

SCERS NEWSLETTER

RETIREMENT INFORMATION

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SCERS Achieves Strong Investment Returns in Fiscal Year 2025

SCERS reported a 10.8% total fund return for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025, net of fees, exceeding the system's Policy Index return of 9.9%.

SCERS has also outperformed its benchmark over the longer 5-year (9.6% vs. 8.9%), and 10-year (8.0% vs. 7.3%) periods, placing SCERS' performance in the top 26th and 14th percentile among public pension plans over these periods.



All asset classes generated positive returns for the fiscal year; however, public equities drove returns with SCERS' Global Equity asset class returning 16.6%. Other strong performing asset

classes included Private Equity, Private Credit, and Real Assets.

"SCERS' disciplined investment approach, with diversified exposures across both public and private markets, continues to provide strong, stable results for our members," said Steve Davis, SCERS' Chief Investment Officer.

The 10.8% fiscal year return also exceeds SCERS' 6.75% assumed rate of return that is used to set contribution rates. The 2024-25 returns will accelerate SCERS' path to full funding, pushing the funded status to approximately 93%. The funded status is a gauge that measures assets against long-term liabilities.

SCERS ended the fiscal year with approximately \$14.5 billion in assets on behalf of more than 32,000 members and beneficiaries.



A Message from SCERS' CEO

With a year that began with so much market turmoil, I'm excited to share that SCERS' investment returns at the end of the 2024-25 fiscal year were higher than we expected. This is great news for your future retirement.

I'm also pleased to announce that our online resources are expanding, and members are now able to apply for service retirement online via the MySCERS member portal. Expect more online resources in the near future.

SCERS is having a busy month with several outreach events where SCERS staff are available to answer your questions at various locations. Visit scers.gov/events for the schedule.

This is the last newsletter before the holidays, so I'll take this opportunity to wish all our members a safe and happy 2025 holiday season.

—Eric Stern



SCERS Launches Online Retirement Application

SCERS is excited to introduce the new Online Retirement Application, now available in the MySCERS Portal. This tool makes applying for retirement easier, faster, and more secure.

Instead of tracking down forms and mailing paperwork, members can now log into MySCERS, select “Apply for Service Retirement,” and complete the process online at their own pace. The system provides step-by-step guidance, helping to ensure nothing is missed.

Supervising Probation Officer John Rowland, the first member to use the feature, shared: “The online process was a quick, easy, and non-stressful way to complete my application for retirement.”

Key benefits include:

- Built-in edits to reduce errors and missing information
- Secure document upload and confirmation
- Faster, streamlined processing

After submitting, SCERS staff carefully review each application. Most members receive their first retirement payment within about 45 days (timelines may vary). A benefits specialist will reach out if more information is needed, and members will receive updates along the way.

This launch is part of SCERS’ ongoing effort to modernize member services, with more secure online tools coming soon.

Retirement Board News

Results for the recent SCERS Retirement Board elections were announced on October 7. Incumbent **M. Tapa Banda**, Director of Finance at the Sacramento Area Sewer District, has retained his seat as Miscellaneous Representative, receiving 63% of the vote over candidate **Shelly Cortez**, who received 37% of the vote.

This election cycle also included a race for one Retiree Trustee and one Alternate Retiree Trustee; incumbents **Martha Hoover** and **Dave Irish** ran unopposed and will retain their seats.

In other Board news, **Chris Giboney**, Alternate Safety Trustee since 2022, was appointed as Board President in August 2025, replacing **James Diepenbrock**, who is stepping down from the Board this December.

Employee Benefits: It Takes a Village

SCERS often receives requests for detailed information on benefits we don’t provide, such as healthcare or Social Security. While we work together with other providers to help our members get the most out of retirement, SCERS’ role is that of administering pension benefits only. Here are other providers that serve Sacramento County and other SCERS-covered employees.



Sacramento County Employee Benefits Office administers benefits for both active and retired County employees.

Phone: (916) 874-2020

Web: personnel.saccounty.net/Benefits/Pages/default.aspx

Email (Retired): MyRetireeBenefits@saccounty.gov;

Email (Active): MyBenefits@saccounty.gov

Social Security Administration provides retirees with monthly payments based on earnings during their lifetime of work.

Phone: (800) 772-1213

Web: ssa.gov

Fidelity Investments administers 457(b) investment accounts for County employees.

Phone: (800) 642-7131 or (800) 343-0860

Web: fidelity.com/schedule

MissionSquare Retirement administers retiree health savings accounts for County employees.

Phone: (800) 669-7400; 711 for Telecommunications Relay Service

Web: missionsq.org

Sacramento County Retired Employees Association (SCREA)

represents retired employees in discussions, hearings, and negotiations with County agencies and officials and hosts retiree events.

Web: saccountyretirees.com

Court Employee Benefits Information

Email (Active): HRBenefits@saccourt.ca.gov

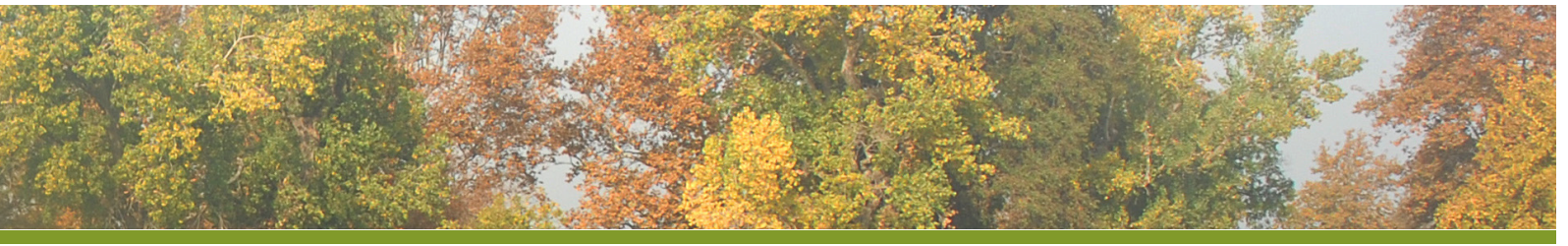
Email (Retirees): HRretirees@saccourt.ca.gov

Sacramento Area Sewer District Employee Benefits Information

Email: benefits@sacsewer.com

Phone: (916) 874-3370 (HR help desk)

Web: sacsewer.com/benefits



Planning to Retire Checklist



One Year Before Your Retirement Date:

- Register for MySCERS (my.scers.gov) and use the SCERS Benefit Calculator to estimate your monthly pension—or explore different retirement dates.
- Attend a retirement planning webinar hosted by SCERS with guest panelists from Fidelity, Social Security, MissionSquare, and Employee Benefits to get answers and resources. SCERS does not provide health benefits. Non-County members should reach out to their benefits offices for healthcare information.
- If you're considering purchasing extra service credit, submit a Request for Service Purchase Calculation form (available at scers.gov).
- Resolve divorce or community property issues early—ensure that your divorce-related judgments, orders, and agreements are on file with SCERS. Refer to SCERS' Dissolution of Marriage Documents Policy (available at scers.gov) for more information.

Six Months Before:

- Gather and keep copies of:
 - Your birth certificate
 - Birth certificates for any beneficiaries
 - Marriage or Registered Domestic Partnership certificate
- Update your beneficiary information with SCERS using the Member's Affidavit if needed.
- If you're also a member of another reciprocal retirement system, notify them. You must retire from all systems on the same day to preserve reciprocity.

Three Months Before:

- Schedule a counseling appointment with a SCERS Retirement Benefits Specialist to finalize your plans and ask questions.
- Verify your address is current with your employer—important for pre-retirement and after-retirement communications.
- Inform your employer of your upcoming retirement to coordinate HR steps and scheduling.

Two Months Before:

- Upload and submit your fully completed Service Retirement Application, including all required forms, via the MySCERS Portal (my.scers.gov) up to 60 days before your chosen retirement date.

On Your Retirement Date:

- Your retirement is effective on the day you designate—no earlier than the day after your last day of work. You do not go to work on your retirement effective date.
- SCERS typically issues your first pension check within 45 days, although processing may take longer during peak periods.

After Retirement:

- Should your address change post-retirement, submit a new Member's Affidavit to SCERS.

Important Notes:

- SCERS retirement benefits are not automatic; submitting your application is a required step.
- If you're establishing reciprocity with another retirement system, evaluating purchase of service, or relying on Social Security or deferred compensation income, make those decisions well in advance.
- Most SCERS retirement decisions are irrevocable once elected.



Sacramento County
Employees' Retirement System
980 9th Street, Suite 1900
Sacramento, CA 95814

PRESORTED
STANDARD MAIL
U.S. POSTAGE

PAID

SACRAMENTO, CA
PERMIT #24

Ready to Retire? Start Here!

If you're ready to begin your retirement journey, start by submitting your application online! Scan the QR code below, log in to the MySCERS portal, and click the start button under "Apply for Service Retirement". You must be registered for the SCERS online member portal in order to fill out the retirement application.



MY.SCERS.GOV

Upcoming Events

Board Meetings - 10:00 a.m.

- Wednesday, November 19
- Wednesday, December 10
- Wednesday, January 21

Board meetings are presented as in-person events, with live-streamed meeting links accessible from our home page quick link menu. Visit scers.gov/retirement-board-meetings for agendas, minutes, and other Board updates.

Retirement Planning Webinars - 10:00 a.m.

- Thursday, December 11

Retirement Planning Webinars are for members who plan to retire within a few years. SCERS will be joined by representatives from some or all of the following agencies: Social Security Administration, Fidelity Investments, MissionSquare Retirement, Sacramento County Retired Employees Association, and Sacramento County's Employee Benefits Office. Register at scers.gov/retirement-planning-webinars.

SCERS Outreach

- Visit scers.gov/events for our event schedule.