# News Notes Retiree Annual Statement

Office of the New York State Comptroller Thomas P. DiNapoli



New York State and Local Retirement System

#### **Important Information for Your Survivors**

Your survivors should know how to report your passing to us. This is important because your beneficiaries may be entitled to receive death or survivor benefits.

Your survivors can report your death by using our online form, by phone or by mail. We will, however, need an original, certified death certificate before any death benefits can be processed or paid.

**Online:** Your survivors can submit a form online and provide a phone number in case we need to call for additional information. They can also upload a photocopy of your death certificate so NYSLRS can begin identifying any payable benefits. For more information and the link to the online death report form, go to www.contactNYSLRS.com.

**Call:** 866-805-0990 during regular business hours, then press "3" and then "1." Your survivors will be asked for your NYSLRS ID, retirement or registration number (or Social Security number if they don't have these account numbers) and the date of death. They may also be asked for the address and phone numbers of immediate family members who may be beneficiaries.

**Mail:** Survivors can also mail NYSLRS a letter to report a death, but whether a death is reported online, by phone or by mail, an original, certified death certificate (including contact information) should be mailed to:

NYSLRS Attn: Survivor Services 110 State Street Albany, NY 12244

They may wish to send the death certificate by certified mail, return receipt requested.

It is important that you periodically review your beneficiary designations to make sure that the contact information we have on file for them is up to date. Please visit our website at <a href="https://www.osc.state.ny.us/retirement/retirees/death-benefits">www.osc.state.ny.us/retirement/retirees/death-benefits</a> for information about death benefits for NYSLRS retirees, including how to review and update your beneficiary designations if needed.



### Are You Using Retirement Online?

We hope you have signed up for Retirement Online. Retirement Online is secure, and it's the fastest way to view your pension information and do business with NYSLRS. We continue to upgrade and improve Retirement Online, so be on the lookout for more new functions coming later this year. To register or sign in, visit our website at web. osc.state.ny.us/retire/sign-in.php.

#### With Retirement Online

#### You Can:

- Create an income verification letter
- View and update your contact information
- View your pension payment option selection
- Change your death benefit beneficiary
- Check your pension benefit deductions

#### **Coming Later this Year:**

- Change your federal tax withholding
- ✓ Update and sign up for direct deposit
- View and print your 1099-R tax form







## 2022 Pension Payment Calendar

Your monthly pension payments are mailed or electronically deposited at the end of the month. (The payment at the end of January is your January payment.)

- **Direct deposit** *payment* **date.** Direct deposit enrollees receive pension payments in their accounts on the last business day of each month. This is the fastest way to receive your payments.
- **Date pension checks are mailed.** Pension checks are mailed on the second-to-last business day of each month. You will usually receive your check within a few business days. Contact us if you have not received it by the eighth of the next month.

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To ensure your payments always arrive on time, consider direct deposit — the safe, hassle-free way to receive your monthly benefit. Tip: You can also view the most up-to-date pension payment calendar online on our website anytime at <a href="www.osc.state.ny.us/retirement/retirees/pension-payment-calendar">www.osc.state.ny.us/retirement/retirees/pension-payment-calendar</a>.

### **\*\***NYSLRS **INFORMATION YOUR WAY**

#### **SIGN IN**



to Retirement Online: bit.ly/R0-sign-in

#### **GET ANSWERS**



to common questions: www.contactNYSLRS.com

#### **EMAIL US**



use our secure contact form: www.emailNYSLRS.com

#### **CALL US**



toll-free: **866-805-0990** Albany, NY area: **518-474-7736** 

#### **Investing in a Sustainable Future**

In 2021, Comptroller Thomas P. DiNapoli, the trustee of the Common Retirement Fund, announced the best return rate in the Fund's 100-year history, a 33 percent return. The Fund ended the fiscal year on March 31, 2021 with a record balance of \$258.1 billion.

Comptroller DiNapoli and his investment staff have worked hard to ensure solid returns for the Fund. But they are also working to address one of the Fund's biggest challenges: investing in the opportunities and mitigating the risks that climate change poses to its long-term value.

Around the world, we are seeing the impact of record temperatures, floods, rising sea levels, droughts and wildfires, but climate change is not just an environmental issue. It poses significant risks to the global economy and the Fund's investments.

Fortunately, since Comptroller DiNapoli released his Climate Action Plan in 2019, he has taken a number of steps to reduce climate risk in the Fund's portfolio, while at the same time taking advantage of sustainable investment opportunities. During 2021, the Comptroller:

- Set a goal to transition the Fund's portfolio to net zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2040.
- Divested from oil sands and coal producers that did not have viable plans to adapt to the low-carbon future.
- Initiated a review of 42 shale oil and gas companies to determine if they are prepared for the transition to a low-carbon economy.
- Finalized agreements with seven major U.S. companies, including Domino's Pizza, to reduce their greenhouse gas emissions, adopt new energy efficiency measures and increase their use of renewable energy.

The Fund invests in clean energy, green buildings and sustainable index funds. In April 2021, the Comptroller invested approximately \$400 million from the State pension fund into two renewable energy funds, and in December committed \$2 billion to a new climate index focused on reducing the risks and capitalizing on the opportunities arising from the transition to a low-carbon economy. This is part of the \$20 billion the Comptroller has committed to sustainable investments, as part of his Climate Action Plan. These investments will directly address climate change and strengthen the Fund's portfolio for the long term.

### Health Insurance Questions?

While NYSLRS may deduct health insurance premiums from your pension payments if your former employer tells us to, we do not administer health insurance programs.

If you have questions about your coverage or why a health insurance deduction amount may have changed, and you retired from a public employer other than New York State (a county, city, town, village, or school district), your former employer should be able to help you.

If you retired from a New York State agency, the New York State Department of Civil Service administers your health benefits. Civil Service also administers Medicare premium reimbursements for eligible New York State Health Insurance Program (NYSHIP) enrollees. If you have questions, you can either email the New York State Department of Civil Service at pio@cs.ny.gov, or call them at 1-800-833-4344 or 518-457-5754. More information is available on their website at <a href="https://www.cs.ny.gov/home/contact.cfm">www.cs.ny.gov/home/contact.cfm</a>.

# Questions About Your Statement? Our online Retiree Annual Statement Guide explains items found

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#### **Use Retirement Online to Do Business with NYSLRS**

It's important that your contact information is correct so that you can receive updates from NYSLRS. Instead of sending forms by mail, sign in to *Retirement Online* at <a href="web.osc.state.ny.us/retire/sign-in.php">web.osc.state.ny.us/retire/sign-in.php</a> to review your contact information and update it if needed. You can also generate an income verification letter, review and update your beneficiary information and view a breakdown of your pension payment. Look for more features coming later this year.

#### **Do You Need to Update Your Contact Information?**

The address your statement was mailed to reflects the information we had on file as of December 31, 2021. If you need to update your contact information, you can do it:

**Online:** Register for *Retirement Online* or sign in at <a href="web.osc.state.ny.us/retire/sign-in.php">web.osc.state.ny.us/retire/sign-in.php</a>. Find your contact information under *My Profile Information* and click "update." (This is the quickest way to update your information.)

**By phone:** For street addresses within the United States, call 866-805-0990 toll-free (518-474-7736 in the Albany, New York area).

**By email:** For street addresses within the United States, complete our secure contact form at <a href="https://www.emailNYSLRS.com">www.emailNYSLRS.com</a>. Be sure to fill out the entire form, and provide both your old and new addresses.

**By mail:** Retirees, particularly those with international addresses or PO boxes, can submit the form below. Mail it to NYSLRS, Pension Services, 110 State Street, Albany, NY 12244-0001.

If you need to update your contact information by mail, be sure to sign and date the form below before mailing — it cannot be processed without your signature.

Retirement Number	Social Security Number	Date of Birth
(Shown on Retirement ID Card on Statement)	Last 4 Digits	Month Day Year
OR		
Last Name		First Name M.I.
New Address Information: Street Address 1		
Street Address 2		
City		State ZIP Code
Daytime Telephone Number		
Email Address		
Signature		Date
		Month Day Year

If you hold Power of Attorney on behalf of a retiree, please attach a copy of the document. NYSLRS offers a special durable power of attorney form that meets New York State legal requirements, at <a href="https://www.osc.state.ny.us/files/retirement/forms/pdf/poa.pdf">www.osc.state.ny.us/files/retirement/forms/pdf/poa.pdf</a>. Once your form is reviewed and approved, we will update the retiree's address.



