



## Welcome to the Colorado PERA DC Plan

On July 1, 2009, you will become a member of PERA's Defined Contribution (DC) Plan. Legislation recently signed into law eliminates the State DC Plan in which you currently participate and transfers all assets in that plan to PERA's DC 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 DC 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 DC 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 change those investments during the blackout.

The money in your account will automatically be transferred to similar investments in the PERA DC 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 DC 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 DC Plan.*

### Choosing a Beneficiary

As a member of the PERA DC 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 *DC Plan Beneficiary Designation Form*, which you must complete and return to ING (the recordkeeper for the PERA DC 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 DC Plan Beneficiary Designation Form.*

### Rollover Money in State DC Plan

If you previously rolled money into the State DC Plan from another account, that money will automatically be transferred to PERA's 401(k) Plan rather than the PERA DC Plan. Both plans currently have the same investment options, however you will have to manage the investments separately. That means that you will have to select a 401(k) Plan beneficiary in addition to your DC Plan beneficiary. You may do so after the conversion by logging on to your 401(k) account. You can access your 401(k) account the same way you access your DC Plan account (as described on the reverse).

*(continued on reverse)*

*This publication provides general information about PERA's 401(k) and DC Plans. Your membership rights, benefits, and obligations as a participant in the 401(k) and/or DC Plan are governed by Title 24, Article 51 of the Colorado Revised Statutes, and the Rules of the Colorado Public Employees' Retirement Association, and PERA's 401(k) Plan Document which take precedence over any interpretations in this publication.*

## Accessing Your PERA DC Plan Account

After your account has been transferred to the PERA DC Plan 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 DC 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)/DC Plan option. You will need a PERA PIN to access any personal information over the phone.

In order to access any personal DC 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 DC Plan account.
- **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."

## Additional PERA Benefit Opportunities

When you become a PERA DC Plan member on July 1, 2009, you will be eligible for additional PERA benefits that you may not have had access to previously, which includes the following programs:

- **PERA's 401(k) Plan**

As a member of PERA's DC Plan you will contribute 8 percent of your salary to the PERA DC Plan. You may also join the 401(k) Plan. By doing so, you will be able to make additional contributions to the same investment choices as those in the PERA DC Plan. Additionally, you may use the money invested in the 401(k) Plan to take a loan or a hardship withdrawal. You may enroll in the PERA 401(k) Plan at any time after July 1, 2009.

- **PERA's Life Insurance**

PERA offers an optional group life insurance plan. Coverage is based on age and allows you to purchase units of coverage to meet your life insurance needs. You may enroll within 90 days of beginning PERA membership (July 1, 2009, unless you are already a PERA member) or during open enrollment each year (April 1 through May 31), without Evidence of Insurability.

- **Long-Term Care Insurance**

You may enroll in PERA's voluntary long-term care insurance program offered by MetLife. The insurance helps pay for assisted living, nursing home, and independent living resources that may not be covered by other insurance sources. You may enroll in long-term care insurance at any time after becoming a PERA member.

- **PERACare (Health Benefits Program)**

If, at retirement, you choose to convert your PERA DC Plan account to a lifetime annuity, you will have the option of joining PERA's retired health care insurance program, PERACare.

More information about all of these optional plans is available on PERA's Web site or by calling PERA's Customer Service Center.

## Additional Information

If you have any questions about the transition to the PERA DC Plan, please call 303-832-9550 or 1-800-759-7372. (For information about the DC Plan after the transition, call 1-800-759-7372 and select the DC 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."