



LOOKING FORWARD... TO THOSE GOLDEN YEARS

Ensuring Tomorrow's Benefits through Prudent Management

Summer 2013

Congratulations and Thank you

Maria De Anda



Three Seats (two general and one safety) on the Board of Retirement are filled by elected active employees from all StanCERA covered agencies. Each elected Board member serves a three year term. The terms are staggered to allow for continued operations. The nomination announcement for Seat # 2 was mailed to all active employees in May. Maria DeAnda ran unopposed and will serve three more years.

Maria De Anda has been an employee elected representative to the Stanislaus County Board of Retirement since 1999 and employed with the County for over 28 years. Ms. De Anda currently works for the Community Services Agency (CSA) where she first started. Maria has also worked for the Department of Employment and Training. Her current position is that of Manager IV at CSA.

Since becoming employed with the County Ms. De Anda has had several roles in addition to that of employee and StanCERA trustee. She has also served as Union Job Steward and Officer, and on the Boards of The Stanislaus Literacy Center and We Care Homeless Shelter. Maria De Anda's commitment to public service is strong and she is dedicated to serving the needs of her fellow employees, as well as the community.

Ms. De Anda is a life-long resident of Stanislaus County. She attended Stanislaus State University where she obtained a degree in Political Science/Public Administration and studied economics. Ms. De Anda shared with us that she loves to read and dabble at art, and takes an (almost) weekly two-hour vacation at the local movie theatres.

Rate Increase

Both active employees and employer contributions rates are set to increase on the first full pay period of the new Fiscal Year (FY). StanCERA's fiscal year end is June 30. Most employees will see this change on the August 7, 2013 pay date, some sooner depending upon your pay schedule. To determine the change in your retirement contribution visit

<http://www.stancera.org/calculators/ECRA>.

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Published quarterly for members
of the Stanislaus County
Employees' Retirement Association

Member Statements



Twice a year in January and July, StanCERA Member Statements are mailed to all non-retired members. The Member Statement will include your Refundable Contribution total and the beneficiary information currently on file. If you are an active employee planning a move, remember to provide your new address to your employer. Much of the information listed on the StanCERA Member statement is provided by the employer, except your beneficiary(s) information, this must be provided directly to StanCERA.

Social Security Modification



The Social Security (S.S.) Modification is known as a level income option that members may choose when they retire. If you plan to retire before age 62, you may consider the social security modification option. The SS modification allows you to increase your retirement allowance until you reach age 62. Beginning at age 62, your StanCERA retirement allowance is reduced; however you will be eligible to apply for Social Security benefits. The combined benefits (StanCERA +SS) will equate to the income you were previously receiving only from StanCERA.

This Option does not alter any monthly allowance payments to your designated beneficiary. Your beneficiary will receive the same monthly allowance whether or not you choose this modification.

This option is not available to members who receive a disability retirement benefit.

Remember that your Social Security Benefits are in addition to and totally separate from your StanCERA retirement benefits. Members will need to contact the Social Security Administration to apply for any SS benefit they may receive.

Retirement Planning Seminar for Career Planning



Planning for your future is important, but sometimes it's hard to know where or when to start. Here at StanCERA, we encourage all members to attend a Retirement Seminar to obtain information regarding retirement benefits and options.

You will learn what you need to know to prepare for retirement, when you become eligible for retirement, what to expect after retirement, the benefits of StanCERA membership, what your options are if you leave employment, reciprocal retirement agency benefits, service purchases, re-deposits and more.

Where

832 12th Street 6th Floor

When

Friday, October 11, 2013

Time

9:00 am - 10:00am

How

Contact StanCERA @ (209) 525-6393 to register or
e-mail : retirement@StanCERA.org

Seats are limited, so don't procrastinate in making your reservation. If there is a great enough response, this may be something that will be held on a quarterly basis.



The Public Records Act Request (PRA)

The PRA is designed to give the public access to information in possession of public agencies. Records include all communications related to public business "regardless of physical form or characteristics". All state and local agencies are included. An agency has 10 days to reply.

In 2007 the California Supreme Court ruled that government employee salaries including employee names are public records and must be disclosed under the PRA. In the summer of 2009 StanCERA received five separate requests for names and pension information. Originally the Retirement Board voted to deny the requests. On November 2, 2009 Stanislaus County Superior Court Judge Hurl Johnson ruled that the pensions paid to retirees in the StanCERA system are public information and compelled StanCERA to reply to all public record requests.

Since then, StanCERA has received multiple requests for information. While each one is unique, most do not include member information. StanCERA continues to comply to all requests as required by the Public Records Act and the 2007 Superior Court ruling. As a courtesy, StanCERA will make every effort to notify members whenever similar such information is released.



Count the Comma's - \$1,550,071,870

A million, a billion, count the commas. It was on May 17, 2001 when StanCERA first reached the billion (B) dollar mark. It dipped a bit during the next few months then steadily rose. \$1.1B, \$1.2B, \$1.3B and topped out at a \$1,473,170,348 in September 2007. Then by March 2009, the fund had dropped to under a million, \$914,242,174. A collective gasp was heard by all! Your StanCERA pension is funded by employee and employer contributions, and most importantly, investment returns. It took 53 years for StanCERA to reach the 1st Billion and less than 12 years, including major down years, to reach a new high of \$1,550,071,870. Count the commas, the new high of \$1.5 Billion is proof that through prudent management the StanCERA Board of Retirement continues to keep your vested benefits secure.

For more information visit www.StanCERA.org

* All figures are derived from the Quarterly Financial report

Returns for Period Ending March 31, 2013			
StanCERA RETURNS	Fiscal YTD	3 Year	5 Year
Total Fund	14.2%	9.7%	6.2%
Domestic Equity	20.5%	13.8%	6.4%
International Equity	19.3%	6.0%	0.7%
Fixed Income	4.1%	6.5%	7.6%
Total Assets \$1,550,071,870			
Indices	Fiscal YTD	3 Year	5 Year
Policy Index	11.8%	9.1%	5.1%
Russell 3000 Index	18.3%	13.0%	6.3%
MSCI ACWI - ex US Index	17.5%	4.9%	0.1%
Barclays Aggregate Index	1.7%	5.5%	5.5%

"The composite fund returned 6.2% in the first quarter of 2013 and ranked in the 13th percentile among other public funds (5.0% median). The fund beat its policy index (5.3%) during this time period and is on track for a positive fiscal year end. "



Looking Forward ...
To those Golden
Years

Stanislaus County Employees'
Retirement Association - StanCERA

832 12th Street, Suite 600
Modesto, CA 95354

Board of Retirement

Gordon B. Ford - Vice Chair
Maria De Anda
Donna Riley
Mike Lynch
Jim DeMartini
Darin Gharat - Chair
Michael O'Neal
Joan Clendenin - Alt. Retiree Rep.
Jeff Grover

Executive Director

Rick Santos

Retirement Questions:

StanCERA
P (209) 525-6393
F (209) 558-4976
website: www.stancera.org
E-mail: retirement@stancera.org

Retiree Health Insurance*

RESCO Insurance Hotline
P (209) 566-1186

Board of Retirement Meetings are held the second Wednesday and the fourth Tuesday of each month (with some exceptions), located at 832 12th Street, Modesto 6th Floor in the Wesley W. Hall Board Room at 2:00 p.m.

The StanCERA newsletter is intended as a source of information, not a legal document or a substitute for the law. If differences appear between the law and the newsletter, the law will prevail.

**StanCERA and RESCO are two separate organizations. StanCERA does not administer Retiree Health Insurance.*

Board of Retirement Meeting Schedule*

(No Mtg.)	04/10/13	(No Mtg.)	10/09/13
01/22/13	04/23/13	07/23/13	10/22/13
02/13/13	(No Mtg.)	08/14/13	(No Mtg.)
02/26/13	05/28/13	08/27/13	11/26/13
03/13/13	06/12/13	09/11/13	12/11/13
03/26/13	06/25/13	09/24/13	(No Mtg.)

*To View Board actions, please visit our website at www.stancera.org under Agenda and Minutes.

Retiree Payroll Dates

01/02/13	04/01/13	07/01/13	10/01/13
02/01/13	05/01/13	08/01/13	11/01/13
03/01/13	06/03/13	09/02/13	12/02/13

StanCERA Office Closures

09/02/13	11/11/13	11/28/13	11/29/13
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Stanislaus County Employees'
Retirement Association
P O Box 3150
Modesto CA 95353-3150

