




Friendly reminders

- This presentation contains general information to be used as a guide during the webinar. For more information, please visit www.TRSL.org
- All participants are muted.
 - Have a question? Type your question in the **Q&A Box**.
 - We will answer questions during the webinar and at Q&A periods.
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If you have specific questions about your retirement, please contact us at AskTRSL.org

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2025 Legislative Session

Convened: April 14– Adjourned: June 12

- TRSL monitored several pieces of legislation this session that impacted the retirement system and/or its members.
- Overall, several pieces of legislation impacting TRSL received final legislative passage. Here's a look at what they do.


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Return to Work (RTW)

No changes were made to RTW provisions

Senate Study Request 1 (Sen. Price)


Asks the Senate retirement committee to study TRSL retiree reemployment, current RTW laws and potential changes that balance retiree options, employer needs and the actuarial soundness of the retirement system.

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Optional Retirement Plan (ORP)

Act 47 - formerly House Bill 24 (Rep. Bacala)

- Expands ORP eligibility to technical college staff beginning **July 1, 2025**.
- Extends the window for certain ORP participants to switch back to the TRSL defined benefit plan to **seven years**.
- Creates a window for certain ORP participants to become a member of the TRSL regular retirement plan should they return to employment in a TRSL-eligible position.
- Creates a 9-member ORP advisory committee with representation from each of the state's four higher education systems (LSU, SU, UL, and LCTCS), as well as one ORP participant not employed in higher education.
- Adds the Commissioner of Higher Education or designee as an ex officio member on the TRSL Board of Trustees.
- Allows individuals who are at least **age 60** at first TRSL-eligible employment or at least **age 55 with 40 quarters in Social Security** to opt out of membership in the TRSL defined benefit plan.


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New ORP windows



If you were first eligible for ORP on/after August 1, 2020


You now have a seven-year window to make the election to leave the ORP and join the TRSL defined benefit plan by submitting the required paperwork to TRSL. *The deadline for TRSL to receive your election request begins on your first ORP eligibility date and closes after seven years.*



If you were first eligible for ORP before August 1, 2020, but were not active and contributing to the ORP as of June 2024

The deadline for TRSL to receive your election request is based on when your first employment occurring on/after July 1, 2024 in a position eligible for TRSL began:

- If your first employment began **between** July 1, 2024 - July 3, 2025: Your deadline is **September 2, 2025**.
- If your first employment began **on/after** July 4, 2025: Your deadline is **60 calendar days** from the date **that** eligible employment occurred.

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Frequently Asked Questions

How can I elect to make this change?

Use the Election to Join TRSL after ORP Participation (Form 2TR), which is available on the TRSL website, www.TRSL.org.

If I join TRSL, when will I be eligible to receive a retirement benefit?

You can receive a retirement benefit at age 62 with at least 5 years of service, or at any age with at least 20 years of service (actuarially reduced).

Can I refund my ORP contributions and use them to purchase service credit in the TRSL defined benefit plan? Alternatively, can I roll my ORP account into TRSL?

No. State law does not permit this.



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Have questions about ORP changes?

Visit www.trsl.org/orp

- Fact sheets
- Eligibility windows
- A comparison of TRSL vs. ORP
- Calculator



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Citizenship/immigration verification

Act 351 – formerly House Bill 307 (*Rep. Henry*)

- Requires state agencies or political subdivisions to (1) verify citizenship or immigration status when an applicant applies for federal, state, or local public benefits, including retirement benefits; and (2) report to U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) and terminate any recurring benefits if unable to verify citizenship or legal immigration status.

NOTE: For purposes of any benefits paid by any public retirement system, fund, or plan, the verification of a public employee's U.S. citizenship or satisfactory immigration status at the time of their enrollment in a public retirement system will satisfy the verification requirements.



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Additional UAL Payment

Act 222 – formerly HB 473 (Rep. Emerson)

- Makes a one-time payment to the UAL as a means to fund teacher pay raises by applying the balance in three constitutionally protected education trust funds to erase a portion of the UAL, which is retirement debt owed to TRSL.
- The additional payment would pay off TRSL's two oldest debt schedules, thereby reducing the employer contribution rate.
- The Minimum Foundation Program (MFP) formula will include funds for the same permanent salary increases for public K-12 employees who do not participate in TRSL.
- Voters to decide on constitutional amendment in statewide election on April 18, 2026.



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Teacher Salaries

Act 366 – formerly House Bill 466 (Rep. Carlson) – companion bill to Act 222

- Directs the savings realized from the reduced employer contribution rate to make permanent salary increases for teachers (**\$2,250**) and school personnel (**\$1,125**) beginning in the **2026-27 school year**, subject to enactment and passage of constitutional amendment.
- Establishes specific purposes for which school systems must use any realized savings that exceed what is needed to fund the pay increases.
- The teacher salary increase portion of Act 366 will only become effective if the constitutional amendment proposed in Act 222 is adopted through statewide election.



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House Resolution

Task Force to Consider Postsecondary Retirement Issues

House Resolution 143 (Rep. Bacala)

- Establishes a task force to study a phased retirement program for Louisiana's public postsecondary education institutions as well as certain ORP-related issues.
- The task force is expected to submit a report of its findings and recommendations for related legislation to the House Retirement Committee by December 31.



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Your online connection to TRSL

Active members

- Update name & mailing/email address
- Estimate future benefit with online calculators
- View annual statements
- Apply for retirement/DROP

Retired members

- View DROP account
- View beneficiary(ies)
- Print income verification letter
- Request SS verification letter
- Estimate withholdings

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