



EMPLOYER EDUCATION



Employer Basics 101: Account Withdrawal

50-415, 5/24/0

Agenda



- What is account withdrawal?
- Employer responsibility
- Reemployed retirees
- Account withdrawal time frame
- Resources

What is account withdrawal?

Upon termination of employment in an STRS Ohio-covered position, members and reemployed retirees may elect to withdraw their accounts.



What is account withdrawal?

For members, withdrawal will cancel:

- STRS Ohio membership
- Accumulated service credit
- Eligibility to qualify for STRS Ohio retirement benefits and access to health care coverage if eligible



Employer responsibility

Withdrawal certification

- Email notification sent when form is ready
- Complete certification in Employer Self Service (ESS)
 - Click on “Withdrawal Certification” in banner menu, or
 - Click on the report in the Outstanding Reports section of the home page



Employer responsibility

Withdrawal restrictions – members cannot withdraw their account if they are:

- Under any form of teaching contract, including substitute teaching with an STRS Ohio-contributing employer;
- Under any type of verbal or written agreement for future teaching service;
- On a leave of absence;
- In the STRS Ohio Defined Benefit Plan and terminated employment in an STRS Ohio-covered position but are now working with the **same employer** in an OPERS or SERS position;
- Receiving service retirement or disability benefits from STRS Ohio; or
- Currently contributing to an ARP (alternative retirement plan).



Employer responsibility

Reemployed retiree restrictions – reemployed retirees may not withdraw their account if they are:

- Under any form of teaching contract including substitute teaching with an STRS Ohio-contributing employer;
- Under any type of verbal or written agreement for future teaching with an STRS Ohio public employer under the retirement law; or
- On a leave of absence.



Employer responsibility

Completing the withdrawal certification

- Note the tabs at the top of the screen
- Indicate the member's last day of service and last day on payroll
- Enter service credit earned for each year listed
- ARP question appears for colleges and universities only
- Be sure to click "Save & Submit"



Employer responsibility

Tips for completing the withdrawal certification

- Check the box if member is still working/under contract
- Last day of service versus last day on payroll
- Payroll Report Summary available in ESS
- Service credit calculator

The screenshot shows the 'Withdrawal Certification' form for an STRS Ohio Member Applying for Account Withdrawal. It includes a progress bar at the top with 'Reports To Be Completed', 'Available for Updates', and 'Submitted Certifications'. A warning box states: 'Under Ohio law, employers must verify information and certify only accurate and correct information about an applicant's service credits and contributions. This information is used to determine payment due to the applicant. Employers are required to reimburse STRS Ohio for any overpayment of funds resulting from an error in employer certification.' The form fields include: Employee: WANDRA, WANDRA; SSN: XXX-XX-9788; a checkbox for 'The member is still active because he or she has not terminated employment, is an applicant for employment, is on a leave of absence or has agreed to teach in the future. I cannot complete the certification at this time. I understand this will cancel the member's withdrawal application process.'; Last Day of Service and Last Day on Payroll dropdown menus; 'Information to be reported on Annual Report' for FY 2023-2024; Service credit earned field with a 'Service Credit Calculator' link; Annual contributions will be based on reported payrolls. Click here to see [current reported payrolls](#).; a checkbox for 'Is this applicant currently contributing to an Alternative Retirement Plan (ARP) in an STRS Ohio-covered position with your school?' with Yes/No options; an 'Optional comments (max 500 characters)' text area; and a final warning box: 'By submitting this Employer Certification, you are certifying that to the best of your knowledge the member named above, who is applying for an STRS Ohio account withdrawal, is not currently under contract with your school in an STRS Ohio-covered position as defined in retirement law; is not on a leave of absence from such employment; does not have any other contractual status; is not an applicant for such employment, including substitute teaching; and is under no verbal or written agreement for future teaching.' At the bottom are 'Back to List' and 'Save & Submit' buttons.



Reemployed retirees

Members can only retire once!

- Once retirees become reemployed, their contributions fund an additional annuity or lump-sum payment
- Retirees can collect the benefit upon termination of employment in an STRS Ohio-covered position

The screenshot shows the 'Withdrawal Certification' form for an STRS Ohio Reemployed Retiree Applying for Reemployed Payment. It includes a progress bar at the top with 'Reports To Be Completed', 'Available for Updates', and 'Submitted Certifications'. A warning box states: 'Under Ohio law, employers must verify information and certify only accurate and correct information about an applicant's contributions. This information is used to determine payment due to the applicant. Employers are required to reimburse STRS Ohio for any overpayment of funds resulting from an error in employer certification.' The form fields include: Employee: MELVA, MELVA S; SSN: XXX-XX-6650; a checkbox for 'The reemployed retiree is still active because he or she has not terminated employment, is an applicant for employment, is on a leave of absence or has agreed to teach in the future. I cannot complete the certification at this time. I understand this will cancel the reemployed retiree's application process.'; Last Day of Service and Last Day on Payroll dropdown menus; 'Information to be reported on Annual Report' for FY 2023-2024; Employee contributions field with a '\$' symbol; an 'Optional comments (max 500 characters)' text area; and a final warning box: 'By submitting this Employer Certification, you are certifying that to the best of your knowledge the member named above, who is applying for an STRS Ohio reemployed payment, is not currently under contract with your school in an STRS Ohio-covered position as defined in retirement law; is not on a leave of absence from such employment; does not have any other contractual status; is not an applicant for such employment, including substitute teaching; and is under no verbal or written agreement for future teaching.' At the bottom are 'Back to List' and 'Save & Submit' buttons.



Account withdrawal time frame

When will members receive their account balance?

- **Member** – after STRS Ohio has received the final payroll contribution
- **Reemployed retiree** – after receipt of employer withdrawal certification



Resources

- **Visit our website:** www.strsoh.org/employer
 - ESS Instructions
 - Tutorial videos
- **Call us toll-free:** 888-535-4050
- **Email us:** report@strsoh.org



Thank you!

- Additional questions?
- Certificates of completion
- Recorded webinar will be available on employer website
- Please complete the evaluation after exiting the webinar

