



Date: November 1, 2019

To: Employers of the PLD Consolidated Plan and Other Interested Parties

From: Deanna Doyle, PLD Plan Administrator

Re: Notice of approved changes to the rule that governs the PLD Consolidated Retirement Plan -
MainePERS Rule Chapter 803

I am following-up on our previous communications to you regarding changes to the rule governing the PLD Consolidated Retirement Plan (“the Plan”). On October 15, 2019, following approval by the PLD Advisory Committee and completion of the rulemaking process, the MainePERS Board of Trustees approved the following amendments to Chapter 803 to incorporate the provisions of two laws that were enacted during the recent legislative session into the Plan:

Special Plans for Dispatchers (PL 2019, c. 364)

The Board of Trustees adopted changes to the special plan sections of the rule, with the exception of the section governing the 20-year plan, to permit employers to elect to cover their dispatchers by one of the 25-year special plans.

Exception: Chapter 364 does not permit the adoption of a plan with an unreduced benefit before 25 years of service at any age in order to avoid a potential IRS plan compliance issue.

Purchase of Law Enforcement Officer Service (PL 2019, c. 469)

The Board of Trustees adopted changes to the creditable service and contributions sections of the rule to permit the purchase of service as a law enforcement officer earned with a federal, state, county or local law enforcement agency before becoming a MainePERS member. The changes establish the following:

Eligibility to purchase law enforcement service: To be eligible to purchase prior law enforcement service, the member must: 1) have at least 15 years of creditable service; 2) provide certification that the service to be purchased has not and will not be used to obtain other retirement benefits; and 3) not have declined to participate in MainePERS for the prior period of service. The amount of service that can be purchased under this provision is limited to 4 years.

Required contributions for the purchase of service: The member must pay the actuarial equivalent of the portion of the benefit based on the service that is purchased.

How service is treated: Purchased law enforcement officer service can be used towards meeting eligibility in the 25-year plans, but cannot be used towards meeting eligibility in the 20-year plan. For the 20-year plan, the purchased service is used towards additional benefits beyond those earned for the years used to qualify for benefits under that plan.

For more information about the adopted changes, please visit the homepage of our website at www.maineper.org where you will find a link to the complete rule as adopted by the Board of Trustees.

An updated Summary of PLD Changes, which summarizes all of the changes made to the PLD Consolidated Retirement Plan in 2018 and 2019, can also be found on the homepage of our website.

Please share this notice with your employees as no other direct mailing of this notice will be sent.