
TITLE 590. OKLAHOMA PUBLIC EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEM CHAPTER 1. ADMINISTRATIVE OPERATIONS

[OAR Docket #26-679]

RULEMAKING ACTION:

Notice of proposed PERMANENT rulemaking

PROPOSED RULES:

Subchapter 3. Administrative Review and Hearings

590:1-3-2. Definitions [AMENDED]

590:1-3-3. Commencement of hearing [AMENDED]

590:1-3-5. Representation ~~and participation~~ in administrative proceedings [AMENDED]

590:1-3-8. Hearing Examiner hearing procedure [AMENDED]

590:1-3-9. Pleadings, ~~filing, order and continuances~~ [AMENDED]

590:1-3-12. Proposed order, ~~objections, rehearing and objections.~~ [AMENDED]

590:1-3-14. Rehearing, appeal and appeal of Board's final order [AMENDED]

SUMMARY:

Amendments are proposed necessitating permanent rulemaking action. The agency is considering changes intended to improve the efficiency of administering the Oklahoma Public Employees Retirement System (OPERS) and enhance the quality of service provided to members. The amendment to 590:1-3-2 introduces the definition for "Final agency decision." The amendment to 590:1-3-3 clarifies when a claimant may request a hearing, outlines the process for commencing a hearing, and specifies information that must be included in the request for hearing. The amendment to 590:1-3-5 confirms that a claimant may either represent themselves (pro se) or be represented by an attorney licensed to

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practice law in the State of Oklahoma. The amendment to 590:1-3-8 clarifies the procedures for hearings before the Hearing Examiner. The amendment to 590:1-3-9 clarifies the process for submitting pleadings, allows electronic submissions, and details the sequence for submitting statements of the case. The amendment to 590:1-3-12 clarifies the timeline for parties to submit proposed orders and objections to proposed orders to the Hearing Examiner. Finally, the amendment to 590:1-3-14 clarifies the requirements for requesting a rehearing from the Board and for appealing final orders of the Board.

AUTHORITY:

Oklahoma Public Employees Retirement System Board of Trustees; 74 O.S. §909

COMMENT PERIOD:

Persons wishing to present their views orally or in writing may do so before 4:30 p.m. on October 21, 2026, by mail, fax, or email, to the offices of Oklahoma Public Employees Retirement System, 5400 N. Grand Boulevard, Suite 400, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73112.

PUBLIC HEARING:

A Public Hearing will be held to provide an opportunity for persons to present their views orally at 1:30 p.m., Thursday, October 22, 2026, in the Board Room of the Oklahoma Public Employees Retirement System, 5400 N. Grand Boulevard, Suite 135, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73112.

REQUESTS FOR COMMENTS FROM BUSINESS ENTITIES:

N/A

COPIES OF PROPOSED RULES:

Copies of the proposed rules may be obtained for review by the public between 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, (excluding legal holidays) by contacting Andrea Unruh, Deputy General Counsel, at the offices of the Oklahoma Public Employees Retirement System, at legal@opers.ok.gov, (405) 858-6788, or on the OPERS website at www.opers.ok.gov.

RULE IMPACT STATEMENT:

A rule impact statement will be prepared as required by 75 O.S. Section 303(D), and will be available on and after September 30, 2026, on the OPERS website at www.opers.ok.gov or by contacting Andrea Unruh at (405) 858- 6788 or aunruh@opers.ok.gov

CONTACT PERSON:

Andrea Unruh, Deputy General Counsel (405) 858-6788

[OAR Docket #26-679; filed 8-24-26]

TITLE 590. OKLAHOMA PUBLIC EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEM CHAPTER 10. PUBLIC EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEM

[OAR Docket #26-680]

RULEMAKING ACTION:

Notice of proposed PERMANENT rulemaking

PROPOSED RULES:

Subchapter 1. General Provisions

590:10-1-16. ~~Facsimile copies; electronic~~ Accepted signatures [AMENDED]

590:10-1-17. Offset and ~~recovery~~ reimbursement of funds [AMENDED]

Subchapter 3. Credited Service

590:10-3-6. Full-time-equivalent employment [AMENDED]

590:10-3-8. Actuarial cost for purchases, ~~delinquent service cost~~ and delinquent service and remittance error costs [AMENDED]

Subchapter 7. Retirement Benefits

590:10-7-3. Longevity and other ~~annual~~ lump-sum payments [AMENDED]

590:10-7-8. Direct deposit and benefit deductions [AMENDED]

SUMMARY:

Amendments are proposed necessitating permanent rulemaking action. The agency is considering changes intended to improve the efficiency of administering the Oklahoma Public Employees Retirement System (OPERS) and enhance the quality of service provided to members. The amendment to 590:10-1-16 allows OPERS to accept electronic signatures for most documents. The amendment to 590:10-1-17 updates the overpayment process, permitting notice by first class mail or

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email. The amendment to 590:10-3-6 revises full-time equivalent employment language for consistency with prior rule changes. The amendment to 590:10-3-8 clarifies that credit for unused sick leave is calculated at actuarial cost, includes the applicable statutory reference, and adds definitions for delinquent service and remittance errors. The amendment to 590:10-7-3 defines longevity pay, cites the relevant statutory citations, and distinguishes it from other lump-sum payments. The amendment to 590:10-7-8 requires OPERS to make electronic payments in accordance with state law, includes the corresponding statutory reference, and allows the Executive Director to grant exceptions for undue burden.

AUTHORITY:

Oklahoma Public Employees Retirement System Board of Trustees; 74 O.S. §909

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[OAR Docket #26-680; filed 8-24-26]

TITLE 590. OKLAHOMA PUBLIC EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEM CHAPTER 25. DEFERRED COMPENSATION

[OAR Docket #26-681]

RULEMAKING ACTION:

Notice of proposed PERMANENT rulemaking

PROPOSED RULES:

Subchapter 3. Election to Defer Compensation

590:25-3-3. Discontinuation and deferral change [AMENDED]

Subchapter 9. Benefits

590:25-9-12. Emergency withdrawals [AMENDED]

590:25-9-16. Rollovers and ~~In-Plan Roth Conversions~~in-Plan Roth conversions [AMENDED]

SUMMARY:

Amendments are proposed necessitating permanent rulemaking action. The agency is considering changes intended to improve the efficiency of administering the Oklahoma Public Employees Retirement System (OPERS) and enhance the quality of service provided to members. The amendment to 590:25-3-3 allows SoonerSave participant deferral changes to take effect as soon as administratively possible, rather than at the start of the following month. The amendment to 590:25-9-12 clarifies that emergency hardship withdrawals are administered by the Recordkeeper and removes deferral cancellation language that conflicts with the federal SECURE 2.0 Act. The amendment to 590:25-9-16 identifies which account types may be accepted as rollover contributions to SoonerSave.

AUTHORITY:

Oklahoma Public Employees Retirement System Board of Trustees; 74 O.S. §§ 909 and 1701

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[OAR Docket #26-681; filed 8-24-26]

TITLE 590. OKLAHOMA PUBLIC EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEM CHAPTER 40. DEFINED CONTRIBUTION SYSTEM

[OAR Docket #26-682]

RULEMAKING ACTION:

Notice of proposed PERMANENT rulemaking

PROPOSED RULES:

Subchapter 5. Eligibility and Participation - Applicable to The 401(A) Plan and the 457(B) Plan

Part 3. CONTRIBUTIONS - APPLICABLE TO THE 401(a) PLAN AND THE 457(b) PLAN

590:40-5-6. Employee additional contributions to the 457(b) plan [AMENDED]

Subchapter 9. Defined Contribution 457(B) Plan

Part 7. BENEFITS

590:40-9-34. Emergency withdrawals [AMENDED]

590:40-9-38. Rollovers and ~~In-Plan Roth Conversions~~in-Plan Roth conversions [AMENDED]

SUMMARY:

Amendments are proposed necessitating permanent rulemaking action. The agency is considering changes intended to improve the efficiency of administering the Oklahoma Public Employees Retirement System (OPERS) and enhance the quality of service provided to members. The amendment to 590:40-5-6 allows Pathfinder participant deferral changes to take effect as soon as administratively possible, rather than at the start of the following month. The amendment to 590:40-9-34 clarifies that emergency hardship withdrawals are administered by the Recordkeeper and removes deferral cancellation language that conflicts with the federal SECURE 2.0 Act. The amendment to 590:40-9-38 identifies which account types may be accepted as rollover contributions to Pathfinder.

AUTHORITY:

Oklahoma Public Employees Retirement System Board of Trustees; 74 O.S. §§ 909 and 935.1.

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Andrea Unruh, Deputy General Counsel (405) 858-6788

[OAR Docket #26-682; filed 8-24-26]