



The following information was recently provided to NYSTRS' participating employers. As a Retirement System delegate, it is important you are aware of these issues.

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Estimated Employer Contribution Rate
For the 2015-16 Payroll

In an effort to assist you with 2015-16 budget preparations, we recommend you use an estimated employer contribution rate (ECR) of 13.26% for 2015-16 payroll. This projected rate is consistent with Administrative Bulletin 2014-9, issued in November 2014, in which we estimated a rate of between 13.00% and 13.50%.

Although the funds associated with this ECR will not be collected until fall 2016, we send this alert well in advance to assist with your planning. The Retirement Board will adopt the 2015-16 ECR at its July meeting and an Administrative Bulletin formalizing this rate will be issued soon thereafter.

As previously noted (see Administrative Bulletin 2014-7), the ECR applicable to your 2014-15 payroll will be 17.53%. These funds will be collected in the fall of 2015 and correspond to NYSTRS member salaries for the 2014-15 school year.

The lower 2015-16 ECR is primarily due to favorable investment returns over the last several years. However, this does not mean rates will continue to decrease in the future. ECRs are dependent upon many variables, such as future investment performance and member demographic experience.

For those employers who have elected to participate in the Stable Contribution Option (SCO), it is anticipated the SCO rate will remain at 14.0% plus the group life insurance rate, or 14.13%. Final determination of the SCO rate will be made by the Retirement Board at its July Board meeting.

The ECR and the SCO rate are adopted each July, but the contributions associated with these particular rates are not collected for another 14-16 months. Except for those employers required to pay directly, payments are deducted annually from State Aid apportioned in September, October and November.

If you have any additional questions, please call John Cardillo, Manager of Public Information, at (518) 447-4743.

History of the Employer Contribution Rate (ECR)

Table with 2 columns: Salary Year and ECR. Rows range from 1980-81 to 2014-15.

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