NHRS

New Hampshire Retirement System

Winter 2012

Retirement Connection

Why Do Monthly Pension Checks Change From Time To Time?

Some retirees and beneficiaries receiving benefits from the New Hampshire Retirement System (NHRS, the retirement system) may notice a difference in their net monthly benefit payment beginning in January 2012 as a result of changes to medical insurance premium deductions and/or annual changes in the federal income tax withholding tables.

Not everyone will see a change in their January payments.

If pension recipients are receiving health insurance through their former NHRS participating employer, monthly medical insurance premium deductions from the pension payment may change on Jan. 1, 2012, depending on the former employer's plan. Premium amounts are set by the former employer, not by NHRS, and typically change annually in January or July. NHRS has no authority over this change. Questions concerning medical coverage should be directed to the retiree's former employer.

Every year, the Internal Revenue Service revises its withholding tax tables. NHRS calculates and withholds federal taxes from monthly retirement benefit payments for retirees based on these tables. NHRS urges retirees to review their withholding annually and, if necessary, fill out a new Form W-4P which can be found at: http://www.nhrs.org/pdfs/fw4p.pdf

If you need assistance in estimating your taxes, consult with the IRS or a qualified tax advisor.

Gainful Occupation

NHRS Retiree Services will be mailing out gainful occupation forms to all disability retirees subject to gainful occupation limits under RSA 100-A:6, III(b)(1) and Ret. 309.01. These forms will be mailed by March 15, 2012, and must be returned to NHRS, with supporting documentation, no later than June 30, 2012.

Note: In 2011, the New Hampshire Legislature repealed the exemption from gainful occupation requirements for Group II disability retirees who have attained age 45 and whose combined service and years of disability retirement equal 20 or more years. Group II disability retirees who met the requirements of this exemption are not "grandfathered" and must submit gainful occupation documentation going forward.

Receiving Pension Payments on Time with Electronic Direct Deposit

All retired members are encouraged to participate in the Electronic Direct Deposit (EDD) program, a safe, efficient way for receiving pension payments. With EDD, pension payments are electronically deposited into the retiree's bank account on the last business day of the month. Members who do not participate in EDD are at risk of delayed or lost checks as a result of mail delivery issues.

When applying for EDD the retiree will always receive a paper check for the first month.

To sign up for EDD, visit the NHRS website at: http://www.nhrs.org/Retirees/Applications.aspx to download the EDD form, or call (603) 410-3671 or toll-free (877) 600-0158, ext. 3671 to speak with a Retiree Services representative.

1099R Tax Forms

1099R tax forms will be mailed to retirees by January 31, 2012.

Visit the NHRS website at http://www.nhrs.org/documents/1099R_FAQs.pdf for information on how to read your 1099R.

Visit the NHRS website at:
http://www.nhrs.org/News/HotTopics.aspx
for timely information regarding the retirement system.

Reminder: Retiree Paper Advices Mailed January, July, and December

Since February 2010, pension recipients enrolled in direct deposit no longer receive monthly paper direct deposit advices. Monthly advices are available online via the My Account section of the NHRS website (www.nhrs.org).

NHRS will continue to mail out paper direct deposit advices to all pension recipients in January, July, and December. If you have questions, call NHRS at (603) 410-3671.

Access Your Account Information Online

Since 2010, NHRS retirees have been able to access their personal account information online. Through the *My Account* page on the NHRS website (www.nhrs.org), members and individuals in receipt of a pension may review secure, personal account information anytime, from any computer.

To create an account or access an existing account, pension recipients may visit the NHRS homepage at: http://www.nhrs.org/ and click on *My Account*, or go directly to: https://www.nhrs.org/NHRSmemberservices/pgwebmember.exe

Online documentation including "How to Create an Account" and "My Account User Guide" is available on the Retirees Resources page at: http://www.nhrs.org/Retirees/WMS.aspx

Has Your Name or Address Changed?

To receive a Personal Information Change Form contact NHRS at (603) 410-3500, or download the form from the NHRS website at: http://www.nhrs.org/pdfs/Personal_Information_Change_Form_2011.pdf