

January 31, 2025

Dear Member:

Enclosed you will find the materials necessary to file your *Annual Statement of Compensation* (ASC) Package for 2024. Please complete the ASC form located on the last page of this packet and return it along with the tax documentation outlined as soon as you have filed your 2024 Federal Income Tax Form.

What is the ASC? The ASC provides you with an opportunity to report your income for the prior calendar year. MainePERS reviews this income and compares your earnings to your Substantially Gainful Activity and Earnings Limitations amounts. The calculation of these amounts is set by law, and determines the maximum amount you are able to earn prior to discontinuation of your benefit and/or being subject to an overpayment of benefits. If you believe you have exceeded your 2024 earnings, please contact us.

Every disability recipient, regardless of whether they have received a full year's worth of payments or just a partial year, is required by law to submit an ASC, unless otherwise waived by MainePERS. The deadline for returning your completed ASC form and all associated documents is April 15, 2025. If you request an extension for filing your 2024 IRS tax forms, your ASC deadline may also be extended by providing a copy of your IRS extension form to MainePERS by April 15th. If you are not required to file Federal Income Taxes, please complete and return the ASC form immediately.

We are ready to help! If you have questions or need assistance completing your ASC form, please contact the MainePERS Disability Unit at (207) 512-3170 or 1-800-451-9800 or via email at disability@mainepers.org. On March 19th and April 2nd from 8 AM to 4PM, MainePERS will be hosting an ASC filing event. During this time, additional staff will be available to assist those who wish to file in person. Simply bring your tax documentation, and a member of our staff will assist you with your paperwork. If these dates and times aren't convenient, you are always welcome to visit MainePERS' office during regular business hours, or to call to schedule a meeting.



Frequently Asked Questions **FAQs**

Who has to file an ASC?

Anyone who received one or more MainePERS disability retirement payment during 2024 must report their income from that year.

Why is the ASC required?

The law limits the amount a disability recipient may earn and requires recipients to file an ASC annually in order to review these limitations.

What if I don't return my ASC?

If you do not return the ASC and all required documents by April 15th, your disability benefit may be suspended effective May 1st. Your monthly benefit will resume the month after you file your ASC and will include payment for the months the benefit was suspended. An extended period of non-compliance may lead to the permanent loss of your benefit.

When should I return my ASC?

If you are not required to file a Federal Income Tax Return, please return your ASC as soon as possible. Easy to follow instructions are included on the ASC form.

If you are required to file a Federal Income Tax Return, return your ASC as soon as you complete your tax return.

If you anticipate not completing your tax return by April 15th, please send us a copy of your Federal Extension Form by April 15th. This will allow you an automatic extension for your ASC filing with MainePERS. Once you complete your Federal Tax Return, forward your completed ASC form and all required tax forms, as soon as possible (but no later than October 15th).

How do I know if I have to file a federal tax return?

Contact the Internal Revenue Service (www.irs.gov) or your personal tax preparer.

Which Tax Forms am I required to file with my ASC form?

The following forms are required:

- Any W-2 & Corrected W-2 you have received
- Schedule SE if you have filed one
- Form SSA-1099 if you have received one

Some members find it easier to submit their entire return. MainePERS will accept a complete copy of your 2024 tax filing in lieu of individual forms and schedules. Only the documentation required to be filed will be used when determining whether you've exceeded your earnings limitation or met your substantially gainful activity amount. MainePERS may request documentation in addition to the forms and schedules listed above when necessary in order to verify earnings.

What if I earn more than allowed by law?

If your earnings are higher than the amount allowed by law, you will be required to repay the difference between your earnings and your limitation. If you exceed your Substantial Gainful Activity amount (SGA), your disability benefit will be terminated permanently. Substantial Gainful Activity is an amount that is at least 80% of your average final compensation, plus applicable cost-of-living adjustments (COLA). If you have questions about this amount, please contact the Disability Unit at MainePERS.

MainePERS will work with you to determine the best way to repay any amount due. Payments can be made by making a lump sum payment via check or credit card, or by deducting the balance from this year's remaining monthly benefits. Overpayments repaid in the year following the year in which the overpayment occurred will not be assessed interest. Any balance due as of January 1st of the following year may be subject to interest until paid in full. When possible, MainePERS seeks to recoup any overpayment in the year in which it was reported.

Regardless of the amount you earn, you will never have to repay more than the total of your gross annual disability benefit amount.

(continued on next page)



How do I know what my earnings limitation is?

MainePERS will provide this calculation upon your request. Recipients who have reported earnings outside of their disability payment and who receive a COLA, are provided an updated earnings limitation amount each year. Since this amount is different for every disability retiree, please contact MainePERS for more information.

How do I know if I've exceeded my earnings limitation?

MainePERS notifies each disability recipient via email or regular mail once the review of their ASC is complete. If you have exceeded your earnings limitation, the amount of overpaid benefits and your options for repayment will be outlined in this correspondence.

Who can help me complete my ASC?

We're here to help you.

On March 19th and April 2nd from 8 AM to 4 PM, MainePERS will have additional staff available for walk-in assistance with ASC filings. Simply bring your tax documentation with you, and our staff will help walk you through completing your ASC form. Walk-in assistance is also available Monday through Thursday from 8 AM to 4 PM, or by appointment. For assistance, please call us at (207) 512-3100 or email us at disability@mainepers.org.

Where do I return my ASC?

Mail: MainePERS, P.O. Box 349, Augusta, ME 04332-0349; Fax: (207) 512-3285; E-Mail: disability@mainepers.org

Your ASC Package and all attachments can also be submitted with an electronic signature through DocuSign. For more information on filing using DocuSign, go to www.mainepers.org or call (207) 512-3100.

Instructions for Completing Your ASC:

Question 1: Check the appropriate response (Y/N).

Question 2: If your MainePERS benefits were your only source of income during the year, check "No." Proceed to Signature Line.

If you had income in addition to your MainePERS benefits, check "Yes" and list the amount of earnings in the space(s) provided.

The earnings listed in this section should include:

Earnings Reported on a W-2: [The amount listed in box 5](#)

Income Reported on Schedule SE: [The amount listed in line 6](#)

Social Security Income (form SSA-1099): [The amount listed in box 5](#)

Sign, date the form and provide your telephone number and e-mail address.

Note: Designating MainePERS as your "authorized agent for obtaining any return, report of other information pursuant to 36 MRS 191(2)(A)" means that you authorize MainePERS to verify any employment, Social Security or Workers' Compensation information provided in order to determine wages, potential overearnings or offsets. This designation is required.



MainePERS
PUBLIC EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEM

PO Box 349
Augusta, ME 04332-0349
Telephone: (207) 512-3100
Toll-free: 1-800-451-9800
Fax: (207) 512-3285
Maine Relay: 711
Email: Disability@mainepers.org

2024
**ANNUAL STATEMENT
OF COMPENSATION**

1. Are you required or did you file a Federal Income Tax Return for 2024? ☐ No ☐ Yes

If **"No"**, please sign and date the bottom of this form and return to MainePERS immediately.

If **"Yes"**, and you have income in addition to your MainePERS benefit, you must include copies of all W-2s, Corrected W-2s, Schedule SE and/or your SSA-1099. In lieu of individual forms and schedules, you may choose to include a complete copy of your tax return.

2. Did you have income in addition to your MainePERS benefits during 2024? ☐ No ☐ Yes

\$ _____ Social Security Disability

\$ _____ Workers' Compensation

\$ _____ Self-Employment

\$ _____ Wages from Employment with: Employer's Name(s): _____

The 2024 ASC and supporting documentation is due on or before April 15, 2025, unless you provide MainePERS with a copy of your Federal Extension. The MainePERS extension has the same duration as the Federal Extension.

I hereby designate MainePERS as my authorized agent for obtaining any return, report, or other information pursuant to 36 MRS §191(2)(A). This authority includes, but is not limited to, the right to obtain information regarding income tax and earnings, employment, income of any nature, and Workers' Compensation and social security income. This information is required in order for MainePERS to determine and verify annual earnings.

Please be advised that if you exceed your Earnings Limitation you will be required to reimburse MainePERS and if you meet or exceed your SGA amount, your benefits will be terminated. For information concerning these important limitations, please contact MainePERS.

I have read and understand the information provided in the Annual Statement of Compensation Package.

Printed Name: _____ **Social Security Number:** _____
Disability Benefit Recipient

Signature: _____ **Date:** _____
Disability Recipient or Power of Attorney*

Telephone Number: _____ **Email:** _____

*Unless already on file with MainePERS, the signature of anyone other than the benefit recipient must be accompanied by a documentation of the authority making the signature valid (e.g., power of attorney).