

**California Department of Human Resources
Memorandum**

TO: Personnel Management Liaisons (PML)

SUBJECT: 1959 Survivor Benefit Program Rate Decrease effective July 1, 2015	REFERENCE NUMBER: 2015-015
DATE ISSUED: June 9, 2015	SUPERSEDES: PML 2014-014

This memorandum should be forwarded to:

**Personnel Officers
Employee Relations Officers
Personnel Transactions Supervisors**

FROM: California Department of Human Resources
Benefits Division

CONTACT: Desi Rodrigues, Retirement Program Manager
(916) 324-9400
Fax: (916) 322-3769
Email: desi.rodrigues@calhr.ca.gov

On April 15, 2015, CalPERS Board approved the contribution rates for the 1959 Survivor Benefit for eligible state employees. This benefit is provided to state employees who are not in Social Security. The state employee and employer monthly contribution rates will decrease from \$5.55 to \$5.20 each. The total monthly contribution approved for this benefit is \$10.40 for Fiscal Year 2015-16.

Pursuant to Government Code section 21581(c), the contribution for state employees may be \$2.00 per month as long as the combined employee and employer cost for this benefit is \$4.00 per month. If the total cost of this benefit exceeds \$4.00 per month, the employee and employer shall share equally the cost of the benefit.

State employees under the Judges' Retirement Systems and Legislators' Retirement System are not covered under the 1959 Survivor Benefit.

The State Controller's Office will implement the contribution change for all state employees subject to the 1959 Survivor Benefit Program. Departments must notify employees of the rate decrease that will be reflected in the employee's pay warrants.

If you have questions related to this PML, please contact Desi Rodrigues.

/s/Belinda Collins

Belinda Collins, Acting Chief
Benefits Division