



**January 2024**

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## **Important Update to NYSTRS Disability Retirement Eligibility Requirements**

Effective July 1, 2024, if a member is receiving workers' compensation or long-term disability payments through a private or third-party administrator, the member may file a disability retirement application with NYSTRS *no later than* 12 months after the last date the member was on regular payroll with a participating employer.

If you have any members who have been off your regular payroll for longer than 12 months, are being paid workers' compensation or long-term disability through a private or third-party administrator, and are seeking a disability retirement benefit from NYSTRS, please note that these members **must** apply for disability retirement with NYSTRS prior to July 1, 2024.

Please fax NYSTRS' Disability Unit a list of members who are currently being paid worker's compensation or long-term disability through a private or third-party administrator. The fax number is (518) 431-8797. NYSTRS will send a letter to each member listed informing them of the need to apply for disability retirement within 12 months of leaving regular employer payroll (or by July 1, 2024, whichever is later).

For questions regarding this process change, or NYSTRS disability retirement benefits, please contact NYSTRS at (800) 348-7298, Ext. 6010.

## **Update 2023 Earnings After Retirement by March 31**

All retiree earnings should be reported to NYSTRS either through regular payroll or using the Earnings After Retirement (EAR) feature in the [Employer Secure Area](#) (ESA). This reporting is still required despite the executive orders suspending the state cap on earnings after retirement for New York State public retirees during the pandemic.

Earnings after retirement for the 2023 calendar year (Jan. 1 – Dec. 31) must be updated in ESA **no later than March 31, 2024.**

### **When to Report EAR Through Regular Payroll:**

Payments made to NYSTRS retirees through **regular payroll** must be included on your monthly report under NYSTRS Pay Type N: MTD Post-Retirement Pay and **should not be reported through the Earnings After Retirement section of ESA.** If you have not been reporting these payments correctly, please notify your employer reporting contact.

### **When to Report EAR Through ESA:**

Please use the EAR feature in ESA to enter, edit and certify earnings for NYSTRS **retirees** working in your district and receiving compensation **from a source other than your district payroll**. This includes retirees paid:

- as consultants (whether or not a 1099-MISC was issued).
- by voucher.
- through accounts payable.
- from other New York State funds, such as grants.
- through a business entity (i.e., LLC, S-Corp, Partnership, etc.).
- through a third-party vendor.

For additional information, please refer to [Section 20: Earnings After Retirement](#) of our [Employer Manual](#). If you require assistance, please call our Retiree Services Unit at (800) 348-7298, Ext. 6150.

### **Deceased Member Notification Page and Report**

The Deceased Member Notification page was added to ESA in 2019 to make it easier for employers to notify NYSTRS of the death of an employee or former employee. Under Membership > Deceased Member Notification, just enter the SSN and the first three letters of the member/retiree's first name and the date of death. Once submitted you will be presented with the corresponding member's name. Timely notification helps us to properly process any benefits due to the beneficiaries.

Also available in ESA is a report to aid employers in the notification of a deceased member or retiree. Under District Reports > Deceased Member Report, we display any deceased members/retirees who appeared on one of your monthly reports in their last year of working. These members will stay on the list for a period of 24 months after the date of death.