



About the State Social Security Administrator Program Newsletter

The State Social Security Administrator Program Newsletter provides information about Social Security and Medicare coverage for state and local government employees.

Contact Us

CalPERS - SSSA Program
P.O. Box 720720
Sacramento, CA 94229-0720

[Email](#)

Phone: (916) 795-0810

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Who Is a Rehired Annuitant?

It is important to know if a retiree returning to part-time work for your agency is classified correctly as a rehired annuitant. For retirees returning to work, the most common question is regarding the applicability of Social Security and Medicare withholding. The answer can depend on a number of factors, including whether or not the individual is considered a rehired annuitant. Rehired annuitants fall under different withholding requirements for both Section 218 (voluntary coverage) and Section 210 (mandatory coverage) purposes.

Under the Social Security Administration's rules, [Program Operations Manual System \(POMS\) SL 30001.396 Rehired Annuitant Coverage under Section 218](#), a rehired annuitant is a retiree of a state, political subdivision, or instrumentality who:

- Participated in a retirement system
- Is rehired by his or her former employer or another employer that participates in the same retirement system that the individual's pension is coming from; and
- Either is receiving a retirement benefit from the retirement system or has reached retirement age under the retirement system

If all these criteria are met, then the individual is a rehired annuitant and is subject to the rehired annuitant withholding rules. However, if these criteria are not met, then the individual is not a rehired annuitant and should be treated like any newly hired employee for Section 218 purposes.

If your agency has retirees returning to work and you would like to know their status, our office can assist with making that

determination. Contact us via email at ssa@calpers.ca.gov or call us directly (916) 795-0810.

Requirements for Receiving Social Security Benefits

Social Security is a significant part of most Americans' income in their retirement years. Your employees qualify for Social Security by compiling credits, when Social Security taxes (employee + employer shares) are paid based on their earnings. Each employee can earn up to four credits per year and qualify for Social Security retirement benefits when they reach 40 lifetime credits or 10 years of significant employment. The earnings amount required for a work credit increases each year as general wage levels rise. In addition to work credits, Social Security requires an individual to be at least 62 and must be a U.S. citizen or a lawfully present alien in order to receive monthly Social Security benefits.

An individual can get Social Security retirement benefits as early as age 62. However, benefits will be permanently reduced if benefits are received before the full retirement age. Full retirement age is when an individual can start receiving their full retirement benefit amount. Your employees can find their full retirement age, by birth year, in the [full retirement age chart](#).

Social Security Benefits are not only for the employee. An individual's family member or ex-spouse may be eligible to receive Social Security benefits based on the employee's earnings record if the employee is age 62 or older, or disabled or blind, and have enough work credits. Family members who qualify for benefits on the employee's work record, do not need work credits. Visit www.ssa.gov to view the requirements for family members under certain circumstances, including stepchildren, grandchildren, step-grandchildren and adopted children.

As benefits are based on the employee's work history, we recommend that every employee cross reference their annual W-2 information with their Social Security accounts. For individual earning's record information, your employees can sign up for [mySocialSecurity](#) at www.ssa.gov.

Upcoming Webinars

Join us for an interactive presentation to learn more about the State Administrator, Social Security, and Medicare. Register for a [webinar](#).

2021 Webinar Calendar	
Time: 10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.	
Date	Topic
06/30/2021	Social Security Benefits (WEP & GPO)
07/28/2021	Worker Classifications: Employees, Volunteers, and Everything in Between
08/25/2021	Common Social Security and Medicare Withholding Errors
09/29/2021	Employer Responsibilities for Governmental Employers
October 2021	Ed Forum