

FIRE PSPRS RATE CHANGE COMMUNICATION E-MAIL

To: (E-mail List)
From: Local Fire Retirement Board
Subject: PUBLIC SAFETY PERSONNEL RETIREMENT SYSTEM – CONTRIBUTION RATE CHANGES

As you may already be aware, employee contribution rates for members of the Public Safety Personnel Retirement System (PSPRS) **who were hired on or before July 19, 2011**, reverted to **7.65%** at the beginning of the first full pay period in April (April 10, 2017). Because of this change, new “Retirement Tiers” were developed based on criteria defined by PSPRS. These tiers are noted as “Fire Retirement Tier X”. Below is a sample snapshot of where you can find your retirement tier and deduction amount on your paycheck.

BEFORE-TAX DEDUCTIONS		
<u>Description</u>	<u>Current</u>	<u>YTD</u>
BSBS PPO		
Dental PPO		
Fire Retirement Tier 1		
DCP Percentage Amt Contrib		
TOTAL:		



Tier descriptions are as follows:

Fire Retirement Tier 1:

You are in this tier if you became a PSPRS member on or before July 19, 2011, and have never taken a refund. **This is the only group impacted by the rate change described above. You will notice this change reflected in your before-tax retirement deduction on your April 28th paycheck.**

Fire Retirement Tier 1A:

You are in this tier if you became a PSPRS member on or after July 20, 2011, and on or before December 31, 2011, and have never taken a refund of PSPRS retirement contributions.

Fire Retirement Tier 2:

You are in this tier if you became a PSPRS member on or after January 1, 2012, and on or before June 30, 2017, and have never taken a refund of PSPRS retirement contributions.

Additional Information:

Please note the designation of “Tier 1” and “Tier 1A” is for City of Phoenix purposes only, and only relates to the employee contribution rate; PSPRS uses “Tier 1a” and “Tier 1b” to refer to the two different DROP programs available for Tier 1 members rather than the differing employee contribution rates. PSPRS has published a Matrix of Plan Provisions which can be viewed [here](#).

If you have questions about your identified tier, or if you are in DROP and you have questions about what your status is related to these changes, please contact the City’s Retirement Office at (602) 534-4400.

PSPRS does not yet know when excess contributions will be returned to impacted members. This change to the contribution rate is the first step before any calculation of excess contributions (e.g. refunds) can occur. We will share that information with you as it becomes available.

Questions can be directed to the City's Retirement Office at (602) 534-4400. PSPRS Members can also visit the PSPRS website at www.psprs.com for background on this issue, to create a Member's Only account to view your benefit information, and other information regarding the Public Safety Personnel Retirement System.