

ARP Newsletter

ALTERNATE RETIREMENT PROGRAM UPDATES

The enclosed statement includes an account summary covering January 1, 2016 through June 30, 2016.

What is the Alternate Retirement Program?

ARP is a retirement savings program administered by Savings Plus. Eligible employees were automatically enrolled for their first two years of CalPERS covered employment with the State of California. ARP provides up to two years of retirement savings in lieu of retirement service credit under CalPERS.

How will the ARP phase-out affect you?

You may have heard the ARP ended on June 30, 2013 and now have questions about what will happen to your account balance. We are here to answer any questions you have. ARP participants will continue to maintain an account until they elect a payout option, as detailed in the chart to the right.

What action do you need to take?

Current ARP participants will make their payout option election during months 47 through 49 of their ARP participation. Participants will receive a postcard in month 45 notifying them of their upcoming election period.

How will the ARP transition work?

The ARP has three phases. Here is a summary:

Phase 1	Phase 2	Phase 3	
Months 1-24	Month 25	Months 47-49	Month 51
For the first 24 months after you became a CalPERS member, you contributed to your ARP account.	At Month 25, you accrued CalPERS retirement service credit.	You elect a payout option.	Savings Plus processes your payout election.
The amount deducted from your check depended on whether you were an excluded, exempt, or represented employee and the bargaining terms therein.	Your paycheck deductions automatically stopped going to ARP and began going to CalPERS. Your ARP funds must remain in your ARP account for two additional years.	Option 1: Transfer your ARP funds to CalPERS in return for service credit for the time you worked during Phase I. Option 2: Take a distribution of your ARP funds. Option 3: Transfer your ARP funds to a Savings Plus 401(k) Plan account.	

At Month 25, your personnel office should have given you CalPERS Publication 52, State Miscellaneous & Industrial Members Retirement Benefit Election Package. Contact your personnel office if you did not receive it.

At Month 45, you will receive a postcard in the mail acknowledging that you are approaching your Phase 3 election period.

Just prior to Month 47, you will receive your ARP Payout Election kit in the mail. It is important that you make an election.

To learn more about the Alternate Retirement Program, visit savingsplusnow.com and select the "Alternate Retirement Program" option in the "About Savings Plus" section. You can also log in to your online account.

Basic facts about your ARP account

- ARP is a 401(a) defined contribution plan.
- Your ARP timeline begins when you became CalPERS-eligible. This might not be when you started state service.
- Savings Plus invests ARP funds in the Short Term Investment Fund-ARP, a capital preservation fund.
- You may contribute to a Savings Plus 401(k) and 457(b) Plan while enrolled in ARP. Go to savingsplusnow.com to begin your contributions.

Are you separated from state service?

Great news — you are eligible for a distribution of your ARP account assets.

Take action today to receive your money and prevent transfer of your ARP account assets to Unclaimed Property. Your ARP account is subject to transfer to Unclaimed Property if a balance remains in the Plan three years from the date of your last contribution. Make your distribution request by completing an ARP Benefit Payment Booklet located in the Forms/Publications/Support section of savingsplusnow.com, or by calling a Service Center representative.

Because of possible tax consequences associated with retirement plan distributions, you may want to consult a tax advisor before you decide to take a withdrawal.

How do I access my account online?

You might notice our website has a new look due to a recent change in third party administrators. To access your online account for the first time on the new site, go to savingsplusnow.com:

- Select “Sign Up for an Online Account”
- Log in with your social security number (SSN) and date of birth, and select continue (this is the only time you will use your SSN to log in to your account)
- Create your preferred username and password (cannot be your SSN)
- Choose and answer security questions

Once you complete the signup process, your account is assigned a unique account number. Your online account is a secure site. With new online tools and resources, you can control and manage your account from your computer or mobile device.

Be sure to update your address if you move

It is important that we have your current mailing address to ensure you receive your annual statement, ARP Newsletter, and critical communications for Phase 3. If you are still employed with the state, notify your personnel office of your new address. If you are no longer employed with the state, contact the Savings Plus Service Center at 1 (855) 616-4776 to change your address.

Who do I contact with ARP questions?

Contact your personnel office if you have questions about your ARP eligibility. For additional information about the program, read the ARP Fact Sheet available at savingsplusnow.com, or talk to a Savings Plus Service Center representative.



California Department of
Human Resources
1515 S Street
North Building, Suite 500
Sacramento, CA 95811

Contact Information

savingsplusnow.com
(855) 616-4776
(800) 848-0833 (TTY)

Service Center

Representatives are available
5:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.
Monday–Friday

Walk-in Service Center

1810 16th Street, Room 108
Sacramento, CA 95811

*Enter on 16th Street, between
R and S streets*

Open 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Monday–Friday, excluding
state holidays

Savings Plus representatives are Registered Representatives of Nationwide Investment Services Corporation (NISC), member FINRA. Neither Nationwide nor Savings Plus representatives offer investment, tax or legal advice. Consult your own counsel before making retirement plan decisions.

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