



State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY
DIVISION OF PENSIONS AND BENEFITS
P. O. Box 295

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Lt. Governor

October 2020

TO: Certifying Officers, Public Employees' Retirement System (PERS)
FROM: Jeff S. Ignatowitz, PERS Board Secretary
SUBJECT: **PERS Notice of Election – State**

The attached notice for the 2021 Public Employees' Retirement System (PERS) election requires your cooperation and response.

We require your assistance in servicing the election of one PERS-State representative position for the PERS Board of Trustees. The PERS-State representative will be elected for a three-year term beginning July 1, 2021. Candidates for this position must qualify by nomination.

EMPLOYER RESPONSIBILITIES

N.J.A.C. 17:2-1.4 requires your cooperation in the distribution of this PERS-State election notice. The Division understands the challenges employers are facing in light of the current health crisis, and that a large number of State employees are working remotely. However, every active State member must receive a copy of the attached *Notice of PERS Election*, which details the pre-election procedures. The Division requests that you distribute the attached election notice electronically or, if you are not able to accommodate electronic distribution, please provide a paper notice to every PERS-State member employed at your location. If you are the Certifying Officer for multiple locations, you will receive only one Certifying Officer letter; however, you are required to distribute the election notice to active PERS-State members at all locations.

In addition to individual distribution, you may post the notice on your location's intranet site and/or in any other appropriate public area.

It is very important that you confirm distribution of this notice with the Board of Trustees. To confirm that you have distributed the notice to your active PERS-State employees, please send an email to: NJBOT.elect@treas.nj.gov

Thank you for your prompt assistance and cooperation.

Attachment: Election Notice

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE PUBLIC EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM (PERS)
NEW JERSEY DIVISION OF PENSIONS & BENEFITS – NOTICE OF PERS ELECTION**
One State Street Square - 50 West State Street - P.O. BOX 295 - Trenton, N.J., 08625-0295
or NJBOT.Nomination@treas.nj.gov

Nominations are being accepted to fill the position of one elected **State** representative to the PERS Board of Trustees for the term from July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2024. If you wish to declare your interest in running for this position, please send a written request by December 4, 2020, to the PERS Board Secretary at NJBOT.Nomination@treas.nj.gov or P.O. Box 295, Trenton, N.J., 08625-0295.

The Board of Trustees has the general responsibility for the operation of the PERS under N.J.S.A. 43:15A-17. The Board meets monthly at the New Jersey Division of Pensions & Benefits (NJDPB) in Trenton. The statute provides that no employee shall suffer loss of salary or wages because of serving on the Board. A member who wishes to be a candidate for this position must be an active or retired State member of the PERS and must receive at least **500** active PERS-State employee nominations.

Only active PERS-State employees may nominate a candidate for **State** representative. Instructions for the nominating process are available upon receipt of a written request to the Secretary of the PERS Board of Trustees. After candidates have declared their interest in becoming a **State** representative to the PERS Board of Trustees, nominations to support a candidate are made primarily through a secure website. The process is very easy and only takes a few minutes.

- For **State** nominations, log on to: <https://vote.election-america.com/PERS-State>
- You need to provide the last 4 digits of your Social Security number, the first 4 letters of your last name, and your birthdate. You will then see a list of all the candidates and you can make your choice.
- Paper nominating petitions are also available upon request to the PERS Board Office at the address above, or for further information, please visit NJDPB website www.nj.gov/treasury/pensions/board-meetings.shtml

Nominations must be received online or arrive in the Board Office on or before 4:00 p.m. Friday, January 4, 2021. If more than one candidate receives **500** or more nominations, an election will be required. Election ballots will be mailed to PERS-State employers for distribution on or about March 29, 2021.

PRESENT MEMBERS – TERM

State Representatives: Thomas Bruno – 2022; Carey Brown – 2021; William O'Brien – 2023;
County Representative: Tracy Smith – 2023; **Municipal Representatives:** Vacant; Benjamin "Max" Hurst – 2022; **Gubernatorial Appointments:** Ronald Winthers, One vacant; **State Treasurer's Representative:** Susanne Culliton, Ex-Officio Member

PERS BOARD RESPONSIBILITIES

- Render decisions regarding Disability Retirement cases.
- Review appeals pertaining to the denial of certain pension benefits.
- Adopt rules and regulations to provide for the payment of benefits and collection of monies as required by statute.
- Establish rules and regulations within the limitations of statutes and opinions of the Courts and the Attorney General, designed to prevent injustices and inequities that may arise in the operation of the Retirement System.
- Resolve individual questions and appeals on the merits of each case in terms of statutes, opinions of the Attorney General, advice of the Actuary and cases cited by counsel as deliberated by the Courts.
- View monthly and annual reports setting forth data such as assets and liabilities, income and disbursements, and statistical summarization of membership as documented by the Actuary.