


# Ohio Police & Fire Pension Fund

140 East Town Street / Columbus, Ohio 43215-5164 / Tel. (614) 228-2975 / [www.op-f.org](http://www.op-f.org) 

March 10, 2017

Dear OP&F Member,

We are writing to inform you of recent changes to Ohio law that may affect your ability to transfer service credit between the Ohio Police & Fire Pension Fund (OP&F) and the Ohio Public Employee Retirement System (OPERS). A series of changes made by OPERS in 2016 regarding service credit transfers can affect portability and ultimately your retirement eligibility. In order to address this issue – which adversely impacts OP&F and OPERS Law Enforcement members – the Ohio legislature has provided a one-time 90-day window beginning April 5, allowing for service credit transfers so members can avoid being adversely affected.

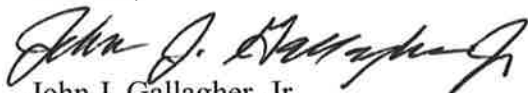
In 2016, OPERS sought an amendment to a bill that requires public employees to retire from the system where they have the majority of their service credit. Therefore, if you worked in an Ohio Police & Fire Pension Fund position and then accepted an OPERS-covered position, you must accumulate more years of service with OPERS before becoming eligible to retire. This rule is in effect for those covered as OPERS Law Enforcement members and regular OPERS members.

OP&F has worked with elected officials to establish a solution for those who were adversely affected by this change. Ohio House Bill 520, passed in December 2016 and signed by Gov. Kasich in January, allows for a 90-day window when both OP&F and OPERS members can transfer service credit to the other system. When service credit is consolidated with one system you may avoid working longer than you may have expected to become eligible for retirement. This 90-day window begins April 5 and ends on July 5.

If you have service credit to transfer from a different retirement system, please call OP&F to discuss your options and retirement eligibility (1-888-864-8363). Service credit transfer paperwork must be completed and received by the retirement system by July 5 in order to transfer the credit.

While this 90-day window only covers those who were unaware of the change in 2016, OP&F continues to work on a permanent solution that will protect our members.

Sincerely,



John J. Gallagher, Jr.  
Executive Director