

ORANGE COUNTY OCERS EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEM

Retirement Matters

TOWN HALL MEETING

Thursday, October 29, 2026

Mission, Vision, and Values

Mission Statement

We provide secure retirement and disability benefits with the highest standards of excellence.

Vision Statement

To be a trusted partner providing premier pension administration, distinguished by consistent, quality member experience and prudent financial stewardship

Values

Open and Transparent

Commitment to Superior Service

Engaged and Dedicated Workforce

Reliable and Accurate

Secure and Sustainable

*The information provided is subject to change.

Who We Serve

- City Of San Juan Capistrano
- County Of Orange
- Orange County Cemetery District
- Orange County Children & Families Commission
- Orange County Department of Education (Closed to New Members)
- Orange County Employees Retirement System
- Orange County Fire Authority
- Orange County In-Home Support Services Public Authority
- Orange County Local Agency Formation Commission
- Orange County Public Law Library
- Orange County Sanitation District
- Orange County Transportation Authority
- Superior Court of California, Orange County
- Transportation Corridor Agencies
- UCI Medical Center and Campus (Closed to New Members)



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About OCERS Members

















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OCERS Board of Retirement



Richard Oates, Chair
Safety Board Member



Shawn Dewane, Vice Chair
Public Board Member



Shari L. Freidenrich, CPA
Ex-Officio Member



Iriss Barriga
General Board Member



Adele Lopez Tagaloa
General Board Member



Wayne Lindholm
Public Board Member



Charles E. Packard
Public Board Member



Arthur Hidalgo
Public Board Member



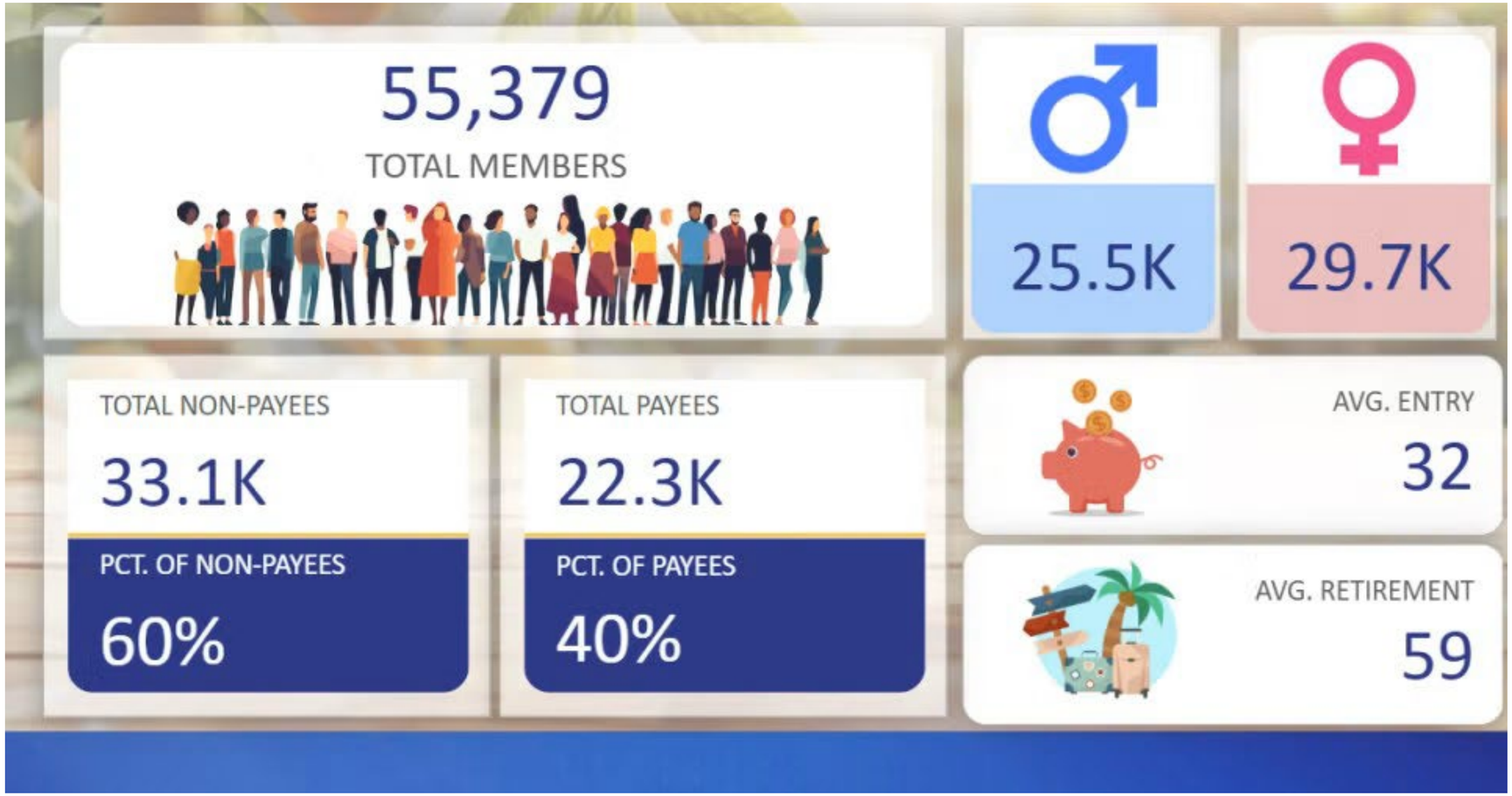
Roger Hilton
Retiree Board Member



Jeremy Vallone
Alternate Safety Member

*The information provided is subject to change.

Quick Facts



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Legacy and PEPRA Members

Legacy member

A member covered by OCERS' pre-PEPRA benefit rules.

Generally, membership began before January 1, 2013.

PEPRA member

A member covered by the Public Employees' Pension Reform Act.

Generally, first entered public retirement system membership on or after January 1, 2013.

Prior public retirement membership and reciprocity can affect your classification. Confirm your status and benefit plan with OCERS.

Sources: OCERS Active Member Information and Reciprocity Questions. General guide, not an individual eligibility determination.

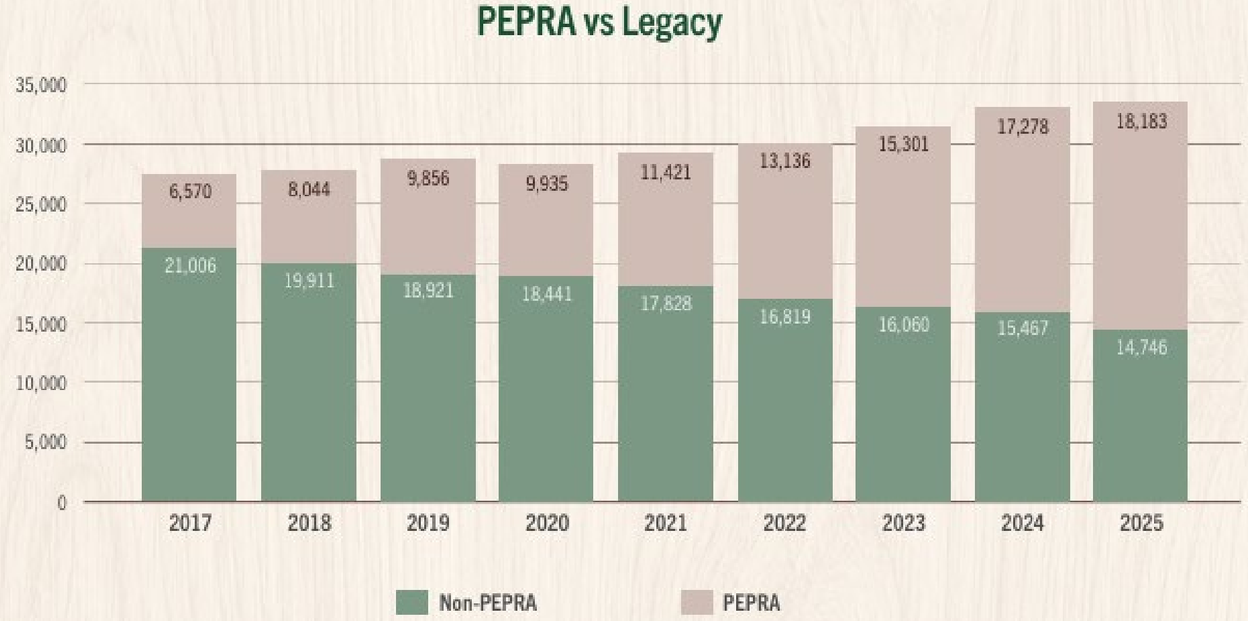
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Legacy and PEPRA Membership

Count and Percentage of PEPRA to Legacy Members

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Legacy Active and Deferred Members	21,006	19,911	18,921	18,442	17,828	16,819	16,060	15,467	14,746
PEPRA Active and Deferred Members	6,570	8,044	9,856	9,935	11,421	13,136	15,301	17,278	18,183
Total	27,576	27,955	28,777	28,377	29,249	29,955	31,361	32,745	32,929
Percentage of PEPRA to Legacy Members	24%	29%	34%	35%	39%	44%	49%	53%	55%

PEPRA Members are new Public Employees hired on or after January 1, 2013



55%

PEPRA in 2025

18,183 members

Historical snapshot

2017–2025

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Retirement Eligibility

Legacy Members

- Age 50 with 10 years of service
- Age 70 regardless of years of service
- Safety members with 20 years of service or more
- General members with 30 years of service or more

PEPRA Members

- Age 52 with 5 years of service
  - Age 50 with 5 years of service for Plan V Safety members
- Age 70 regardless of years of service

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OCERS

Legacy Members: What Pay Counts?

12 or 36

consecutive months

The period depends on your plan.

Compensation earnable

- Base salary and wages
- Eligible premium pay, such as bilingual or shift pay
- Eligible holiday and leave amounts under the applicable rules

A payout does not automatically qualify. OCERS applies the governing pay-item and MOU rules.

Source: OCERS Definition of Compensation. Averaging periods retained from the original presentation.

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PEPRA Members: What Pay Counts?

36

consecutive months

Highest average pensionable compensation

Pensionable compensation

- Base salary and wages
- Eligible premium pay, such as bilingual or shift pay

Compensation limits also apply. The limit and pay-item rules depend on your plan.

PEPRA generally applies to first-time public retirement system members on or after January 1, 2013. Prior membership and reciprocity can affect your classification.

Sources: OCERS Definition of Compensation and Compensation and Benefit Limits. Confirm the applicable plan limit.

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How to Read a Plan Formula

Tier 1 12 month measuring period		Tier 2 (hired on or after Sep 21, 1979) 36 month measuring period	
General	A		2% @ 57
		B	1.67% @ 57.5
	G	H	2.5% @ 55
	I	J	2.7% @ 55
	M	N	2% @ 55
	O	P	1.62% @ 65
		S	2% @ 57
Safety	C	D	2% @ 50
	E	F	3% @ 50
	Q	R	3% @ 55
New Public Employees hired on or after Jan 1, 2013			
General		T & W	1.62% @ 65
		U	2.5% @ 67
Safety		V	2.7% @ 57

2.7% at **55**

Benefit factor per year of service

Age at retirement

Your factor depends on your plan and retirement age

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Legacy Benefit Example

Illustrative Plan J example at age 55

2.7% × **20 years** = **54%**

Age factor | Service credit | Share of FAS

54% × **$50,800** = **$27,432 per year**

$2,286 per month

Assumed annual FAS: $50,000 base pay + $800 qualifying leave. Illustrative gross amount, not a personal benefit quote.

Sources: original OCERS example and OCERS Benefits Calculator. Monthly amount = annual amount ÷ 12.

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PEPRA Benefit Example

Illustrative Plan U example at age 67

2.5% × **20 years** = **50%**

Age factor | Service credit | Share of FAS

50% × **$50,000** = **$25,000 per year**

$2,083.33 per month

Assumed annual FAS: $50,000 base pay. Illustrative gross amount, not a personal benefit quote.

Sources: original OCERS example and OCERS Benefits Calculator. Monthly amount = annual amount ÷ 12.

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Service Credit: Time that Counts

2,080 paid hours = 1 year

Standard full-time example from this presentation.

Service credit follows credited paid service, not simply calendar years.

Possible Purchases

- Eligible medical leave
- Extra Help before membership
- Redeposit of withdrawn OCERS contributions
- Eligible prior public service

Helpful Tip

We encourage early Service Credit Purchase (SCP) requests because costs can increase the longer you wait.

Sources: original OCERS service-credit example and OCERS Service Credit Purchases. Purchase eligibility varies.

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RETIREMENT

APPLICATION CHECKLIST

1. CHOOSE A RETIREMENT DATE

OCERS recommends that you select the first day of a pay period. This would be the day following your last day of employment.

2. SUBMIT YOUR APPLICATION

Submit your application through the myOCERS portal. Application can be submitted up to 60 days in advance and no sooner.

3. IF YOU HAVE RECIPROCITY

If reciprocity is applied, you will need to apply with all reciprocal systems separately and use the same retirement date.

4. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

You will receive an acknowledgement email or letter that we received your application.

GATHER REQUIRED DOCUMENTS

In order for OCERS to process your retirement, we will need the following:

- [ ] Original or true certified copy of your birth certificate
- [ ] Original or true certified copy of your spouse's or domestic partner's birth certificate
- [ ] Original or true certified copy of your marriage certificate or original domestic partnership registration certificate
- [ ] Valid passport if no original birth certificate
- [ ] Divorce documents, if applicable
- [ ] Copies of timesheets and paystubs, if needed
- [ ] Direct deposit form
- [ ] Tax Withholding Election form(s)

6. SCHEDULE A MEETING WITH A RETIREMENT SERVICES SPECIALIST

The OCERS Retirement Services Specialist will review your documents and advise you on the timeframe of your application.

ORANGE COUNTY OCERS EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEM

www.ocers.org

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Your Retirement Checklist

Understand your benefits

- Attend a seminar or watch a recording
- Log in to myOCERS to estimate your benefit
- Contact your Retiree Medical Benefits office
- Contact Social Security

Prepare for retirement

- Gather required documents
- Update your beneficiary information
- Schedule a consultation with OCERS

Questions about your situation? Call OCERS: (714) 558-6200.

Sources: OCERS Retirement Seminars, Active Member Information, Initiate My Retirement and Contact Us.

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PRERETIREMENT SEMINARS

In person or on Zoom

View current dates and register:

ocers.org/retirement-seminars

On-demand recordings are also available.

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*not administered by OCERS

Employee Benefits

714-834-6282

askemployeebenefits@ocgov.com

hrs.ocgov.com/retiree.benefits

714-834-7088

400 W. Civic Center, Santa Ana, CA 92701



*The information provided is subject to change.

Frequently Asked Questions



How much is medical insurance?



OCERS doesn’t administer medical benefits, so you should contact your employee benef
department for information.

*The information provided is subject to change.

Frequently Asked Questions



How do I enroll in myOCERS?



The portal is available on ocers.org. You will need a PIN number to register for the first time.



How soon can I file my retirement application?



Up to 60 days in advance of your retirement date.

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Frequently Asked Questions



How long before I receive my first check?



The first payment is typically issued 45-60 days after retirement.



When is the COLA paid?



COLA is effective April 1st and paid on May 1st.

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Frequently Asked Questions



Can I retire in the middle of a pay period?

Yes, but it is easier for OCERS and your payroll department if you retire at the end of a pay period.



How do I schedule an appointment for 1:1 counseling?

One-on-one counseling is done over the phone so that calculations can be done and estimates prepared. An appointment will only be needed if you intend on filing your application in person.

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Town Hall Attendee Survey



Please take this short survey to help OCERS improve future Town Halls.

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Questions?



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Thank You!

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