



## Welcome to the Colorado PERA 401(k) Plan

On July 1, 2009, you will become a member of Colorado PERA's 401(k) Plan. Legislation recently signed into law eliminates the State's 401(a) Match Plan in which you currently participate and transfers all assets in that plan to PERA's 401(k) Plan.

Included in this mailing is all the information you will need to help make this transition a smooth one, including the forms you'll need to complete and information on how your investments will change.

### Upcoming Blackout Period

The transition to the PERA 401(k) Plan requires a blackout period in which you will be unable to direct or diversify investments, take a distribution, or exercise other rights normally available under the Plan. The blackout period for the State 401(a) Match Plan begins on Tuesday, June 23 at 2:00 p.m. PERA is working with the providers to determine how long the blackout period will be. You will receive further communications regarding this issue.

Since you will be unable to direct or diversify the assets held in your Plan account during the blackout period, it is important that you consider the appropriateness of your current investments in light of your inability to direct or diversify those investments during the blackout.

The money in your account will automatically be transferred to similar investments in the PERA 401(k) Plan. Review the enclosed Investment Mapping document for more details on how your funds will be transferred. Following the blackout period, you will be able to redirect your investments to any of the funds available in the PERA 401(k) Plan. Alternatively, you have the option of changing your current investments prior to the blackout period so they are automatically mapped to the PERA funds of your choice.

If you are concerned about changing your investments at this time because you want to recoup some of the losses you may have experienced over the past several months, remember that your funds will be transferred to a similar fund. Even though you may be selling with a loss, you will be buying low in the new fund and your ability to potentially regain losses is still in place.

*Note: Because of the blackout period and transition to a new Plan, you will receive two second quarter statements in the third quarter, one from your old plan provider and one from PERA's 401(k) Plan.*

### Choosing a Beneficiary

As a member of the PERA 401(k) Plan, it is important that you designate a beneficiary. The beneficiary is the person who will receive your account in the event of your death. Included in this mailing is a *401(k) Plan Beneficiary Designation Form*, which you must complete and return to ING (the recordkeeper for the PERA 401(k) Plan) at the address at the top of the form. After July 1, 2009, you may also designate a beneficiary online through PERA's Web site.

*Note: Beneficiary designations will be guided by PERA Rules in effect on July 1, 2009. To ensure that your beneficiary is correct, complete and return the 401(k) Plan Beneficiary Designation Form*

*(continued on reverse)*

## Accessing Your PERA 401(k) Plan Account

After your account has been transferred to the PERA 401(k) Plan and the blackout period has ended, you can make changes to your investments, view your account balance, or access any other account information online or over the phone.

- **Accessing Your Account Online**

If you would like to access information specific to your account, you must log on using your Social Security number and the Personal Identification Number (PIN) issued by PERA. Go to "Account Access" from [www.copera.org](http://www.copera.org) and select the Colorado PERA Account Log On option. You can also access educational 401(k) Plan information online by going to PERA's Web site at [www.copera.org](http://www.copera.org) and clicking on "401(k) and DC Plan Information."

- **Accessing Your Account Over the Phone**

You may access your account information or speak to a Participant Service Representative by calling 1-800-759-7372 and selecting the 401(k) Plan option. You will need a PERA PIN to access any personal information over the phone.

In order to access any personal 401(k) Plan information, you will need a PERA PIN:

- **If you already have a PIN issued by PERA**—You will use the same PIN to access your PERA 401(k) Plan account (and PERA DC Plan account, if applicable).
- **If you do not have a PIN issued by PERA**—PERA will automatically mail you a PIN before July 1; you do not need to take additional action.
- **If you forgot your PIN**—You may request a new PIN through PERA's Web site. Go to [www.copera.org](http://www.copera.org) and click on "Account Access" then click on "Request a PIN."

## Loans

If you currently have a loan from the 401(a) match plan, loan processing will be turned over to ING. No other changes are planned.

## Additional Information

If you have any questions about the transition to the PERA 401(k) Plan, please call 303-832-9550 or 1-800-759-7372. (For information about the 401(k) Plan after the transition, call 1-800-759-7372 and select the 401(k) Plan option.) For the latest information on your transition, visit PERA's Web site at [www.copera.org](http://www.copera.org) and click on "401(k) and DC Plan Information."