

ALERT! ALERT! ALERT!

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ALERT #138

TO: Department Controllers, Fiscal Officers and Other Interested Parties

FROM: Arthur L. Barnhart 
State Controller

DATE: May 11, 2001

SUBJECT: *Compensated Absences Accrual*
One-Year Rate Cut for PERA Begins July 1, 2001
Revised Policy on Managing Contracts That Violate State Statute
New Warrant Design Goes Into Production 6/08/01

Compensated Absences Accrual

PERA's actuary has just notified the State Controller's Office of the percentage of current covered employees that are expected to retire from state service. The percentage for state troopers is 69 percent, and it is 52 percent for all other employees. These percentages are unchanged from the prior year. Therefore, the estimated percentages shown on page 85 in the March 2001 Fiscal Procedures Manual are correct. Questions about this information or about the compensated absence accrual may be directed to your field accounting specialist.

One-Year Rate Cut for PERA Begins July 1, 2001

HB00-1458 last year authorized a one-year rate cut in the employer contribution of PERA. For the State and School Division and the Judicial Division, the employer contribution drops from 10.4 percent to 9.9 percent and from 14.0 percent to 11.82 percent respectively effective for pay periods that end in July 2001. Also, the employer contribution rate for State Troopers decreases from 13.1 percent to 12.6 percent. Contributions may increase again on July 1, 2002 but those new rates will be set based on actuarial results and will be set before September 1, 2001. Also, the State percentage rate for Short Term Disability is increasing from .045 percent to .065 percent

These changes will first be seen on the CPPS payroll paid on July 27, 2001 for the pay period ending July 13, 2001. Questions may be directed to Anne Huth at 303-866-3810.

Revised Policy on Managing Contracts That Violate State Statute

The State Controller recently adopted an internal policy for the Central Accounting Unit, *Executing Contracts That Violate State Statute*. In conjunction with this new internal policy, the existing external policy, *Managing Contracts That Violate State Statute*, was also revised. Both policies have an effective date of May 1, 2001. The policies change the way violations of CRS 24-30-202 (1) and/or (3) are addressed by state agencies and institution. The policies were distributed with the May issue of the CURE (Contract User's Resource for Excellence) to all state employees on the CCIT (Colorado Contract Improvement Team) e-

mail list. Both policies are available on the State Controller's website at: www.sco.state.co.us/cure.cure.htm <<http://www.sco.state.co.us/cure.cure.htm>>

Should you have questions concerning either of these two new policies, please contact a member of the Central Contract Unit in the State Controller's Office.

New Warrant Design Goes Into Production 06/08/01

Colorado "flag" warrants have been redesigned to accommodate a written amount on both COFRS and CPPS payments. Currently the amount of a \$100 warrant is only shown as digits printed in a box on the warrant. The new design will also have the amount written out as "one hundred and 00/100" on the face of the warrant. Additionally, a phone number will be printed in the "Charge to:" box on the COFRS warrants, making it easier for vendors to contact the paying agency. Agencies have been contacted by SCO to obtain a phone number for each check category listed on the COFRS CCAT table. Phone numbers may be changed at any time by contacting Sandi Shultz at 303-866-2126. Questions about the CPPS warrant format may be directed to Anne Huth at 303-866-3810.

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