



County Employees' Retirement Fund

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Clerk Bulletin

September 2023

CERF Savings Plan – Addition of Roth Contributions

Beginning on January 1, 2024, CERF will add Roth contributions to the 457 Plan as an option for all CERF Savings Plan participants.

In preparation for this change, Empower will host webinars in October to discuss the difference between Roth and pre-tax contributions. The webinar will also provide information regarding the changes that are required for payroll processing with the addition of the Roth option. A recording of the webinar will be posted to the CERF website for those who are unable to attend on the dates below.

Webinars will be held on October 12th at 3:00 p.m. and October 16th at 9:00 a.m. Empower will email a registration link in the coming days.

Pre-Retirement and Benefits Overview Seminars

CERF and Empower will host an online Pre-Retirement Webinar from 9:00 – 11:00 a.m. on November 14th.

CERF and Empower will host an online Benefits Overview Webinar from 2:00 – 3:00 PM on October 2nd.

Empower will send registration information to employees. These will be the last seminars for 2023.

Timetable for End of December Terminations

Many employees will end their county employment on December 31, 2023, and be eligible to commence their CERF Pension benefit on January 1, 2024.

Here are some helpful tips and timelines:

CERF needs Form 2V (Termination Vested) and 2B (Designation of Survivor) 30 to 90 days prior to commencement of CERF Pension benefits. Participants can sign and date these forms as early as October 3rd of this year. Form 2V also requires completion by the county and signature of the County Clerk.

Please have all immediate retirees contact your county's Benefits Specialist at CERF. If you are not sure who your Benefits Specialist is, call CERF toll-free, 877-632-2373.

Medical Leave

For CERF to honor medical leave as a service credit, your county must have a written medical leave policy stating the number of months allowed for a period up to 12 months. If your county simply follows the Family Medical Leave Act of 1993, a written statement to that effect must be included in your county personnel handbook.

Surveyors and Coroners

Some counties have unique situations regarding surveyors or coroners.

If the county has an elected or appointed county surveyor or coroner, that individual should be enrolled in CERF, regardless of how or if that person is compensated.