Compensation Limit for Benefit Calculation

Section 401(a)(17) of the Internal Revenue Code limits the amount of annual compensation that can be used in computing benefits for System members who joined NYSTRS on or after July 1, 1996. The limit for the 2009-10 school year is $245,000, an increase from 2008-09 when it was $230,000.

To help avoid unnecessary adjustments later, we ask you to notify us now of any NYSTRS member who meets both of the following criteria:

• Date of membership on or after July 1, 1996; and,
• Annual base pay rate and/or salary earned expected to exceed $245,000 for the 2009-10 school year.

Please call Mary Bodenstab at (800) 356-3128, Ext. 2857 with notifications or if you have any questions on this topic. Please note that these members should continue to be reported to NYSTRS as part of your monthly reports.

We will continue to notify you as the IRS adjusts future limits according to increases in the cost-of-living index.