

I Will Retire This Year Checklist

Rev 06/17

What to Do:

Register for *myCalSTRS*

- Visit myCalSTRS.com and click Register Now to complete the registration process
- Review and update my contact information and mailing preferences as needed
- Designate or update my death benefit recipients as needed
- Access my *Retirement Progress Report* and contact my employer directly regarding any discrepancies

What to Do:

Understand the Formula

- View the Understanding the Formula video at CalSTRS.com
- Check my service credit balance on my *Retirement Progress Report*

What to Do:

Know My Defined Benefit Supplement Account Choices

- Find my account balance on my *Retirement Progress Report*
- View the Defined Benefit Supplement video series on CalSTRS.com
- Discuss tax considerations with a financial advisor or tax professional

What to Do:

Research Pension2

- Consider if I want to rollover my Defined Benefit Supplement account distribution or current supplemental savings to Pension2
- Visit Pension2.com to learn more about Pension2's low fees and investment options
- Contact a Pension2 representative at 888-394-2060

What to Do:

Review *Your Retirement Guide*

- Visit [myCalSTRS](http://myCalSTRS.com) or CalSTRS.com to download a copy or request a hard copy by mail
- Understand my retirement decisions
 - What retirement date should I select?
 - Do I want to leave a lifetime payment to a loved one?
 - How do I want to receive my Defined Benefit Supplement funds?
- Watch educational videos at CalSTRS.com/videos to review information provided in the publication

What to Do:

Obtain a Service Retirement Estimate

- Access my *Retirement Progress Report* via [myCalSTRS](http://myCalSTRS.com) for benefit estimates
- Use the *Retirement Benefits Calculator* at CalSTRS.com/calculators to generate additional estimates

I Will Retire This Year Checklist cont.

What to Do:

Verify Resignation Requirements

- Check with my employer's Human Resources department for my district's resignation and retirement process

What to Do:

Research Health Benefits Coverage

- Check with my employer about health benefits coverage in retirement
- Contact Covered California (coveredca.com / 800-300-1506) to shop for coverage
- Contact HICAP (cahealthadvocates.org / 800-434-0222) for assistance signing up for Medicare as soon as I am eligible. For most people, eligibility is reached at age 65.

What to Do:

Understand Social Security Rules

- Visit socialsecurity.gov to learn more about the Windfall Elimination Provision and Government Pension Offset
- Contact the Social Security Administration for more information and benefit estimates

What to Do:

Apply for Retirement

- Complete the *Service Retirement Application* as early as six months before my retirement date
- Submit my application via *myCalSTRS* for faster processing or submit a hard copy by fax, hand delivery or mail
- Provide the *Express Benefit Report* to my employer to complete and return to CalSTRS

What to Do:

Wait to Work

- Do not return to CalSTRS-covered employment within the first 180 calendar days of retirement
- Track my gross earnings after the 180-day period to avoid exceeding the annual postretirement earnings limit

What to Do:

Access Convenient Resources

- Visit CalSTRS.com to learn about my benefits
- Use *myCalSTRS* to access my account information, submit forms and send and receive online messages with CalSTRS representatives
- Contact CalSTRS by phone at 800-228-5453, Monday – Friday, 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. with questions