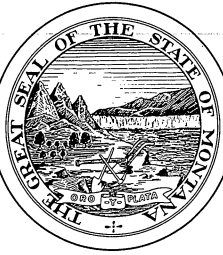


TEACHERS' RETIREMENT SYSTEM



STEVE BULLOCK, GOVERNOR

www.trs.mt.gov

STATE OF MONTANA

1500 EAST SIXTH AVENUE
PO BOX 200139
HELENA, MONTANA 59620-0139

1-866-600-4045
406-444-3134

March 31, 2016

James DeHaven
Helena Independent Record
PO Box 4249
Helena, MT 59604

RE: Request for Information from the Teachers' Retirement System

Dear Mr. DeHaven:

TRS has received your March 18, 2016 record request for "data for the past four fiscal years, including first and last name, job title, employer, retirement plan name, base pension, benefits, years of service, year of retirement, total pension and benefits amount."

Unfortunately, we cannot produce all of the information you have requested. TRS does not collect or keep records related to the job title of our members, so we are unable to provide this information to you. In addition, I need clarification of data elements listed in your request before I am able to estimate how long it would take TRS to generate the report and the production costs associated with your request.

Your request includes but is not limited to data for the past four fiscal years including among other things, base pension, benefits, total pension and benefits amounts. What do you mean by "base pension"? In addition, it is unclear to me if you are asking for data related to only retirements that have occurred in the last four completed fiscal years (effective date of retirement between July 1, 2011 and June 30, 2015) or if you are requesting information for all retired members who have received a benefit payment in the last four fiscal years. Correspondingly, it is unclear whether the "total pension" and "benefits amount" refers to the total retirement benefits paid only to individuals who have retired in the last four completed fiscal years, or if it refers to the total retirement benefits paid to all retired members who have received a benefit payment in the last four fiscal years regardless of their effective date of retirement. The scope of your request as well as the time and cost to fulfill your request is considerably different depending on the answers to these questions. Once you have clarified the data elements in your request for information, I can respond to you with an estimate of the cost to produce the report you have requested.

With respect to your request in general, once we better understand your information request, the Board will consider whether the public's right to know outweighs the individual privacy rights of our retirees.

Please contact us at (406) 444-3134 if you have any questions or need further clarification.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Shawn Graham".

Shawn Graham
TRS Executive Director