



## About

Since 1947, the Public Employees Retirement Association (PERA) has been a source of reliable retirement security for New Mexico's public employees. PERA is a 401a qualified government plan, which means that you have a known retirement income.

Because PERA is a defined benefit plan, you have life-long monthly benefits after retirement once you meet certain age and service credit eligibility requirements, regardless of the amount of member contributions paid into the plan.

## Tiers

You are in **TIER 1** if you:

- were hired for the first time on or before June 30, 2013; and
- had member contributions on account as of June 30, 2013; or
- were retired as of June 30, 2013.

5 years vested means guaranteed retirement pension for life at retirement.

You are in **TIER 2** if you:

- were hired for the first time on or after July 1, 2013; or
- refunded your employee contributions on or before June 30, 2013, and returned to work for a PERA affiliate on or after July 1, 2013.

8 years vested means guaranteed retirement pension for life at retirement.

For public safety members, you must reach 6 years to be vested.

## PERA SmartSave Deferred Compensation Plan

PERA offers a supplemental 457b retirement plan known as the PERA SmartSave Deferred Compensation Plan. It is a voluntary program that's intended to complement the mandated PERA retirement plan.

Here are a few reasons to enroll in the Plan:

- Contributions and any earnings have the opportunity to grow tax deferred
- Variety of investment choices
- Account assets can be used to purchase PERA and ERA service credit on a pre-tax basis
- A loan provision and unforeseeable emergency assistance
- Penalty-free withdrawals once you stop working for your PERA employer

For more information visit [www.nmpera.org](http://www.nmpera.org) or at (505) 476-9300

## Facts

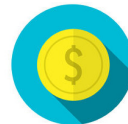


PERA provides **benefits** to over 40,000 retirees, beneficiaries, and co-payees.

PERA is governed by a 12-member Board of Trustees. The PERA Board is comprised of state, municipal and county employees, retirees, the Secretary of State, and the State Treasurer. The PERA Board oversees the **Trust Fund** from which retirement benefits are paid and agency operations are funded.



PERA has over 30 coverage plans, a **cost-of-living adjustment**, and a disability retirement plan.



Member contributions will **always** belong to the member and their account will accrue interest every June 30th at a rate set by the PERA Board of Trustees.



You cannot earn more than 12 months of **service credit** in a calendar year. Service credit is awarded for any calendar month when you begin employment on or before the 16th of the month or terminate employment on or after the 15th of the month. For each month that you are employed, you must be reported to PERA as having earned no less than half of your normal salary as a full-time employee.



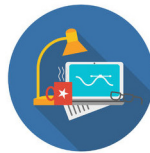
PERA members are provided the opportunity to **purchase** service credit. The most-frequently purchased service credit types are Withdrawn or Forfeited, non-intervening Military, and Air Time.

## Mission Statement

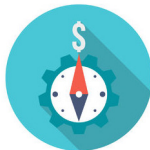
# PERA Resources



The PERA Member Handbook contains all the information you need to help guide you as a member. You can download the handbook on PERA's website at [www.nmpera.org](http://www.nmpera.org).



You have the ability to view your personal account information 24/7 by using PERA's Retirement Information Online (RIO) Self Service website. When in RIO, you can view your service credit, contributions plus interest, beneficiary and address information. You can access RIO on PERA's website at [www.nmpera.org](http://www.nmpera.org) by clicking on the yellow button at the top of the home page.



PERA has a location in Santa Fe and in Albuquerque. PERA offers general informational seminars at both locations once a month. Pre-registration is strongly recommended. No appointment is necessary to visit a PERA location to speak with a PERA representative.

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PERA Albuquerque: 2500 Louisiana Blvd. NE, Suite 400 | Albuquerque, NM 87110 | 505-383-6550 Voice | 505-883-4573 Fax  
Toll Free 1-800-342-3422 | [www.nmpera.org](http://www.nmpera.org) | [pera-memberservices@state.nm.us](mailto:pera-memberservices@state.nm.us)

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