

## Information for Retirees

### What's My Minimum Core Annuity (Core "Floor") Amount?

A Wisconsin Retirement System (WRS) Core Annuity is guaranteed by law to never be reduced to an amount below the original Core "floor" amount established at retirement. If you do not know what your Core annuity floor is, then locate any annuity payment statement you received from the Department of Employee Trust Funds (ETF) since last April. Look in the "Required Contributions" section of the statement and find the phrase, "Regular Core"—that dollar figure is your Core floor, your minimum guaranteed amount. If you participate in the Variable Fund, that portion of your payment will be shown as well, but it is not included in your minimum guaranteed amount.

### Some Monthly Annuity Payment Dates Affected by Calendar

When the first day of the month falls on either a weekend or a holiday, financial institutions may not make monthly annuity payments available until the "settlement date". This is the date a financial institution actually receives the money from the Federal Reserve. This year, payments for January, June, September and December may be affected because the first of the month falls on a weekend or holiday. If your payment is an automated deposit, ask your financial institution how it handles deposits for payments that are dated on non-business days. If your payment is a paper check: The checks are taken to the post office on the last mailing day of the month. Your actual receipt date will depend on the speed of the mail delivery.

### New Responsibilities for Rehired Annuitants, Employers

Are you retired and going back to work for a WRS employer? Your employer is required to submit to ETF a *Rehired Annuitant Form* (ET-2319). This requirement applies to all re-hired annuitants who receive compensation and all positions, regardless of whether the position is WRS eligible. This change was put in place to monitor compliance with state law requiring employees to have a minimum 30-day break in service; empha-

size the need for a valid, good-faith termination; and ensure the WRS meets federal Internal Revenue Code provisions and maintains its status as a qualified plan.

### Coming Soon: ETF Video on Preliminary Rates, Adjustments

Watch for the Department's newest video presenting 2012 investment results for the Core and Variable Trust Funds and subsequent projections for this year's effective rates and annuity adjustments. The program will also briefly explain the Core Fund investment return smoothing process and the effect of 2008's decline on the rates. <http://etf.wi.gov/webcasts.htm>.

## Rehired WRS Annuitants Audit Released

The Legislative Audit Bureau (LAB) has released its report on a planned audit of the practice of Wisconsin Retirement System (WRS) employers hiring retired WRS members. Among the findings:

- Most WRS annuitants employed by Wisconsin state agencies worked part-time for less than a year and were paid either the same hourly wage or a lower hourly wage than they had been paid before retiring.
- Local governments and school districts reported re-hiring annuitants for their skills and experience, and in most cases their hourly wages were lower than at the time of retirement.
- State laws allow individuals with good-faith terminations from employment to receive WRS annuities and return to work for employers participating in the WRS.

The audit report, which includes ETF's response letter, provides valuable information about rehired annuitants and offers a range of possible changes to policy and processes for rehiring annuitants. Look for the audit summary and the full report on LAB's website at <http://legis.wisconsin.gov/lab>.