



**North Dakota
Public Employees Retirement System**
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MEMO 2025-9

To: Political Subdivisions in the NDPERS Public Safety Plan
From: NDPERS
Date: June 20, 2025
Subject: Public Safety Plan – Expanded Eligibility and Upcoming Employer Contribution Changes

EXPANDED ELIGIBILITY

Two bills enacted during the recent 69th Legislative Assembly modify how political subdivisions may participate in the NDPERS Public Safety Plan effective August 1, 2025.

Employers must take action to notify NDPERS of any changes their organization adopts.

- HB 1177: Revises the definition of 'correctional officer' to include those employed by a correctional facility who are *enrolled in a correctional officer course, but not yet certified, as a correctional officer.* *
- HB 1419: Revises the definition of 'correctional officer' and expands eligibility to include *state dispatchers* as well as *political subdivision dispatchers and Emergency Medical Services (EMS) personnel.* *

*To be eligible for the Public Safety Plan, all correctional officers, dispatchers, and emergency medical services personnel must be employed at least thirty-two hours per week for at least twenty weeks each year to meet the eligibility requirements of the NDPERS Public Safety Plan. Current eligibility requirements for peace officers and firefighters remain the same.

TAKE ACTION HB 1177

To facilitate enrollment of newly eligible correctional officers *enrolled in a correctional officer course, but not yet certified*, your organization should verify the employees that now meet eligibility and enroll them effective August 1, 2025 in Employer Self Service (ESS) in order for these employees to be enrolled in the Public Safety Plan.

TAKE ACTION HB 1419

To facilitate enrollment of newly eligible dispatch and EMS employees, your organization must complete and submit the following documentation:

1. Public Safety Board Resolution (reference sample language)
2. Public Safety Participation Agreement (attachment)
3. Public Safety Record of Service (attachment)

Sample HB 1419 Public Safety Board Resolution

A motion was made by {Insert Board Member Name} for «Agency» to affirm to North Dakota Public Employees Retirement System that «Agency» is formed pursuant to N.D.C.C. § {Insert citation} and is neither a non—profit corporation nor a for-profit corporation, to expand membership of the NDPERS Public Safety Defined Benefit Retirement Plan per HB 1419 (2025 legislative session) and offer the plan to all eligible dispatch and emergency medical service (EMS) employees of the «Agency». The motion was seconded by {Insert Board Member Name}. The Board approved expanding the NDPERS Public Safety Defined Benefit Retirement Plan to all eligible dispatch and emergency medical service (EMS) effective {Insert Month 1, Year}.

UPCOMING EMPLOYER CONTRIBUTION CHANGES FOR PUBLIC SAFETY PLAN

Starting with the January 2026 reporting month, the employer retirement contribution rate for the Public Safety Plan will change in compliance with recent legislation and NDPERS Board action. Notify your payroll department to update their system accordingly.

PUBLIC SAFETY WITH PRIOR SERVICE EMPLOYER CONTRIBUTION RATES

| Current Employer Contribution Rate | Employer Contribution Rate on <i>January 1, 2026</i> |
|---|---|
| 11.40% | 12.63% |

PUBLIC SAFETY WITHOUT PRIOR SERVICE EMPLOYER CONTRIBUTION RATES

| Current Employer Contribution Rate | Employer Contribution Rate on <i>January 1, 2026</i> |
|---|---|
| 9.16% | 8.81% |

Questions? Message us through Employer Self Service (ESS) or call the NDPERS office at 701.328.2900.