

Tier 1

Public Employees

# Contributory

Retirement System

Highlights

2016-17



Effective July 1, 2016

## Where to Find It

---

- 22 Address Changes
- 23 Administrative Information
- 13 Beneficiary Information
- 15 Benefit Formula
- 22 Cost-of-Living Increases
- 11 Death Benefits
  - 5 Defined Benefit Annual Retirement Statement
- 22 Direct Deposit
- 11 Disability Benefits
- 22 Health Insurance
- 22 Lost or Misplaced Checks
  - 2 Membership Eligibility
- 20 Partial Lump-Sum Option (PLSO)
- 10 Payment Options for Purchasing or Reinstating Service
  - 9 Purchasing Future Service Credit
  - 5 Refunds
  - 7 Reinstating Withdrawn Contributions
- 21 Required Minimum Distribution
- 19 Retiree Life Insurance
- 14 Retirement Qualifications
- 22 Returning to Work After Retirement
- 16 Service in Other Utah Retirement Systems
  - 8 Service Purchase
  - 18 Six Retirement Options
- 16 Steps to Retirement
- 21 Taxes
- 20 URS Savings Plans (401(k), 457, IRAs)

## Welcome to the Public Employees Contributory Retirement System!



## The Contributory

---

Retirement System is a defined benefit retirement plan under Utah Retirement Systems (URS) intended to provide a meaningful retirement benefit to the employees who have chosen a career in public service. It is a qualified tax-deferred plan under Internal Revenue Code Section 401(a). The laws that govern this retirement system are set forth in Utah Code Title 49.

## Membership Eligibility

### You qualify for membership if:

- » You are hired to perform services for an employer who participates in this system and initially began full-time employment prior to July 1, 2011;

### And one of the following:

- » Your employment, contemplated to continue during a fiscal or calendar year, normally requires an average of 20 hours or more per week *and* you receive benefits normally provided by your employer as approved by the Retirement Board.
- » You are a teacher who teaches half-time or more and you receive benefits normally provided by your employer as approved by the Retirement Board.
- » You are an elected or appointed\* official who earns the minimum salary required by law each month during the term of office. The minimum salary is typically increased yearly by the Consumer Price Index. The amount as of Feb. 1, 2016, is \$1005.
- » You are in a probationary status and meet eligibility requirements.
- » You perform services through an employee leasing or similar arrangement and you meet eligibility requirements.

**Note:** *A transfer between systems requires certification in the system in which your employer participates and that eligibility requirements are met.*

*\*Appointed officials are employees appointed to a position for a definite and fixed term of office, and the position is recorded in the employer's charter, creation document, or similar document.*

### Certification of Eligibility

At the time you are hired, elected, or appointed, your employer will certify your status with Utah Retirement Systems.

### Exempting from Coverage

If you choose to exempt from retirement coverage, you must contact your employer immediately. See section marked **Employees who may exempt from retirement coverage** on page 4.

### Post-Retirement Employment

If you are retired from URS, you must notify your employer and complete a Post-Retirement Employment Form (see section marked **Returning to work after retirement** on page 23 of this brochure).

### Exception to immediate certification and coverage:

- » Temporary (not probationary) and seasonal employees when the job is scheduled to be completed in six months or less.

### Employees who are not eligible for service credit with URS:

- » Exchange employees from outside the state;
- » Employees of the Department of Workforce Services who are covered under another retirement system;
- » Employees of a two-year or four-year college or university who hold a retirement annuity contract with TIAA during any period when required contributions based on compensation are paid on behalf of employees by their employers;
- » Employees who currently work fewer than 20 hours per week; or who no longer receive benefits provided by their employers.

**Employees who may exempt from retirement coverage:**

- » Full-time students or their spouses;
- » Persons employed in a trainee relationship;
- » Elected and appointed positions under Utah Code Ann. § 67-22-2;
- » Elected officials;
- » Other state officers and employees under Utah Code Ann. § 49-12 & 13-203(2);
- » Employees of the following:
  - The Governor’s Office
  - The Governor’s Office of Planning and Budget
  - The Governor’s Office of Economic Development
  - The Commission on Criminal and Juvenile Justice
  - The State Auditor’s Office
  - The State Treasurer’s Office;
- » Members of the following:
  - The State Tax Commission
  - The Public Service Commission
  - A full-time or part-time board or commission;
- » Legislative employees:
  - Appointed under § 36-12-7 (3)(a), or
  - Appointed by the Speaker or the Minority Leader of the House of Representatives, or the President or the Minority Leader of the Senate;
- » Senior staff of the Utah Science Technology and Research Institute;

- » At-will employees who are:
  - Appointed as city managers or chief city administrators
  - Employed by municipalities, counties, or other political subdivisions who are included in an Employee Exemption Plan developed by the municipality, county, or political subdivision;
- » Employees of an interlocal cooperative agency under Title 11, Chapter 13, Interlocal Cooperation Act that includes:
  - Persons engaged in a specialized trade customarily provided through membership in a labor organization that provides retirement benefits to its members.

In all cases, an *exemption form* must be filed with our office *before the date of exemption*.

## Defined Benefit Annual Retirement Statement

URS Defined Benefit (pension) Annual Retirement Statements reflect salary, contributions paid by you and/or your employer on your behalf, service credit, and designated beneficiaries. If applicable, they also include member contributions transferred from previous membership in any Utah Retirement System. Statements are mailed to your home address and are also available online. Go to [www.urs.org](http://www.urs.org) and log in to myURS.

## Refunds

If you terminate all URS-covered employment you may request a refund of your member contributions, if applicable.

If you elect to take a refund, you forfeit contributory service credit for the periods covered by your member contributions.

Your refund will be processed after 60 days from the last date of the pay period for which contributions were paid.

**You are not eligible for a refund under the following conditions:**

- » You transfer from one participating employer under URS to another.
- » You terminate your employment with one participating employer and you are subsequently rehired by the same or a different participating employer, even though there may be a break in service.
- » You terminate employment, apply for a refund, and subsequently accept employment with another participating employer before the disbursement of your refund payment.
- » You are officially exempted from retirement coverage through URS.
- » You become ineligible for retirement coverage. This includes:
  - Employees whose hours drop below an average of 20 per week,
  - Employees who do not receive an employer’s normal benefits, and
  - Teachers whose hours drop below teaching half-time.

*If you have exempted from retirement coverage or you become ineligible for service credit, you may request a direct rollover of member contributions, if applicable, to a qualified defined contribution plan.*

- » You are receiving or have applied for long-term disability benefits through an agency that has a benefit protection contract with our office.
- » You are on a leave of absence from any position covered by this system.

**A Word of Caution** — refunds are subject to:

- A 20% federal income tax withholding on the eligible portion of your distribution, unless you make a direct rollover to a 401(k) or other eligible plan.
- Utah state income tax.
- Possible taxes of the state where you reside if other than Utah.
- A 10% early withdrawal penalty if taken before age 59½.

The 10% early withdrawal penalty may not apply if you work into or beyond the year you reach age 55 or if you are a qualified public safety employee, age 50. A *qualified public safety employee* provides police protection, firefighting or emergency medical services within the jurisdiction of the employing state or political subdivision.

*Note: You do not lose service credit if you withdraw your URS Savings Plans (401(k), 457, IRAs) balances. For more information regarding the 401(k) plan, 457 plan, and IRAs please see the section marked URS Savings Plans.*

## Reinstating Withdrawn Contributions

.....

As long as you have an existing record of eligible, nonforfeited, service credit with our office, you or your employer may reinstate eligible service you previously withdrew. The cost to reinstate your account is the amount you withdrew plus interest from the date of withdrawal to the date of repayment. The entire amount of withdrawn contributions plus interest may be paid in a lump-sum or by installment payments through payroll deduction. The reinstatement must be completed before your retirement date. Reinstating eligible

service may qualify you for an earlier retirement and/or increase your monthly benefit.

See the section marked **Payment Options** (page 10) for reinstating withdrawn contributions.

## Service Purchase

If you are an active member and have an existing record of four or more years of eligible service credit with our office, and the service credit you intend to purchase has been forfeited under any other retirement system or plan, you or your employer may purchase the following:

- » Active full-time United States military service if it does not otherwise qualify for service credit under a system administered by URS.

**OR**

- » Any portion of the following qualified service if the service has been forfeited under any other retirement system or plan. This includes:
  - 1.) Forfeited United States federal employment,
  - 2.) Forfeited private school employment based in the United States, if you received an employer-paid retirement benefit for the employment,
  - 3.) Forfeited public employment in another state or territory of the United States that qualified you for membership in the public plan or system covering the employment,
  - 4.) Forfeited public service in this state,
  - 5.) Full-time public employment while on an approved leave of absence,
  - 6.) Exempt service,
  - 7.) Utah service that does not meet eligibility requirements, but the hours worked were at least 20 or more hours per week,

- 8.) Workers' compensation, long-term and short-term disability benefit periods for which you were paid and no benefit protection contract existed,
- 9.) Employment covered by the Teachers Insurance and Annuity Association of America (TIAA) retirement plan if you forfeit any retirement benefit from that plan for the period of employment to be purchased, or
- 10.) Forfeited Utah Charter School employment.

The purchase must be credited to the system under which you are currently covered and be completed before your retirement date set with our office.

To qualify for a purchase, service credit you earned in other public employment outside of URS coverage must meet the minimum qualifications of the system you're in at the time of purchase. Under this system, a minimum of 20 hours of work per week is required or you must be a half-time teacher.

For detailed information on the types of service you may purchase, refer to the **Purchasing Service Credit** brochure. See **Payment Options** for making a purchase.

## Purchasing Future Service Credit

To purchase future service you must be an active member and have an existing record of five years of eligible service credit with our office, if you're age 65; or you must be an active member and have a minimum of 25 years of eligible service. You (or jointly with your employer) may purchase up to five years, even if it exceeds the years you need to retire with an unreduced retirement benefit (meaning no early age reduction). At a

minimum, the number of years of service credit you buy must be enough to allow you to retire without an early age reduction. You must pay at least 5% of the total cost and retire immediately after your purchase. Your employer may pay up to 95%. (See the **Purchasing Future Service Credit** brochure for more information.)

## Payment Options

You may reinstate eligible service you previously withdrew or purchase service according to one of the following options:

- 1.) **Lump-sum payment** made any time before your effective date of retirement set with our office.
  - » Future service credit in total (your payment, rollovers, and any employer payment) must be received within 15 days before your retirement date and no later than the day before your retirement date.
- 2.) **Payroll deduction** (with your employer's approval) must be completed before your effective date of retirement and within 60 months of your first payment.
  - » Payroll deduction is not available for future service credit purchases.
- 3.) **Direct rollover** you arrange from your 401(k) or other qualified plan, or from an eligible plan such as a 403(b), 457, or conduit IRA.
- 4.) **Payment made by your employer** must be received by our office no later than the day before your retirement date.
  - » Employer is limited to 95% of the cost of a future service credit purchase. Total payment must be received within 15 days before your retirement date and no later than the day before your retirement date.

All payments must be received before your date of retirement set with our office.

For specific information about purchases, contact our Defined Benefit Retirement Department at 801-366-7770 or 800-695-4877.

## Disability Benefits

Your employer's long-term disability (LTD) program describes your benefits. If your employer has a benefit protection contract with our office and you have been approved for LTD benefits, you will continue to accrue service credit while receiving LTD benefits until you retire through URS or qualify for an unreduced retirement benefit.

## Death Benefits for Non-Retired Members

The financial settlement your beneficiary(ies) will receive when you die is determined by your status in this system and your service record, with the following possibilities:

### Career Benefit

If you are a non-retired career employee and die before retiring and you have been married at least six months immediately preceding your death, your spouse is eligible for a monthly benefit if you qualify for a service retirement or you have 25 years of service credit.

If your spouse is eligible for a career benefit and is the designated beneficiary, your spouse will be required to select the option of a lifetime monthly benefit or a refund of your member contributions.

However, if your spouse qualifies for a career benefit, and is not the designated beneficiary, the lifetime monthly benefit is the only amount payable to your spouse. If your spouse does not

elect to receive the monthly benefit, your member contributions will be paid to the designated beneficiary(ies).

In order for the career benefit to be effective the first day of the month following the month of your death (the benefit effective date), your spouse must file an application with our office within 90 days of your death. If the application is received 90 days after the date of death, the benefit effective date will be the first day of the month, following the month, in which the application is received.

**Lump-Sum Settlement**

If your spouse does not qualify for a career benefit, your beneficiary(ies) will receive a refund of your member contributions.

**Death Benefit**

If you are a non-retired member who is employed by a participating employer at the time of your death, your beneficiary(ies) will receive a death benefit payment representing 75% of your highest annual salary. If you have less than 12 months' service, the benefit will be prorated. The minimum payment is \$1,000.

If you are a non-retired member who hasn't worked for a participating employer for 120 days or more since termination, you have 10 or more years of credited service before July 1, 1987, and you did not withdraw your member contributions, your beneficiary(ies) will receive a payment representing 75% of your highest annual salary.

*Note: The payment is not payable if the covered member commits suicide before group coverage has been in force for two years.*

**Accelerated Death Benefit**

This provision allows you to take an advance payment of 75% of your death benefit if you have a terminal illness and a life expectancy under 18 months.

*Note: After your death, any money in your URS Savings Plans (401(k), 457, IRAs) will be payable to your beneficiary(ies).*

**Beneficiaries Before Retirement**

You may name whomever you choose as beneficiary(ies) for the death benefit. You may also name whomever you choose as beneficiary(ies) for member contributions and for the savings plans, if applicable.

You may change your beneficiary(ies) at any time by logging into your account at **www.urs.org** under myURS. When updating your beneficiary(ies), you revoke all previous designations. Forms are also available from our office or at **www.urs.org**.

**Beneficiaries After Retirement**

If you select Option One, your beneficiary(ies) receive(s) no monthly benefit or refund of member contributions unless death occurs within 90 days after your retirement date.

If you select Option Two, you may name whomever you choose as beneficiary(ies) to receive the remaining balance of your member contributions (if applicable) upon your death.

You may change your beneficiary(ies) any time, by logging into your myURS account at **www.urs.org** or you may request a form by contacting our office. When updating your beneficiary designations, you revoke all previous designations.

If you select Options Three, Four, Five, or Six, your spouse at the time of retirement is designated as your beneficiary. This beneficiary **cannot** be changed.

If retiree life insurance is selected at the time of retirement for you and/or your spouse, you may name whomever you wish as beneficiary(ies).

Beneficiaries for member life insurance can be changed by logging into your myURS account at [www.urs.org](http://www.urs.org). A *Beneficiary Designation* form must be completed when updating spouse beneficiaries. Forms are available by contacting our office. When updating your beneficiary designations, you revoke all previous designations.

**Beneficiary designations** should be kept current and on file in our office at all times. Forms for claiming benefits are sent to the last known address of the beneficiary(ies).

## Retirement Qualifications

You qualify for a monthly retirement benefit if you are:

- 65 with 4 years of service.
- 62 with 10 years of service.
- 60 with 20 years of service.
- Any age with 30 years of service.

If you have fewer than 30 years of service from any combination of Utah Retirement Systems, retiring before age 65 reduces your monthly benefit 3% for each year between ages 60 and 65.

## Benefit Formula

Your monthly retirement benefit is determined by your age, years of actual service credit, final average monthly salary, and the benefit formula. To estimate your monthly retirement benefit under Option One, follow the steps below or go to [www.urs.org](http://www.urs.org) and use the **Retirement Benefit Estimate Calculator**.

- 1.) **TOTAL** your five highest years of salary\* \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- 2.) **DIVIDE** line 1 by 60, this is your final average monthly salary \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- 3.) **MULTIPLY** your years of service:
  - a. Before July 1, 1975 by 1.25% (.0125) \_\_\_\_\_
  - b. After July 1, 1975 by 2% (.02) \_\_\_\_\_
- 4.) **ADD** lines 3a and 3b \_\_\_\_\_
- 5.) **MULTIPLY** line 2 by line 4 for your **TOTAL** \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- 6.) **ADJUSTED AMOUNT** after any early retirement reduction \$ \_\_\_\_\_

*\*If any one of the years used exceeds the previous year's salary by more than 10%, plus a cost-of-living adjustment determined by the consumer price index, the year(s) in question will be limited.*

Options that provide a survivor's benefit reduce your benefit. (See the section marked **Six Retirement Options**.)

## Service in Other Utah Retirement Systems

If you have been employed in more than one Utah Retirement System or URS Retirement Plan and the service is not concurrent, you may combine your service credits to determine your eligibility to retire from the system you are in at the time of your retirement. The service you render in any one year cannot count for more than one year of qualifying service credit. Your benefit is computed using the service from the system in which you currently participate plus the transferred service, which is increased or decreased to reflect the value of the assets transferred.

## Steps to Retirement

### Get an Estimate

Before making the decision to retire, you can compute an estimate of your potential benefit by going to [www.urs.org](http://www.urs.org) and using the **Retirement Benefit Estimate Calculator**. Contact our office for a URS-generated estimate if you're planning to retire in the next 12 months.

### Once You Decide to Retire

When you decide to retire, make an appointment with a retirement advisor or request an application by mail. Your application setting your retirement date must be filed with our office not more than 90 days before or after your retirement date. Your signature on the application must be notarized.

### Setting a Retirement Date

You may set your retirement date for the first or the 16th day of the month following your last actual working day. You must actually terminate employment from all participating employers covered by URS on or before your retirement date.

### When You'll Receive Payment

Your retirement benefit is paid monthly. Retirement checks for the month of payment are mailed the last working day of each month. Although your first check may be delayed up to three months following your effective retirement date, the amount of your check is retroactive to the date your retirement began. This delay is due in part to the time required to receive and post salary information from your employer and to receive verification of your termination and your service credit eligibility.

### Filing Your Application

When you file your retirement application, you need to provide an original or legible photocopy of your marriage certificate as well as birth certificates or other proof-of-age documents for yourself and your spouse. *You may cancel or change your application any time up to the date of your retirement.*

**Note:** *There is a three-day rescission period from the date your application is signed during which time you may elect to make a change.*

For more information, the *Tier 1 Retirement Guidebook* is available on our website and from our office.

## Six Retirement Options

When you apply for retirement, you choose one of six payout options. Consider carefully because no alterations, additions, or cancellation of benefits may be made after your date of retirement.

*Note: There is a three-day rescission period from the date your application is signed during which time you may elect to make a change.*

**Option One** provides a maximum monthly benefit for the rest of your life. No monthly payments or refund of member contributions are made to your beneficiary(ies) after you die. If you die within 90 days after your retirement date, your retirement is canceled, and your account is settled as though you were a non-retired member at the time of death. (See the section marked Death Benefits for Non-Retired Members.)

**Option Two** provides a slightly reduced lifetime benefit. When you die, your beneficiary(ies) will receive the balance of your member contributions after a portion of your monthly benefit payment has been deducted. You may change beneficiary(ies) under this option at any time.

*The following four options restrict your beneficiary to the spouse to whom you are married on the effective date of your retirement.*

**Option Three** provides a reduced benefit during your lifetime. After your death, your lawful spouse, at the time of retirement, will receive the same lifetime benefit.

**Option Four** provides a reduced benefit during your lifetime. After your death, your lawful spouse, at the time of retirement, will receive a lifetime benefit equal to one-half of your benefit.

**Option Five** provides a modification of the benefit in Option Three. After your death, your lawful spouse, at the time of retirement, will receive the same lifetime benefit. If your spouse dies before you do, your benefit will revert to the amount payable under Option One.\*

**Option Six** provides a modification of the benefit in Option Four. After your death, your lawful spouse, at the time of retirement, will receive a lifetime benefit equal to one-half of your benefit. If your spouse dies before you do, your benefit will revert to the amount payable under Option One.\*

A member retiring under Option Five or Option Six may increase the monthly benefit subsequent to a divorce, depending on the court order.

*\*If we are notified more than 90 days after your spouse's death, your benefit will revert to the first of the month following the month we are notified.*

## Retiree Life Insurance

You may purchase retiree life insurance for yourself and/or your spouse, which can be selected in addition to the six payout options. The cost of the life insurance appears as a deduction on your retirement check. The coverage is available in the amounts of \$3,000, \$5,000, or \$10,000. If you or your spouse dies within the first three years after retirement, payment to the designated beneficiary(ies) will be as follows: 25% of the selected amount will be paid if death occurs in the first year; 50% will be paid if death occurs during the second year; 75% will be paid if death occurs during the third year; and payment of 100% beginning with the fourth year and thereafter.

You may cancel your election for life insurance any time. However, you may only elect to purchase retiree life insurance at retirement.

## Partial Lump-Sum Option (PLSO) at Retirement

At retirement, you have the option to receive a lump-sum payment equal to 12 months or 24 months of your lifetime monthly retirement benefit. By electing to receive a lump-sum payment, you accept a permanently reduced lifetime monthly retirement benefit.

## URS Savings Plans

URS offers four retirement savings plans: 401(k), 457, traditional IRA, and Roth IRA. You and/or your employer have the option of contributing to a 401(k) and/or 457 plan, if your employer participates, and **you** have the option of contributing to a traditional and/or Roth IRA.

Each plan has been established under separate sections of the Internal Revenue Code. Therefore, a separate set of laws and regulations governs each plan. As a result, there are some differences among the plans.

Information about the savings plans is available at [www.urs.org](http://www.urs.org) or by contacting our Defined Contribution Department at 801-366-7720 or 800-688-401k (press "0" to speak with a counselor during normal business hours).

*URS Savings Plans Quarterly Statements* are mailed to your home address and are also available at [www.urs.org](http://www.urs.org), via myURS.

## Things to Know

Federal law requires you, if you are no longer working, to begin receiving benefits on or before April 1, following the year you turn age 70½. If you are still working after age 70½ you must begin receiving benefits on or before April 1, following the year you terminate employment. If you fail to meet this **required minimum distribution (RMD)**, you may be subject to a substantial federal excise tax.

**An additional 3%** may be added to your monthly retirement benefit if you had retirement service in your account on Jan. 1, 1989. If you refund and subsequently reinstate withdrawn contributions, you will forfeit the 3%.

**Federal and Utah state income taxes** can be withheld from your retirement check. Federal income tax will be withheld beginning with your first retirement check unless you tell us otherwise. If you're a nonresident, check your state's tax laws for the status of your Utah retirement benefits. You may change your withholding status at any time by logging into your myURS account at [www.urs.org](http://www.urs.org). Forms are also available from our office and at [www.urs.org](http://www.urs.org).

If you had contributions withheld from your paycheck, you may exclude a percentage of your monthly benefit from taxation. This information will arrive with your first retirement check under separate cover. Every January you will receive a 1099-R showing the gross and taxable amounts of benefits paid to you the previous year and the taxes withheld. Consult a tax professional regarding your own situation.

**Social Security benefits** are federally sponsored. For information, contact your local Social Security office.

**Health insurance** after retirement is based on your employer's benefit package and should be reviewed carefully with your employer before you retire. You should also check with your employer about any early retirement incentives. A supplement to Medicare is available at age 65 to you and your spouse through Public Employees Health Program (PEHP). For more information, call PEHP at 801-366-7555 or 800-765-7347 or visit [www.pehp.org](http://www.pehp.org).

**Cost-of-living increases** of up to 4% of your original retirement benefit begin one year after you retire, based on the consumer price index.

**Returning to work after retirement** is possible under the provisions described in the *Post-Retirement Employment* brochure available on our website and from our office.

**Lost or misplaced checks** can be replaced if you request it in writing.

**Direct deposit** is available for monthly checks once you retire. Forms are available from our office and at [www.urs.org](http://www.urs.org).

We need to know if your **address changes** in order to keep you informed about your retirement benefits. Our having your current address ensures that you receive your *defined benefit annual retirement statement*, your *defined contribution quarterly statement (401(k), 457, IRAs)*, informative publications, and information you request on your account. You may change your address by logging into your myURS account at [www.urs.org](http://www.urs.org) or you may request a form by contacting our office. Statements are also available by logging into myURS.

**Your right to privacy is protected.** Information can be given over the telephone to you only if you can demonstrate your identity through knowledge of personal information. If such knowledge cannot be demonstrated,

account information will not be discussed over the telephone. Because your file is confidential, we cannot release information to your spouse, relatives, or group representative. Information provided through the URS website is permitted only with a valid user identification (ID) and password.

## Administrative Information

### Nonassignability of Benefits or Payments

Retirement benefits or payments are not subject to alienation or assignment by you and are not subject to attachment, execution, garnishment, or any other legal or equitable process except for a domestic relations order (DRO) and IRS tax levies. If there is a valid DRO on your URS Defined Benefit Retirement (pension) account or your URS Savings Plans (401(k), 457, traditional or Roth IRA), part of your benefits will be paid to your alternate payee (ex-spouse), as specified in the DRO. Our office cannot begin payment of your defined benefit retirement (pension) to an alternate payee until you terminate employment and apply for retirement benefits. Payments from your URS Savings Plans to an alternate payee can begin as soon as a valid DRO is filed with our office.

The defined benefit plans (pension) and the defined contribution savings plans have separate model DROs, available from our office, to help attorneys prepare an acceptable order.

### Appeals

If you disagree with the calculation of a benefit, accrual of service credit, or with some other action taken by a department of our office, you may appeal such decisions pursuant to Utah Code Ann. § 49-11-613.

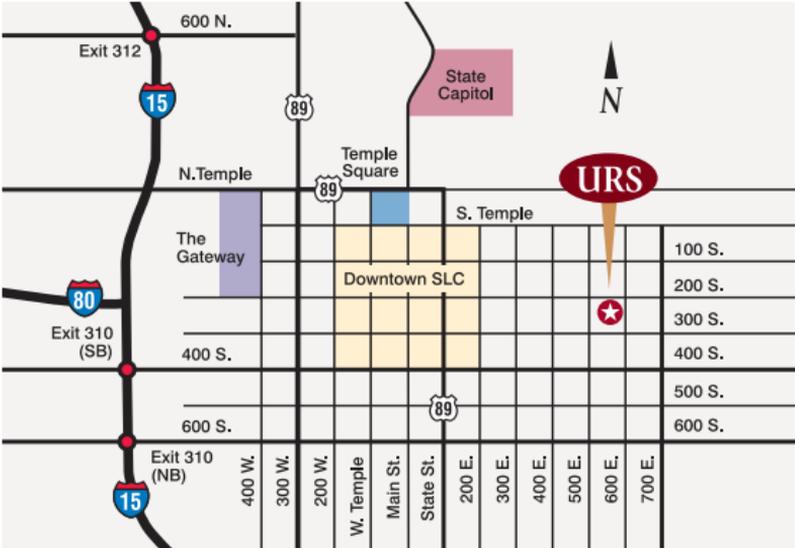
If you decide to seek reversal of a decision by a department of our office, you'll need to write a letter to the executive director stating the facts of the situation, the remedy you seek, and the legal or equitable basis for the reversal. The executive director will review the case and either grant or deny your request. If it is denied, you may, within 30 days of the denial, file a written petition with the hearing officer. Steps for filing the petition will be sent to you at that time.

## A Final Word

.....

This brochure is general in nature. For specific information on your account, contact our office in Salt Lake City or St. George.

For more information regarding the URS Savings Plans (401(k), 457, IRAs) contact our Defined Contribution Department at 801-366-7720 or at 800-688-401k.



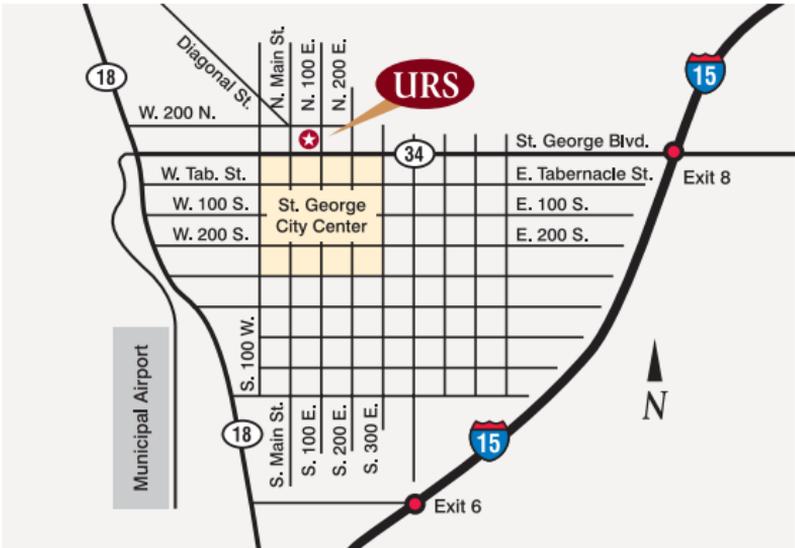
### Salt Lake City Office

560 East 200 South, Suite 240  
Salt Lake City, UT 84102-2021  
801-366-7700 • 800-365-8772  
TTY 800-877-8339 or 711

Visit: Monday - Friday, 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

### Salt Lake Office Mailing Address

P.O. Box 1590 • Salt Lake City, UT 84110-1590



### Southern Utah Branch Office

165 North 100 East, #9  
St. George, UT 84770-2505  
435-673-6300 • 800-950-4877

For more information: [www.urs.org](http://www.urs.org)

On the Cover:  
Annette Damavandi, Head Baker, SUU/Chartwells