



CT TEACHERS' RETIREMENT BOARD

765 ASYLUM AVENUE HARTFORD, CT 06105-2822
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"An Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer"
www.ct.gov/trb

October 14, 2015

To: Ben Barnes, Secretary of Policy and Management

From: Darlene Perez, Teachers' Retirement Board Administrator

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Darlene Perez".

Re: Budget Reductions FY' 2017

The Teachers' Retirement Board (TRB) is a governmental pension system regulated by Internal Revenue Code, State Statutes, State Regulations and Board policy. We are charged with providing benefits and/ or account maintenance to over 100,000 members and other eligible persons. Our current annual distribution of pension benefits exceeds \$1.7 billion per year. Additionally, we sponsor a self-insured health insurance program for eligible retirees and dependents, with annual claims in excess of \$120 million per year. The health plan membership experienced a net growth of over 8,800 members in the past five years and has over 25,000 members in the plan.

We have been cited for not hiring sufficient staff at the appropriate levels and qualifications to carry out all of our statutory responsibilities. Due to the critical state of the agency, we are unable to produce the targeted reductions for FYE '17. We submitted our hiring narrative in September, 2015, for FYE '16 & '17 by pay period for the 27 approved positions. Additionally, we submitted a request for additional positions we feel are necessary to implement the recommendations from the Auditors of Public Accounts and the Temporary Retiree Workers hired by OPM. The agency has been approved for three positions critical to our operations (which would bring us up to 27 filled positions) at the level of Associate Accountant, Accountant and Office Assistant. In order to stay within our budget and still fill all three vacancies, we elected to under fill the Accountant with an Accounting Career Trainee and the Office Assistant with a Financial Clerk producing a savings of \$25,000.00 for FYE '17. By filling these critical positions we would completely exhaust our PS budget for FYE '17 in the amount of \$105,300.00, which we are requesting to cover with OE funds.

The Teachers' Retirement Board is committed to continuously review the operations to provide realistic and achievable results for all stakeholders.

Thank you for your support as we work hard to respond to the Auditors of Public Accounts recommendations and to provide our public school teachers with the quality of service they deserve.