



Moratorium on late fees remains in effect

TRS would like to inform you that we will not be assessing report late fees at this time to give reporting entities (REs) and TRS more time to resolve any continuing issues or unresolved reporting problems. We will provide a notification to alert you before TRS begins assessing report late fees.

Submit TEXNET deposits into correct contribution

A friendly reminder to be very careful when submitting your TEXNET deposits; please ensure that you are depositing the correct amount into the account for the correct contribution type. While an RE contact is able to transfer between certain contribution types (as long as the transfer is allowed per our [Limits on Transfers and Refunds](#) document), some transfers are not allowed at all or require special TRS intervention.

We continue to frequently see errors with the TRS-ActiveCare deposit being put into the incorrect account, such as RE TRS-Care. To ensure your TRS-ActiveCare premiums are credited correctly as paid on time, please submit the TEXNET deposit into the TRS-ActiveCare account rather than another contribution account.

TRS contact number update

In order to provide a more efficient use of TRS services, TRS has disconnected the local TRS number, which is (512) 542-6400. All other local direct line phone numbers are still available to callers. To receive the quickest service possible, please use the number below that best applies to the nature of your inquiry or request:

Member Services (for member benefit questions): 1-800-223-8778

Health Benefit Services (for general TRS-Care questions): 1-888-237-6762

RE Reporting (for RE contacts only): 1-800-433-5734

TRS Board adopts final 403(b) program rules

In October 2017, the TRS Board of Trustees adopted final amended, new and repealed 403(b) certification and registration program rules. The rule changes went into effect on Dec. 12, 2017, except for the amended maximum fees, costs and penalties, which will go into effect in the fall of 2019. A [summary](#) of the rule amendments can be found on the [403\(b\) page](#) of the TRS website.

From September 2016 to October 2017, TRS engaged in a review of the rules governing the 403(b) program, including the maximum fees, costs and penalties that certified companies may charge for their products. TRS reviewed the rules as part of the statutory requirement that it review each of its rules at least once every four years.

As a result of the rule changes, there is the potential that some companies may choose not to continue their certification with TRS. Public school districts and open-enrollment charter schools are reminded that the list of companies certified by TRS to receive contributions via 403(b) salary reduction agreements is subject to change. Although many school districts and open-enrollment charter schools contract with third-party administrators to

manage their 403(b) plans, responsibility for compliance with certification requirements remains with the 403(b) plan sponsor (school districts and open-enrollment charter schools).

A [list](#) of all companies currently certified by TRS to receive 403(b) contributions and a [history](#) of all changes to the list of 403(b) certified companies, including those companies whose certifications have expired, can be found on the [403\(b\) page](#) of the TRS website.

Questions about the list of 403(b) certified companies may be addressed to 403b@trs.texas.gov or 512-542-6856.