

Employer Outreach

OPERS | APRIL 2016

**Save Money and Time With ECS
Paperless Payments**

OPERS Education Initiative

**Save the Date! Value-Based
Health Care Forum**

Save Money and Time With ECS Paperless Payments

The ECS-based paperless payment option has real advantages over traditional paper payments and can provide ECS-reporting employers with significant cost savings in a secure environment.

Paperless payments are:



Cost efficient – Electronic, payments via ECS allow you to retain interest-accruing funds in your account until the very last moment. Electronic payments cost pennies per transaction while a paper check can cost up to \$20 including human processing.



Time-saving – Paperless payments via ECS help you eliminate paper forms. By going paperless, the *Employer Payment Remittance Advice* is no longer needed because the information is captured during the electronic submission process.



Secure – Electronic payments provide notably better security than paper payments.



Fast – Fewer concerns about late penalties because you choose the exact day of delivery, which is the day of transfer.



Flexible – Errors or changes are quickly accommodated. For example, if an incorrect date is entered for payments, you can cancel and reschedule.



Controlled – Paperless payments let you determine the exact amount, day and account from which your funds are made available to OPERS.



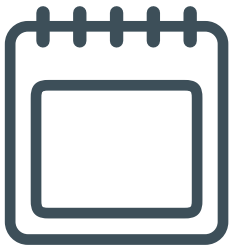
As an employer already using ECS for retirement reporting, you can easily implement paperless payments because the function is already integrated in ECS. Don't wait! Get started today.



Recognizing All ECS Counties

Lawrence and Defiance counties have joined the list of all-ECS counties. Keep watching the map through 2016 as we fill in the counties as each receives the all-ECS designation. As of the end of March, 16 of 88 Ohio counties have the all-ECS designation.

- Allen County
- Butler County
- Clark County
- Clermont County
- Columbiana County
- Cuyahoga County
- Defiance County
- Delaware County
- Hamilton County
- Lawrence County
- Logan County
- Lorain County
- Mahoning County
- Ottawa County
- Paulding County
- Summit County



Save the Date! Value-Based Health Care Forum

OPERS invites you to attend a Value-Based Health Care Forum, **June 6, 2016**, at the Fawcett Center at The Ohio State University to learn how you can get the most out of your health care dollars. Experts will discuss value-based health care, how it can help employees and organizations, and the role of employers in value-based health care.

More information will be shared with you soon!



OPERS Education Initiative

You can play a crucial role in shaping your employees financial future. OPERS is seeking your help to better understand the needs of your employees so we can tailor our educational offerings to better serve members throughout their careers. Your employees will be faced with a number of important retirement decisions throughout their careers. Help us educate and engage your employees in making these decisions by attending one of the information sharing sessions, hosted by OPERS.

During each session, you will learn how you can partner with OPERS to deliver education to your employees and engage your workforce throughout their career and retirement lifecycles. OPERS will also provide you with member data as well as information on the three OPERS retirement groups and what each means for your employees and their retirement needs.

Please join us to share your thoughts so we can better understand the needs of your employees.

Session Dates:

- April 20 – Athens
- April 21 – Columbus
- May 4 – Akron
- May 5 – Strongsville
- May 11 – Youngstown
- May 12 – New Philadelphia/Dover
- May 18 – Toledo

Session begins at either 10 a.m. or 2 p.m. and will last approximately 45 minutes.

Contact Employer Services at 888-400-0965 to register.

Updated Re-Employment Forms



The *Notice of Re-Employment: OPERS Benefit Recipient* form (SR-6) and

the *Notice of Re-Employment: Retired Elected Official or Appointed Official to An Elected Position* form (SR-6E) have been updated and outdated copies should be discarded.

The updates streamlined text specific to information employers would have regarding new employees and now include position title.

Keep in mind; the electronic versions are the Enhanced Form A. Employers not reporting electronically will need to contact Employer Services to obtain a paper copy of the form.

Applying Employer Credits



Credits to your account may occur for a variety of reasons such

as overpayments of employer liability, or when a return of unauthorized contributions is completed for one of your employees. You can view credits posted to your account on your monthly *Employer Account Summary*.

Credits posted to your employer account may only be used to reduce unpaid employer liabilities, and may

not be used to reduce the amount remitted for member contributions.

When using a credit, simply include this information in your next employer remittance by using the *Employer Payment Remittance Advice* (form E-3). You can also submit a safe and secure online payment or E-3 on ECS. Indicate you're using a credit by noting this information at the bottom of the *Employer Payment Remittance Advice* or by applying them electronically.

Contact OPERS Employer Services



Employer Call Center
1-888-400-0965

Monday - Friday
8 a.m - 4:30 p.m



www.opers.org/employers

How You Can Help Your Employees Navigate Health Care and the OPERS Medicare Connector

OPERS offers a number of tools and resources to help those who are considering retirement or just in the planning stages. Encourage your employees to visit www.opers.org for dedicated health care Web pages and access to health care forms and publications such as the *Health Care Coverage Guide* and *Understanding the Basics: Medicare and the OPERS Medicare Connector*. The OPERS YouTube channel is also a great source of health care related videos.

For more information, review the June 2015 Facts-at-a-Glance document, "OPERS Medicare Connector: Facts Every Employer Should Know," available at www.opers.org.



Health Care Coverage Guide



Understanding the Basics: Medicare and the OPERS Medicare Connector