



HIGHWAY PATROL RETIREMENT SYSTEM

January 2022 Newsletter

Contact Us: 614.431.0781



"Our History Is Our Pride"

Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) for 2022

As a reminder, those members that are eligible for a COLA will receive it the month following their anniversary date. Eligibility age is 53 for those members who retired or entered DROP prior to January 7, 2013. For those members retiring or entering DROP on or after January 7, 2013, the eligibility age is 60. Eligibility requires that the retirant has at least 20 years of eligible service.

For someone that entered DROP or retired after January 7, 2013, they are eligible to receive a COLA the month following their sixtieth (60th) birthday or twelve months after they retire, whichever is later, providing the board approves one for that year.

The board establishes an annual COLA between 0% and 3% based on compliance with the amortization period requirement of section 5505.121 of the Ohio Revised Code. If the board determines that an increase may be made, the increase shall not exceed three per cent (3%) of the eligible person's pension. The base pension used

in the first calculation for the additional COLA amount shall remain as the COLA base for all future increases.

Surviving spouses of members who retired or entered DROP before May 11, 2018, and disabled dependent children are eligible for COLA increases at age 60 or after thirteen (13) months if the surviving beneficiary is 59 or older. Designated beneficiaries and surviving spouses who are receiving additional benefits under Joint and Survivor Annuity or Life Annuity Certain and Continuous are eligible for a COLA the month after their sixtieth (60th) birthday or the thirteenth (13th) month, whichever is later.

For each person 65 years of age or older who is receiving a pension not greater than 185% of the federal poverty level for a family of two persons, as revised annually by the United States Department of Health and Human Services, a three per cent (3%) COLA will be applied.

Tax Documents Mailed to All Benefit Recipients

The IRS 1099-R Form for 2021 was mailed to all benefit recipients on January 14, 2022. This document can also be printed from our website, after logging in to the member area. Additionally, you should expect to receive a 1095-B from your health care provider. As a reminder, tax withholding can be changed by logging in to the member area of the website.

HPRS Pension Payment Dates

Most months result in a pension payment on the 20th of the month. However, when the 20th of the month falls on a weekend or Holiday, the pension payment will occur on the next business day. This will occur five times in 2022, for the following dates: February 22nd, March 21st, June 21st, August 22nd, and November 21st. Ohio Administrative Code 5505-7-06 provides guidance on the payment schedule. That rule reads in part..."monthly benefit payments shall be issued the twenty-fifth of each month". HPRS has established a policy to make sure the payments are always issued prior to the requirement of the 25th, by going with the 20th or the next business day following that. This policy provides HPRS some flexibility since we have a small staff that processes the payments for over 1,800 benefit recipients every month.

Change to Wellness Exam

Due to changes in available equipment, the bench press portion of the muscular strength test is no longer offered as part of the Comprehensive Wellness Exam (CWE). The equipment currently available at Ohio Health does not offer a way to safely measure upper body strength. Moreover, the standards are not available for performance comparison against peers in the appropriate age range. Should you desire to test your upper body strength, please consult with Ohio Health during your CWE, and/or your personal physician, about the safest method.

Important Notice:

Subject: The Women's Health and Cancer Rights Act of 1998

On October 21, 1998, the Women's Health and Cancer Rights Act was signed into law. Effective for plan years on or after that date, group health plans, insurance companies, and health maintenance organizations (HMOs) offering mastectomy coverage must also cover reconstructive surgery as determined in consultation with the attending physician and patient. Medical Mutual takes this responsibility seriously. Coverage includes:

- Reconstruction of the breast on which the mastectomy was performed.
- Surgery and reconstruction of the other breast to present a symmetrical appearance.
- Prostheses and treatment of physical complications at all stages of the mastectomy procedure. This includes lymphedemas, which are swelling of the hand and arm on the operated side.

These benefits are subject to the same deductibles and coinsurance that apply to other medical and surgical benefits provided under this plan.

If you have any questions about this or other health care benefits, please contact your health care benefits representative, or call the Customer Service number on your identification card.

Upcoming Events

The 34th Annual Snowbird Reunion will be March 24-26, 2022, at the Orlando Marriott Lake Mary, in Lake Mary, Florida. The hotel is now accepting reservations at a special group rate of \$139.00. You are encouraged to take advantage of the early room reservation opportunity. More details can be found on our website.

Permanent Mailing Address vs Mailing Address

As a reminder, the Permanent Address that you have on file is where you live the majority of the year, and the Mailing Address is for seasonal or short-term/temporary address (i.e. snowbirds). For most members, only the Permanent Mailing Address needs to be on file. Unless you have a temporary address, there is no need to fill in the Mailing Address portion with your Permanent Address. If a temporary mailing address is used, this needs to be "enabled" and "disabled" as appropriate. *(See below for images showing how to update your permanent and/or mailing address information through the secure area of our website.)* Please call our office if you have any questions or need help establishing that in our records.

Please note: Active members must update their address information with payroll.



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password



To register, or if you have forgotten your password [click here](#).



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Welcome: Your Name Here

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- 2020 Survey Report
- Board Meeting Highlights
- Legislative Log
- Historical Overview
- Replacement ID/Badge Form
- Pension Payment History / 1099R
- DRQP History
- Active Member Statement
- Retiree Directory
- My Profile, Purchases, Credits**
- Direct Deposit



CT Albert Swain in the GHW Comm Center on January 7, 1969



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Member Profile Information

- Change Password
- Change Tax Withholding
- Change Direct Deposit
- Change Address**



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Update Contact Information

- Update Permanent Address
- Update Mailing Address**

Please note: Your medical benefits may use this address to determine your network status. Your changes will be subject to review by HPRS staff.

If you want to update your part-time or temporary address, click on the "Update Mailing Address" tab above.



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Update Contact Information

Update Permanent Address

Update Mailing Address

Your **Mailing Address** will be where U.S. Postal mail and health care mailings will be sent. You can change this on a temporary basis to reflect your part-time residence address.

For example, if you are an Ohio resident 7 months of the year and reside in Florida for the other 5 months, use this space to add your temporary address.

When you return to your permanent address, turn off the "enable" checkbox and all correspondence will revert back to your Resident Address for mailings. Contact [OHPRS](#) if you have any questions.

Mail-To Name:

Mail Address 1:

Mail Address 2:

Mail City:

Mail State: OH - Ohio

Mail ZIP:

Enable Mailing Address **Note:** Your mailing address will not be used unless you check this box to enable it.

Update Mailing Address

Retiree Qualification

As a reminder, your qualification under the LEOSA rules is only good for one year from the date of qualification. This can be found in 18 USC 926C: Carrying of concealed firearms by qualified retired law enforcement officers. For example, if you qualified on May 1, 2021, then you must qualify on or prior to May 1, 2022.

The upcoming scheduled retiree qualifications at the Academy are:

- Monday, April 4, 2022, at 1300 hours
- Friday, June 10, 2022, at 1000 hours
- Wednesday, August 10, 2022, at 1300 hours
- Wednesday, October 12, 2022, at 1300 hours

As a reminder, you must complete a Weapons Qualifications Record (HP-15C), that includes your personal weapon information, and submit it to Melissa Fellure at mjfellure@dps.ohio.gov no less than 14 days prior to the qualification date. Retirees must bring their Division-issued ID Card with them to the qualification, and the retiree must supply weapon(s) and ammunition. If you have any questions, please call the Academy at 614.466.4896.

Important Numbers For You To Have On Hand

HPRS	(614) 431-0781
VIA Benefits*	(833) 431-1358
Medicare	(800) 633-4227
Medical Mutual of Ohio	(877) 520-6729
Express Scripts**	(866) 472-6249
Aetna Vision	(877) 973-3238
Delta Dental of Ohio	(800) 524-0149
Social Security	(800) 772-1213
Ohio Deferred Compensation	(877) 644-6457
OSHIIP	(800) 686-1578

*VIA Benefits currently services Medicare-eligible beneficiary recipients only, for health care and prescription coverage. For those not yet Medicare-eligible, health care coverage is provided by HPRS through Medical Mutual of Ohio (MMO).

**Express Scripts coverage through HPRS for non-Medicare enrollment.

Our office will be closed:

- February 17th - Presidents' Day

HPRS Staff Email Directory

Carl Roark, Ph.D., *Executive Director* - c.roark@ohprs.org
Michael Press, *CIO/General Counsel* - m.press@ohprs.org
Brian Fike, *Finance Director/Benefits Administrator* - b.fike@ohprs.org
Holly Carr, *Executive Assistant* - hcarr@ohprs.org
Doris Blosser, *Benefits Specialist* - dblosser@ohprs.org
Renee Young, *Benefits Specialist* - ryoung@ohprs.org
Charmaine Carter, *System Accountant* - ccarter@ohprs.org
Susan Hay, *Administrative Assistant* - shay@ohprs.org

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Sergeant Christian Niemeyer
Sergeant Brice Nihiser
Trooper Cynthia Wilt
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Scott Richter, *Appointed Investment Expert*
Joseph Thomas, *Appointed Investment Expert*

Ohio Highway Patrol Retirement System

1900 Polaris Parkway, Suite 201
Columbus, Ohio 43240-4037
614.431.0781
www.ohprs.org

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