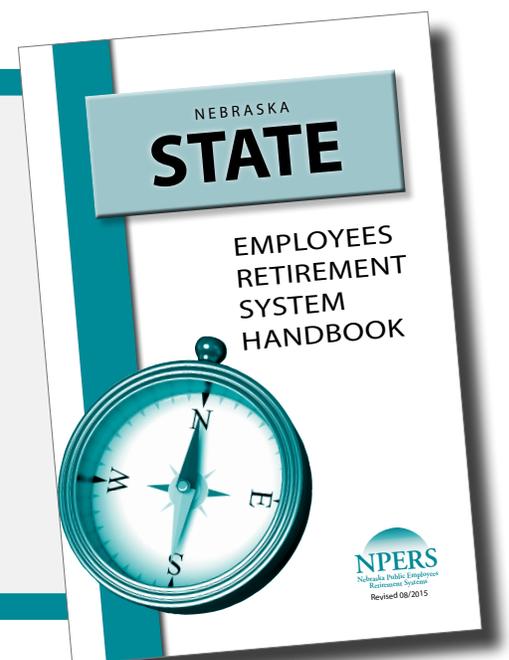
DCP participants who fail to submit a beneficiary form will have death benefits paid to their estate, which may create tax issues for their survivors. Questions regarding taxation of death benefits should be directed to an estate planning attorney or other tax professional.

As a reminder, the DCP enrollment form must be submitted to the agency payroll department. Beneficiary forms can be mailed directly to NPERS.

*For more information, please refer to the DCP handbook on the NPERS website.*

## NEW STATE HANDBOOK

The member handbook for the Nebraska State Retirement plan has been revised. The new revision date is 8/2015. The county plan handbook was previously updated on 11/2014. You may access the current versions on the "Publication" page on the NPERS website.



# 2015 STATE & COUNTY SEMINARS

The 2015 State and County seminar season has begun with sessions already held in Lincoln, Grand Island, Scottsbluff, and LaVista. Sessions will continue through November across the state, but some of the over age 50 "Retirement Planning" sessions have reached maximum capacity and remaining sessions may also fill up! It's still not too late to register, but don't delay! Individuals who wait until the last session is upon us may discover the seminar has reached capacity.

A list of the dates & locations may be found on the State & County Seminar page on our website, including notification of sessions that have filled up. We strive to update this page on a weekly basis, but this is not a guarantee of availability. Members who submit a registration for a full session will be contacted and given the option of attending another session (if available), or receive a refund of their registration fee.

The good news is there are currently several openings in all the *under age 50* "Financial Management" sessions! The Financial Management seminars are tailored to younger members and focus less on the State and County retirement plans and more on the *Complete Financial Management Workshop*. This workshop is presented by a licensed financial planner and covers a wide variety of topics designed to help attendees manage their assets – regardless of their income level.

Here's more good news... eligible State and County employees are entitled to receive *paid leave* to attend up to two Financial Management seminars prior to age 50, AND paid leave to attend up to two Retirement Planning seminars upon reaching age 50. The cost to attend is \$20 for eligible members and you may bring a spouse or one guest for an additional \$20. Individuals must register in advance in order to attend a seminar.

**The following seminars still have openings (as of 10/01/2015). Be sure to register quickly to get into your preferred seminar!**



## FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAM FOR STATE & COUNTY PLAN MEMBERS UNDER AGE 50

NORFOLK

OCT 8

NORTH PLATTE

OCT 29

LINCOLN

NOV 12

GRAND ISLAND

NOV 5

## RETIREMENT PLANNING PROGRAM FOR STATE & COUNTY PLAN MEMBERS AGE 50 AND OVER

LA VISTA

OCT 21

NORTH PLATTE

OCT 28

GRAND ISLAND

NOV 4

LINCOLN

NOV 19

**Due to high demand, an additional Retirement Planning Seminar has been added in Lincoln for November 19. This seminar will take place at the same location as our other Lincoln seminars. An updated registration form is available at [npers.ne.gov](http://npers.ne.gov). Send in your registration form today!**



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