



PERS Election/Waiver Form for Employees who are Students or Spouse of Students

Employee Name: _____ WSU ID: _____

WSU Position Held: _____

Department: _____

Student Name: _____ WSU ID: _____

I certify that I am a student or the spouse of a student who is currently enrolled full-time at Washington State University (WSU). I have determined that my employment at WSU is primarily incidental to and in furtherance of my/my spouse's education. I understand that if I am employed in a PERS eligible position, I have the right to decide whether I wish to be a member of the Public Employees' Retirement System as set forth below. **I understand I am required to make my election within the first 60 days of becoming eligible to participate in PERS.** During this 60 day period, I will be entered into a PERS retirement plan and contributions will be taken. Should I elect to waive participation those contributions will be refunded to me.

If I fail to submit my election within the 60 day period, HRS-Pullman will determine whether I am to be enrolled or waived from PERS participation, based upon my employment and student status with WSU.

Please review the following, and make your selection.

I hereby elect to be a member of PERS. I understand I cannot later waive PERS membership unless there is a change in my status or the status of my spouse, and I provide written notification to HRS-Pullman of the change in status (see reverse side) by completing a *Change of Status* form. Any changes to my PERS membership based on a future change of status will go into effect at the time I notify HRS Pullman.

In addition to this form, I understand I also need to review my retirement options and **complete the enclosed *Member Information Form* and *Beneficiary Designation* form within the first ninety days** of eligibility.

I hereby waive membership in PERS. I understand I cannot later elect to be a member of PERS unless there is a change in my status or the status of my spouse, and I provide written notification to HRS-Pullman of the change in status (see reverse side) by completing a *Change of Status* form. I understand that this election will prohibit me from earning credit toward a pension, annuity or disability benefit for which I may have been eligible had I elected to participate in the PERS system.

Responsibility to Notify HRS-Pullman of Change in Status: HRS will verify that I am or my spouse is enrolled at WSU as a full-time student at the time of this election. If I or my spouse ceases to be a full-time student or if my marital status changes, I will notify the HRS-Pullman office in writing immediately. I understand that if I am still employed in a PERS eligible position, I must begin to contribute to the Public Employees' Retirement System. Contributions will begin at the time the HRS-Pullman is informed of my/my spouse's change in status.

I understand that if I have a change in status and later become a member of the Public Employees' Retirement System (PERS) my membership will be based on the rules in effect at the time of my enrollment.

Signature of Employee: _____

Date: _____

Return form to: hrs.benefits@wsu.edu

Retain a copy of this agreement for your records.

CHANGE IN STATUS

In order to change the election made, the employee or their spouse must experience a change in their status. In the event you experience any of these changes, you are responsible for notifying HRS Pullman in writing of the change.

Per WAC 415-108-520(2)(d) status is defined as:

(i) Student status - is full-time student, part-time student or nonstudent. Part-time student and nonstudent status do not meet the threshold for exception from PERS; only full-time student status meets the threshold:

(ii) Employment status - is employment in a PERS eligible position, employment in a PERS ineligible position, or unemployment. Unemployment refers to termination of employment from a Washington state institution of higher education or community college employer;

(iii) Marital status - is single, married, widowed or divorced.