

# SCERS NEWSLETTER

RETIREMENT INFORMATION

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### A Message from SCERS' CEO

In our last newsletter we announced a new Strategic Vision Plan project starting with a survey of all SCERS stakeholder groups. Thank you to all who took the time to respond and share what you believe SCERS is doing well and where you'd like to see improvements. This information is invaluable to our future success, and we are listening.

Timely and accurate benefit payments, customer service and support, and communication and updates emerged as the most frequently recognized strengths. Members also provided input on opportunities for improvement, including educating members about the pension program throughout their working years and enhancing technology tools.

SCERS will be incorporating the feedback into our strategic planning effort in the coming months as we develop a long-term vision and roadmap to keep SCERS on a successful path. Until then, I wish you an enjoyable summer!



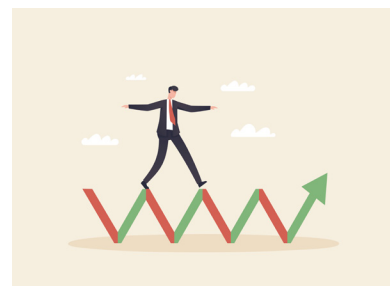
—Eric Stern

## Investment Update

Due to the recent market volatility, some SCERS members have asked whether their pension is safe. The brief answer is that all is well with your SCERS pension.

After markets dropped sharply in early 2025, especially in April after the Trump administration announced significant tariffs, the administration has since eased those tariffs to pursue trade negotiations with other countries.

Despite ongoing uncertainty around tariffs, trade policy, and global risks, stock markets have rebounded close to record highs. Bond markets are less positive, with yields still high due to inflation concerns tied to tariffs. Although volatility has decreased since April, uncertainty remains and could still affect markets.



However, SCERS is safe and strong because its long-term investment strategy uses disciplined asset allocation and broad diversification to handle market ups and downs.

"The SCERS Board and Investment Staff take a disciplined approach to rebalancing the portfolio to ensure that we are in line with our asset allocation targets, and the investment portfolio is structured with ample liquidity to meet our pension obligations, even during market volatility," said Steve Davis, SCERS' chief investment officer.

Through March 31, 2025, the first three quarters of SCERS' fiscal year, SCERS' portfolio was up 4.5% net of investment management fees. The longer-term returns are very strong, as SCERS' portfolio has returned 9.9% and 7.4% net of fees over the 5-year and 10-year periods, respectively. That has outpaced SCERS' actuarial rate of return of 6.75% and SCERS' Policy Index benchmark return.

SCERS' portfolio is tracking well during the last quarter of the fiscal year and is on pace to meet and potentially exceed the 6.75% actuarial rate for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025.

Your SCERS pension is a lifetime guarantee, so you can be confident in your retirement future.



## Questions to Ask Yourself Before You Retire

At SCERS, we are passionate about helping you retire with confidence.

We know that retirement can be a thrilling and exciting time, and we are happy to

help you get there. You worked hard during your career and earned the right to enjoy yourself and do things you have always wanted to do.



As a recent Forbes article points out, there are some key steps to consider as you embark on this next chapter of life.

The article offers four questions to ask yourself before retiring, questions that can help you write your own retirement handbook and vision statement:

1. How will I spend my time?
2. What is my purpose?
3. How will I interact with others?
4. What is my reason for getting up in the morning?

Often, retirement planning is heavily focused on financial considerations rather than the day-to-day realities of being retired. We're given road maps for most stages of life, but being retired looks different for everyone and is something we must navigate ourselves.

SCERS' mission is to provide you with a pension that will continue on for the rest of your life, wherever you may go. Defining your mission and vision can help you determine what you want the future to look like for you and your loved ones, and including them in this planning will help you enter the next chapter of life together heading in the same direction.

Seeking out inspiring and interesting role models can also help you determine how you want to spend your retirement years. But remaining flexible along your journey toward fulfilling your vision will help you navigate unexpected turns.

Wherever your journey takes you, you can rely on SCERS to be here for you and your loved ones every step of the way.

## What Your Beneficiary Needs to Know



As a SCERS member, it is important to explain to your chosen beneficiaries what to do and expect when you pass, whether you are an active, deferred, or retired employee. Here is good advice to follow:

1. Understand beneficiary options and make sure beneficiaries know the type of pension benefits they may be entitled to, such as survivor benefits, lump-sum payouts, or ongoing annuities, and how these are affected by your choices at retirement (if retired).
2. Keep beneficiary information updated with SCERS by verifying that the correct beneficiary information is on file, especially after life events like marriage, divorce, or the birth of a child, to avoid complications later.
3. Your survivors should use the "Report a Death" link located on our website's home page to promptly notify SCERS of your passing.
4. Survivors should know the process for claiming benefits, which includes providing required documents (e.g., death certificate, identification, and any applicable forms) and being aware of processing timelines.

For more information on this topic, visit [scers.gov/death-information](https://scers.gov/death-information).

## Sacramento County Celebrates 175 Years

Sacramento County turned 175 on February 18 this year, marking its demisemiseptcentennial commemoration! (That's demi-semi-sept-centennial, in case you haven't celebrated a 175th anniversary before!)



The County has grown in population since 1850 when the population was only 9,087. Now over 1.5 million people reside here and are served by the many different County departments providing essential government services.

For County employees nearing retirement, the Sacramento County Benefits Office serves you by offering health care plan options and information regarding Social Security, retiree health savings accounts, and 457 accounts. SCERS serves you by managing your pensions, disability retirement benefits, and death benefits.

For more about Sacramento County's 175th anniversary, visit [pio.saccounty.gov/anniversary175](https://pio.saccounty.gov/anniversary175).





## SCERS to Require Periodic Certification

Across the pension industry, retirement systems are taking proactive steps to safeguard benefit payments and ensure they reach those who have earned them. As part of our ongoing commitment to accuracy and integrity, SCERS is introducing a new verification process to help protect the system we all depend on.

Beginning this summer, SCERS will phase in a periodic certification requirement for a subset of retirees and beneficiaries. This certification will confirm your continued eligibility for benefit payments and will require either notarization or a witnessed signature through SCERS-approved alternatives when a notary is not a viable option.

By implementing this measure, we are reinforcing the long-term health of the pension fund and strengthening public confidence in our stewardship.

This process is not about questioning your entitled benefits—it's about protecting the benefits you've worked hard to earn. SCERS will directly reach out to retirees and beneficiaries for certification; there is no action to take unless contacted by SCERS. Our member services team is available to assist you and answer any questions or concerns.

Thank you for your understanding, and for helping keep the SCERS system secure for generations to come.

## SCERS Outreach

We're looking forward to our 2025-26 events at County and employer agencies where we can answer your questions face to face! Details to come.



## A Matter of FAQs



### **“What happens to my retirement if I move out of state?”**

Moving out of state is the same as moving across town as far as we are concerned, as it will not affect your payments. However, if you move, please be sure to do these two things:

- Update your address with SCERS

Deferred and retired members should update their address by completing and returning to SCERS a new Member's Affidavit.

- Update your tax withholding form

Retired members who relocate out of state should also review and update their tax withholding instructions, as needed.

Non-California residents are exempt from California state tax withholding. However, SCERS will not automatically change your tax status if you have an out-of-state address—you will need to submit a Tax Withholding form.

Please see your tax advisor or visit [ftb.ca.gov](http://ftb.ca.gov) for tax information.

The Member's Affidavit and Tax Withholding forms are available on the SCERS website at [scers.gov/forms](http://scers.gov/forms).

If you have questions, contact us at [sacretire@saccounty.gov](mailto:sacretire@saccounty.gov).

## Board Seat Nominations to Open Soon

Elections will soon take place to fill three Retirement Board seats, with current member terms expiring at the end of this year. Nominations will be held for one Miscellaneous Representative, one Retiree Representative, and one Alternate Retiree Representative. The first day to obtain and file nomination papers and the Candidate's Statement Form is Monday, July 21, 2025.

Nomination forms can be obtained from Voter Registration and Elections (VRE) office, 7000 65th Street, Suite A, Sacramento, California. Candidates may also download nomination papers from the VRE website at [elections.saccounty.gov](http://elections.saccounty.gov).

Candidates are required to file nomination papers in person or via email at [voters-campaignservices@saccounty.gov](mailto:voters-campaignservices@saccounty.gov). Nomination papers consist of the Nomination Petition, Declaration of Candidate, Affidavit of Circulator, and Affidavit of Nominee. Nomination papers and the Candidate's Statement must be completed and filed together at the VRE office on or before 5:00 p.m. on Friday, August 1, 2025.

For more information, contact VRE at (916) 875-6155.



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

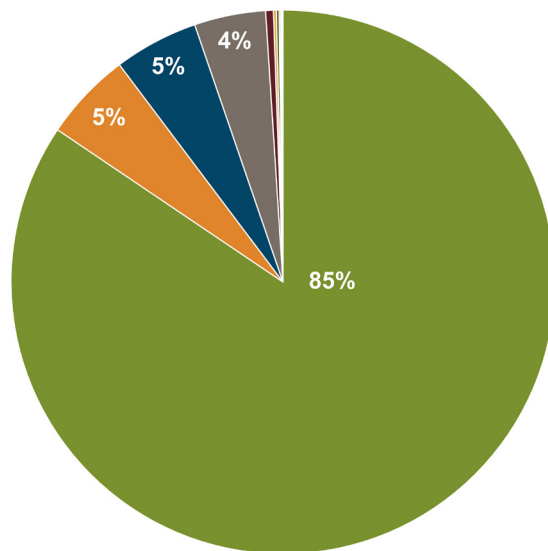
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## SCERS Participating Employers

Here is the breakdown of how each SCERS employer fits into the system by percentage of active employees.



|   |  |
|---|--|
| ■ Sacramento County 84.45%                | ■ Superior Court 5.28%                   |
| ■ Sacramento Area Sewer District 5.01%    | ■ SETA 4.24%                             |
| ■ Sunrise Rec & Park Dist 0.46%           | ■ Carmichael Rec & Park Dist 0.17%       |
| ■ Mission Oaks Rec & Park Dist 0.16%      | ■ Orangevale Rec & Park Dist 0.09%       |
| ■ Rio Linda Elverta Rec & Park Dist 0.06% | ■ Elk Grove Cosumnes Cemetery Dist 0.05% |
| ■ Fair Oaks Cemetery Dist 0.02%           | ■ Galt-Arno Cemetery Dist 0.01%          |

## Upcoming Events

### Board Meetings - 10:00 a.m.

- Wednesday & Thursday, July 30-31 (special in-person meeting: Strategic Planning Workshops)
- Wednesday, August 20
- Wednesday, September 17

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](https://scers.gov/retirement-board-meetings) for agendas, minutes, and other Board updates.

### Retirement Planning Webinars - 10:00 a.m.

- Thursday, September 18
- Thursday, December 11

Designed for members who plan to retire within a few years, our webinars feature presentations from some or all of the following benefit providers: Social Security Administration, Fidelity Investments, MissionSquare Retirement, Sacramento County Retired Employees Association, and Sacramento County Employee Benefits Office. Register at [scers.gov/retirement-planning-webinars](https://scers.gov/retirement-planning-webinars).