SERS TRUSTEE ELECTION

SERS will hold an election in May 2016 for three active contributing SERS members. The top vote getter will serve a five year term and the next two will serve three year terms, beginning in July 2016. To be eligible to serve, an active member must have at least eight years of SERS service credit by July 15, 2016. Members must file a Statement of Candidacy and submit Nominating Petitions signed by at least 400 active SERS members to become an eligible candidate. The signatures on the Nominating Petitions will be validated by SERS staff to ensure candidate eligibility.

Board membership is set by State statute. Comptroller Leslie Geissler Munger serves as the Chairperson of the Board. Six trustees, who may not be SERS members, are appointed by the Governor, with the advice and consent of the Senate, to serve five-year terms. Four active contributing members with at least eight years of SERS service are elected by the active contributing members of SERS to serve five-year terms. Two annuitants who have been retired for at least one year are elected by SERS annuitants to serve five-year terms.

The SERS Board of Trustees is responsible for overseeing the operations of the System. The Board meets at least quarterly to approve retiree, survivor and disability benefits, review and approve the System's annual operating budget, consider legislative and rulemaking initiatives, and set policies and procedures. Additional committee meetings are held throughout the year, generally to discuss disputed claims and recommend policy changes to the full Board. Trustees are statutorily required to complete eight hours of annual training on ethics, fiduciary duties, investments and public pension administration.

If you are eligible and interested in running for an active member trustee position, you may contact us at (217) 785-6975 for a packet of the required election forms. These forms will be available on January 4, 2016. Ballots, along with the biographical information on all candidates will be mailed to all qualified contributing members on May 2, 2016. All ballots must be returned in the envelope provided by May 31, 2016 to be counted. In order to ensure impartiality, the ballots are returned to the Illinois State Board of Elections (ISBE). The actual counting of the ballots is conducted by ISBE staff and the results are certified by the ISBE director. The important election dates are shown on the timeline below.

2016 ELECTION TIMELINE

- **January 4**: Forms may be obtained from SERS.
- **February 19**: All forms must be returned to SERS.
- **February 29**: Lottery conducted to determine ballot order (if necessary).
- **March 1**: Last day for candidates to withdraw.
- **May 2**: Election ballots & special SERS-O-GRAM mailed to all contributing members.
- **May 31**: Last day SERS may receive ballots.
- **June 20**: Results of election announced. See our website for details.
- **July 15**: New Board members begin five year term.
2016 SERS Preretirement Workshops

Registration for all SERS workshops began September 1, 2015. You must register for the preretirement workshops by visiting our website at www.srs.illinois.gov and clicking on the “Workshop Registration” logo. Once you’re connected, click on the “Must Haves” link and follow the instructions. It’s easy and efficient.

After you submit your registration, you’ll receive an email confirming your registration has been submitted to your Retirement Coordinator for approval. Once approved, you’ll receive additional emails with specific information about the workshop.

All workshops provide information on financial planning, Deferred Compensation, entitlements and estate planning. For questions about our online registration, call 217-785-6979 or email cathy.mcgrath@srs.illinois.gov.

Below are open dates through June, for the 2016 preretirement workshops. Sign up today and for the remaining schedule, visit our website at www.srs.illinois.gov.