e bulletin monthly

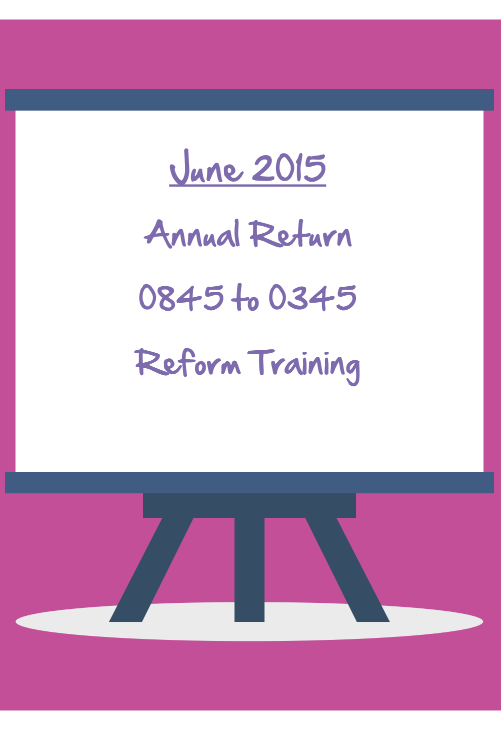
teacherspensions.co.uk

June 2015

Further & Higher Education

Hello

Whilst members are now in their final term before the summer break, we've still got plenty to update you on. In this month's edition we cover information about your Annual Return, a change to our telephone number, information regarding free training and a reminder about the changes to employer contributions.



Annual Return Reminder

Thank you to those of you who have already submitted your Annual Return for 2014/2015. As of 17 June, of the 933,218 member returns required, we've currently received details for 182,974 members.

The deadline date of 6 July is fast approaching and it's crucial to the administration of the Teachers' Pension Scheme that it's submitted on time. This will allow your members time to receive their Pension Savings Statement – vital if they've exceeded the annual allowance and want to take a Scheme pays election – and carry out self-assessment procedures.

Find out more >

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We're changing our number on 1 July

Following an industry wide consultation, Ofcom is implementing some significant changes to the use of certain non-geographic numbers. The aim is to make the cost of these calls fairer and clearer to the user.

Therefore, on 1 July, Teachers' Pensions is changing the prefix of our telephone number from 0845 to 0345. This relates to all of our 0845 numbers for both members and employers.

Please ensure you use this number from 1 July.

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Clarification on opt outs

A number of you have asked for clarification regarding opt outs in relation to contractual enrolment and Auto Enrolment and in particular confusion about opting out for all employment where there is a single employer relationship.

Opt outs made on or after 1 October 2012, apply to the contracts the member is opting out of at that time. If a member has made an opt out on or after 1 October 2012 any new contract of employment after the opt-out will result in contractual enrolment under the Teachers' Pension Scheme regulations.

Following the introduction of the Scheme Arrangement report, it's come to light that where Teachers' Pensions have recorded an opt out for all employment, any subsequent service with that employer continues to be recorded as opted out unless an opt in form or auto enrolment template is received which makes it pensionable.

Find out more including updated guidelines and a timescale of changes here.

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Reform training - don't miss out

Time is running out to participate in our reform events, which will finish in July. We still have spaces available on our full day seminars which are running across the country as well as hourly webinars which are held each Monday and Friday.

If you're not able to attend a seminar please let us know as soon as possible. It's important as:-

- It determines whether the event will go ahead if numbers are too low
- It ensures that those who are on waiting lists can be accommodated
- It means we're not being charged for food and room hire costs if people don't turn up.

Please advise us at training@teacherspensions.co.uk

Find out more about our free training >

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Revision of Employer Relationship Manager (ERM) regions

We've recently revised the ERM regions so you may find yourself with a different Employer Relationship Manager. Why not check to see who is now covering your region?

Check your ERM >

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Pension Board and Regulator Update

As part of the changes introduced to public sector schemes in April 2015, a Pension Board for the Teachers' Pension Scheme has been established. The Pension Board will provide assurance on the governance of the Scheme under the framework introduced by The Public Service Pensions Act 2013.

Find out more >

The 2013 Act also provided for extended regulatory oversight by The Pensions Regulator. This means that the administrator and the employers are accountable for the management of the Scheme. Various requirements must be satisfied and amongst these are the disclosure of information and record keeping.

Teachers' Pensions are working with employers on trying to improve the capture of home addresses.

Find out more >

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Monthly reminder - Employer Contributions are changing soon - are you ready?

We thought we'd use our bulletin as a monthly reminder of the changes to the contribution rates for the Teachers' Pension Scheme from September 2015, when the rate will increase from 14.1% to 16.48%.

To ensure you are ready for these changes be sure to visit our website where you'll be able to find all the information you need.

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Employer Portal - issues update

We're aware some users are still experiencing issues with the Employer Portal timing out. There are a couple of checks that can help reduce the issue occurring:

- Please ensure you are using Internet Explorer 8 or above
- Please ensure you have JavaScript installed on your machine.

Our IT teams are continuing to work on a permanent solution for all users. We appreciate your continued patience.

Keep ahead of website downtime, known issues and planned development by regularly visiting our maintenance page.

Find out more >

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Watch out for

We've emailed you this month highlighting some great new resources introduced since April to signpost your employees to.

In July we'll be contacting you to get your views on whether there is more we can do regarding the content and resources on our website – we really do need your feedback.

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