#### Wisconsin Retirement System Return to Work After Retirement

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## **Returning to Work After you Retire**

- Employment not covered by WRS
  - No Effect on your WRS benefits
  - No Earnings limit

- WRS Employment
  - WRS requirements must be met to qualify for a retirement benefit
    - Good Faith Termination
    - Break in service
    - No Earnings limit

# **Good Faith Termination**

• The employee and employer shall act with good faith intent of ending the employee employer relationship

- As of termination date ...
  - no agreement with a WRS employer for future employment



# **Break in Service Requirement**

- Effective July 2, 2013
- There must be a 75-day break in service before a WRS retiree may return to WRS participating employment
- The new law applies to all participants that terminate on or after July 2, 2013



# **Rehired Annuitants**

- Terminated prior to July 2, 2013
- Earliest Return to WRS eligible Employment
- LATEST of the following dates:
  - The day after the annuity effective date
  - The 31st day after termination of all WRS employment
  - The 31st day after the date ETF receives the retirement application

- Terminated on or after July 2, 2013
- Earliest Return to WRS eligible
  employment
- LATEST of the following dates:
  - The day after the annuity effective date
  - The 76th day after termination of all WRS employment
  - The 76th day after the date ETF receives the retirement application

# Fail to meet the statutory break in service...

- Annuity will be cancelled
- Must repay any benefits received



## Terminated prior to July 2, 2013?

- If you work in a WRS eligible position you have two options:
  - Participate in WRS
    - Annuity stops
    - Employer pays into WRS
    - Eligible for benefits
  - Elect to not participate in WRS
    - Continue to receive annuity
    - No payments into WRS from employer
    - Not eligible for benefits

# Terminated on or after July 2, 2013?

- Work less than two-thirds of full-time in a WRS eligible position you have the option to participate in WRS or decline participation.
- Work two-thirds of full-time or more in a WRS eligible position the Rehired Annuitants Two-Thirds Provision applies.



### **Rehired Annuitants Two-Thirds Provision**

- Annuity is automatically suspended
- Annuitant is automatically reactivated as a participating employee
- What is two-thirds of full-time?
  - 1200 hours
  - 880 for teachers and educational support (Not including educational support staff for technical college and other educational institutions)

# Scenario 1...

- Retired June 1, 2013, receiving annuity. Plan to start work in a WRS eligible position August 15, 2014.
  - 30-day break in service met the 2/3 of full-time provision does not apply since termed prior to July 2, 2013. Has the option to participate or not participate in the WRS



# Scenario 2...

- Currently a Rehired Annuitant, termed prior to July 2, 2013, elected to not participate in WRS. Am I required to end my annuity and become a participant due to the new law?
- No. Termination date was prior to effective date of the law.



# Scenario 3...

- Currently a Rehired Annuitant, participating in WRS, terminated employment on July 24, 2013. Planning to work a new WRS eligible position in the fall.
- The 75-day break requirement and 2/3 of full-time provision apply, term date is after July 2, 2013.



# **Rehired Annuitant Form**

- When returning to work for a WRS employer, a Rehired Annuitant form (ET-2319) must be completed.
- WRS employers will provide the ET-2319 to their employees



## **Face-to-Face Events**

- Regular visits statewide
- Daytime group retirement appointments
  - Retirement packet required
  - Appointment required
- Evening benefits presentations
  - New and mid-career employees
  - Nearing retirement
- Visit etf.wi.gov/member\_education.htm and click Face-to-Face to learn more.



# Questions?

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