

Department/Program Description

The State Teachers' Retirement System is the uniform public pension plan covering all public school teachers and administrators in the state. It was created in 1947 and is now governed by Title 16, V.S.A., Chapter 55. It has undergone significant changes over the years, with the most recent being the implementation of a non-contributory group with major benefit reforms as provided by Act No 41 of 1981, and a significant change in a return to a mandatory contributory system as of July 1, 1990.

The State Teachers' Retirement System Board of Trustees is responsible for the administration of the system. The Board consists of the State Treasurer, Secretary of Education, Commissioner of Financial Regulation, two active members elected by the membership, and one retired teacher appointed by the Vermont Retired Teachers Association. Staff is provided by the Retirement Division of the Office of the State Treasurer, which also administers the Vermont State Retirement System and the Vermont Municipal Employees' Retirement System. Beginning in FY2023, the investment management of the retirement funds will be the responsibility of the independent Vermont Pension Investment Commission created in 2021 H.449 (Act 75), which replaces the previous Vermont Pension Investment Committee.

Goals/Objectives/Performance Measures

As of June 30, 2024, the State Teachers' Retirement System consisted of approximately 10,567 active members, 3,500 inactive members, 1,050 terminated vested members and approximately 10,625 retirees and beneficiaries.

Administration of the system involves the management of the assets of the retirement fund as well as the administration of the benefits and recordkeeping for the membership.

Key Budget Issues