KPPA Kentucky Public Pensions Authority

PENSION INSIGHTS

Fall 2026 Issue

The official newsletter for non-retired members of CERS, KERS, and SPRS.



From the Desk of Ryan Barrow, Executive Director

Happy Fall!

As always, this newsletter is chock full of good stuff. Throughout October, KPPA staff have worked to support non-Medicare retirees during a mandatory Open Enrollment period. This support included answering calls, attending benefit fairs, and assisting retirees with the enrollment process itself. With the closing of the non-Medicare Open Enrollment period on October 31, we have pivoted to support Medicare-eligible retirees during their Open Enrollment period, which runs through November 30.

As we continue through this busy enrollment season, I want to thank our members for their patience and understanding. During the Open Enrollment periods, our counselors receive a high volume of calls from retirees with time-sensitive enrollment needs. Members with general, non-urgent questions may experience shorter wait times after November 30, when call volumes are expected to decrease. Your cooperation helps us provide timely support to those making important coverage decisions and allows us to better serve all members during this high-volume period.

For members who are planning to retire, there are changes to the non-Medicare health insurance enrollment. Beginning in 2027, there will be no default plan. Be sure to review the article below for important information about enrollment requirements, deadlines, and the steps you'll need to take to secure coverage.

Recent Retirements
July and August are always big months for retirements in state and local government. This year, KPPA saw 16 longtime employees file for retirement during this time frame. As they left, they carried with them the respect and admiration of their peers. When people come to work at KPPA, they often stay for decades.

We very much appreciate all the work our employees put in on behalf of our members, and we thank each of these recent retirees and wish them the best in this next phase of life.

Investment Results
Fiscal Year 2026 was a good one for investments on behalf of our pension and insurance plans. Returns far exceeded assumed rates of return, and in almost

all cases system portfolios outperformed the average return for pension plans with more than $1 billion in assets as tracked by Wilshire Associates.

Over the past five years investment returns per unit of risk in each portfolio rank among the top 5% of all peer public pension funds. That means the systems are getting exceptional investment performance for the amount of risk they're taking. Hats off to our investment committees for setting solid investment policies and to our Office of Investments team for carrying out those policies. More detailed information on investments can be found elsewhere in this newsletter.



Ryan Barrow, Executive Director

IMPORTANT 2027 INSURANCE CHANGES



Be Aware of Important 2027 Insurance Changes
If you're planning to retire soon, it's important to understand the enrollment requirements for non-Medicare retiree health insurance.

Beginning with Plan Year 2027, non-Medicare retirees will no longer have a default health insurance plan**.** To obtain coverage, eligible members must complete and submit the Retiree Health Insurance Enrollment/Change Form (Form 6200) by the applicable deadline.

Retiring in November or December 2026?
For uninterrupted insurance coverage, you must complete and submit both the 2026 and 2027 Retiree Health Insurance Enrollment/Change Forms (Form 6200) by the deadlines applicable to your retirement date. Coverage will begin upon retirement and continue into 2027. The easiest way to submit your enrollment forms is through **Self Service**.

Find all **Insurance Forms** on our website.

For details on available plan options, enrollment requirements, and important deadlines, please refer to the **2026 New Retiree Insurance Booklet** and the **2027 New Retiree Insurance Booklet**.

ID.me

In the coming months, KPPA will start using ID.me - a secure digital identity service used by many federal and state agencies. You may already be familiar with ID.me, as it is currently used by the Social Security Administration, IRS, Veterans Affairs, and Medicare. Kentucky's Office of Unemployment Insurance has also used this service for several years.

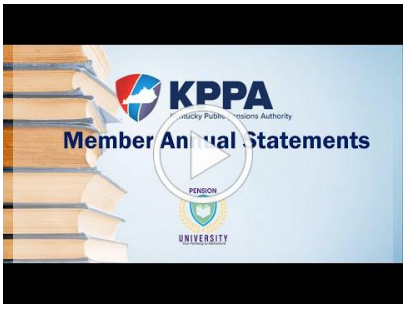
With ID.me, you won't need multiple passwords. The new process will provide quicker access and easier account management.

To help with the transition, members are encouraged to **create their ID.me account** ahead of time. Once ID.me is in place, members will be required to use ID.me to log in to their Self Service account.

ANNUAL STATEMENT AVAILABLE

Your Fiscal Year 2026 Annual Statement is available in Member Self Service! The statement provides a snapshot of your retirement account as of June 30, 2026, including your contributions, interest, and estimated retirement benefits.

Log in to Member Self Service today to access your statement.



SPRS ELECTIONS

SPRS
State Police Retirement System

At the September 10, 2026 KRS Board of Trustees meeting, the Board nominated Russell Harney and Dean Patterson to be on the SPRS 2027 election ballot.

Members who wish to vote by paper ballot must submit their request by November 30. The voting window is January 28 through March 1.

For more information on Board elections, go to our **website**.

MONTHLY WEBINARS

PENSION UNIVERSITY
Your Pathway to Retirement

KPPA hosts monthly webinars for non-retired members. Please take advantage of these opportunities to learn more about your benefits.

PENSION UNIVERSITY
Your Pathway to Retirement

Webinar schedule for November:

Tier 1 Webinar
Tuesday, Nov. 10, 9:30am ET

Retirement Payment Options Webinar
Thursday, Nov. 12, 3:00pm ET

Ready to Retire Webinar
Wednesday, Nov. 18, 3:00pm ET

Leave Balances Webinar
Tuesday, Nov. 24, 3:00pm ET

To view and register for any of our webinars, visit our **website**.

UPSIDE SHARING

FY 2026 Tier 3 Interest Rates
Hybrid Cash Balance Plan | Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2026

KPPA has announced the interest earned and credited to members' Tier 3 Hybrid Cash Balance accounts for Fiscal Year 2026.

CERS Nonhazardous **6.80%**	CERS Hazardous **6.96%**
KERS Nonhazardous **5.79%**	KERS Hazardous **6.69%**
SPRS **6.17%**	

For more information, see our **press release**.

SURVEYS AND CALL BACK ASSIST



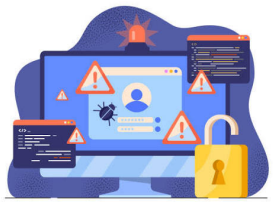
Your Feedback Makes a Difference!
Most callers now have the opportunity to complete a brief survey after speaking with a KPPA counselor. Simply stay on the line after your counselor disconnects to share your experience.

Coming soon: Members will have the opportunity to provide feedback through Self Service.

We appreciate everyone who participates! Your feedback helps KPPA build on its strengths, identify opportunities for improvement, and continue providing excellent service to our members.

Save Time with Call Back Assist
When offered, Call Back Assist keeps your place in line without requiring you to remain on hold. Leave your contact information, and a counselor will call you when your place in the queue is reached. We strongly encourage members to take advantage of this convenient, time-saving option!

SECURITY SPOTLIGHT



Emerging Cyber Threats Targeting Older Adults
Cyberattacks continue to rise across the country, and older adults are frequently targeted through scams designed to steal personal or financial information. Staying informed is one of the best ways to protect yourself.

Phishing Scams
Phishing remains one of the most common attacks against older adults. These scams usually arrive as emails or text messages that appear to come from

trusted sources—like your bank, a government agency, or even friends and family. Their goal is to trick you into clicking harmful links or sharing sensitive information.

Tips:

- Be cautious with unexpected emails or text messages containing links.
- If a message claims to be from someone you know but feels urgent or alarming, call them directly to confirm before taking any action.

Tech Support Scams

Scammers may pretend to be from companies such as Microsoft or Apple, contacting you by phone or through alarming pop-up messages. The scammers claim your device has a virus and they can help, often by asking for remote access or payment for fake services.

Tips:

- Legitimate companies do not call you about computer problems.
- If you receive an unsolicited tech support call, hang up immediately.
- If a pop-up warns of a “virus” and asks you to click or call, close your browser and do not respond.

Social Engineering Scams

These scams use emotions like fear, urgency, or trust to persuade victims to break normal security habits. Scammers may pretend to be family members needing money, charities asking for donations, or organizations requesting personal details.

Tips:

- If someone contacts you asking for money, gift cards, or sensitive information, hang up.
- Call the person or organization back using a verified phone number to confirm the request.

INVESTMENT RETURNS

	FY 2026*	5-Year	10-Year	30-Year
CERS NH	13.8%	8.0%	9.3%	7.7%
CERS H	13.8%	8.0%	9.3%	7.7%
KERS NH	12.3%	6.8%	8.3%	7.4%
KERS H	13.6%	7.8%	9.1%	7.7%
SPRS	12.1%	6.9%	8.3%	7.4%

Insurance Fund Performance

	FY 2026*	5-Year	10-Year	30-Year
CERS NH	13.4%	8.0%	9.2%	7.2%
CERS H	13.2%	8.0%	9.3%	7.2%
KERS NH	13.3%	7.7%	9.0%	7.1%

KERS H	13.0%	7.8%	9.1%	7.1%
SPRS	12.9%	7.8%	9.2%	7.2%

*Through June 2026 and trailing 12-month periods.
NH - Nonhazardous
H - Hazardous

Do you currently use ID.me to log in to other government services?



Kentucky Public Pensions Authority | 1260 Louisville Road Monday - Friday 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. ET | Frankfort, KY 40601 US

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