

FUNDAMENTALS

IMRF

ACTIVE MEMBER UNDER 40 EDITION

VOLUME 11 | NUMBER 3
FALL 2018

Member Access puts your IMRF financials at your fingertips

Making sure your personal information and member contributions are current with IMRF is key to keeping your future pension secure. Maintaining an IMRF Member Access account is the best and fastest way to do just that.

Track your member contributions

“By maintaining your Member Access account, you’re keeping track of your pension, so you’re making sure that things are getting reported properly,” said Nicole Groveau, IMRF Member Services Analyst. “If not, it could affect your future benefits.”

Keeping track of your contributions with Member Access can alert you to potential problems before they become harder to solve. Left undiscovered, a failure on your employer’s part to report overtime pay that you earned, for example, could negatively impact the amount of your future pension. With Member Access, you have the ability to check those numbers while the memory is fresh, rather than waiting to receive your annual Personal Statement of Benefits.

Keep your information current

Member Access makes it far easier to update personal information like your current address, which is what enables you to receive important documents from IMRF. This includes routine correspondence like your Personal Statement of Benefits and this newsletter, as well as potentially time-

sensitive information you may request directly.

“Maybe you’re an active member purchasing a house, and the loan company needs to see your total contributions on file with IMRF,” Groveau said.

With an IMRF Member Access account, you could log in and retrieve those numbers on the spot. But if you hadn’t already set up a Member Access account, the situation could get more complicated—especially if, as has happened to some members, you had at some point changed your address, but your employer hadn’t updated it with IMRF.

“We can’t mail your information if it’s the wrong address,” Groveau said.

For security reasons, IMRF cannot take a new address over the phone. If you don’t update it through Member Access, we need to receive it from you in writing, or your employer has to update it online.

If a situation like this were to arise during IMRF’s office hours (Monday–Friday, 7:30 AM to 5:30 PM), you would be able



to call 1-800-ASK-IMRF (275-4673) for help, and IMRF Member Services Representatives could work with you by fax to update your address and get you the information you need. But outside those hours—for example, on evenings or weekends—you would have to wait for the office to open.

Acting in advance

You can register for a Member Access account at any time at www.imrf.org (learn more on page 2). However, in order to safeguard your private information, you can only create your account when you receive your registration key from IMRF in the mail. This makes it even more important to have set up your Member Access account before you need it.

On the next page, learn more about what you can do with Member Access. ■



GET TO KNOW YOUR MEMBER ACCESS HOMEPAGE (MY IMRF)

Once you log in to your account, you are taken to your Member Access home page, shown below.

Click here to **change your address or other contact information** so IMRF can reach you.

Click here to **review your beneficiaries** and change them if you need to.

Here you can **view your contributions** for each year you've been a member of IMRF.

My IMRF

Profile
 Name: MARY A MEMBER
 Member ID: 000-0000
 Address: 1 ANYWHERE RD ANYTOWN IL 60000-0000
 Telephone: (000) 000-0000
 Mobile Phone: (000) 000-0000
 Email: MAMEMBER@ANYTOWN.GOV

Benefits
 Monthly Pension: \$2,721 *
 Disability Amount: \$2,380 *
 Death Benefit: \$95,585 *
* All amounts are estimates only.

Beneficiaries
 Primary: JACK MEMBER
 Secondary: JILL MEMBER
 Last Updated: 09/13/2013

Wages and Contributions
 Most Recent Wages: \$4,542.52
 Most Recent Contributions: \$204.42
 Most Recent Report Date: JUNE 2018
 2018 Wages: \$29,441.89
 2018 Contributions: \$1,324.92

Service
 Total Service Credit: 4 YEARS 10 MONTHS
 Service Credit by Plan: REGULAR TIER 2 (4 YEARS 10 MONTHS)
 Current Employer(s): ANYTOWN PUBLIC LIBRARY

Vesting
 YOU ARE NOT VESTED FOR AN IMRF PENSION.

Quick Links
 Change Address
 Change Beneficiaries
 Member Statements
Pension Calculator
 Secure Message

Your IMRF Member ID
Member ID: 000-0000

For increased privacy protection, use this number for all communications with IMRF in place of your Social Security Number.
Print your own Member ID card today.

Register for a Workshop
 IMRF offers practical and informative workshops for members, employers and retirees in convenient locations throughout Illinois. Find and register for a workshop online today.

Looking for your VAC?
 In the main menu, click "My Account," then "Voluntary Additional Contributions"

For many popular actions, just use these **Quick Links!**

IMRF's **Pension Calculator** lets you estimate what your pension will be.

Sign up for a workshop by clicking "Members," then "Workshops for Members," to browse available workshop locations, and then click the "Register Now" button. Or, go to the green "Register for a Workshop" box on the right side of your "My IMRF" profile page, and click "Learn More." There you can search for workshops within a certain distance of your home.

SIGN UP TODAY FOR MEMBER ACCESS!

1. Go to www.imrf.org.
2. Click "Register" in the green box on the top right of the page.
3. If you've already taken this step and have a registration key, click "yes" and enter it.
4. If you don't have a registration key, click "no" and enter your information (name, last four digits of your Social Security Number, birth date, address), then "continue."
5. IMRF will then send you your 16-digit registration key code by mail. You have 60 days to use it.
6. When you receive your registration key code, go back to www.imrf.org, click "Register," click "yes," and enter your registration key.
7. Verify your security questions, then pick your username and password.
8. Now you have access!

FILE A CLAIM ONLINE

With Member Access you can securely file for IMRF **temporary disability** or **apply to reinstate IMRF service credit**, no paper involved.

Click "My Account" in the menu, then "Secure Online Forms."

MY ACCOUNT MEMBERS RETIRES EMPLOYERS INVESTMENTS ABOUT IMRF FORMS AND PUBLICATIONS ARCHIVE

MEMBER ACCESS

- My IMRF
- Account
- Benefits
- Tools
- Documents
- Profile

Secure Online Forms

- Upload Document
- Secure Online Forms**
- Change Direct Deposit Instructions
- Account Summary
- Payment History
- Voluntary Additional Contributions
- Apply for a Refund of Contributions
- Apply for an IMRF Pension

Secure Online Forms help you manage your IMRF account.
 You can complete common tasks like applying for a refund, updating your address information, or changing your tax withholding and direct deposit instructions.

Address	Change Name, Mailing Address or Telephone
Beneficiary	Change Beneficiary Information
Direct Deposit	Change Direct Deposit Instructions
Refund	Apply for a Refund of Member Contributions
Disability	Apply for IMRF Disability Benefits
Tax Withholding	Change Tax Withholding Instructions
Reinstatement	Apply for Reinstatement of IMRF Service Credit

"If you need to discuss your account, instead of sending an email, you can log in and send a secure message. It's a lot safer. And it's open 24/7, so you don't have to wait for IMRF's call center to open. A Member Services Rep should respond within 48 hours."

Nicole Groveau, Member Services Analyst

Member Access Tips:

- Once you have a Member Access account, make sure it stays active by logging in regularly! (A handy way to do this is to set a recurring reminder on your calendar.) If you don't log in for 27 months, your account will be terminated, and you'll have to sign up again.
- If you forget your password, go to www.imrf.org and click "Forgot Password," then enter the email you used to register. IMRF will email you a temporary password. (Note: If you enter your password incorrectly five times, you will be locked out of your account. If you're locked out, wait 24 hours and follow the above instructions for resetting your password.)

Investment portfolio returns 15.73%

IMRF's fiduciary net position up \$4.9 billion last year, \$8.1 billion over five years

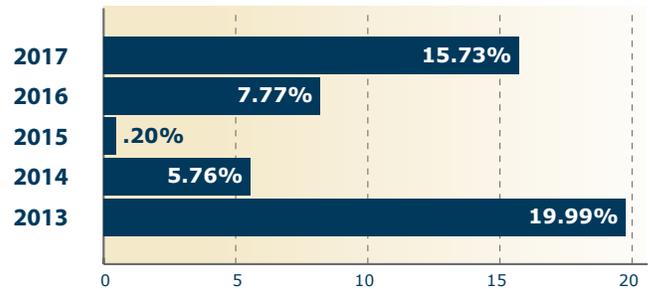
INVESTMENTS

The IMRF investment portfolio returned 15.73%, after investment-management fees, during 2017.

IMRF's international and U.S. equity performed particularly well during 2017, driving much of the overall return. IMRF's allocation to international equity returned 27.53% after fees, and IMRF's U.S. equities returned 19.60% after fees.

IMRF's long-term goal is to earn an annualized total fund return of 7.5%, after investment-management fees. With a return of 15.73% in 2017, IMRF achieved its goal. IMRF has also achieved its investment return goal over longer time horizons. For example, over the last five years, IMRF has earned 9.70% after paying investment-management fees.

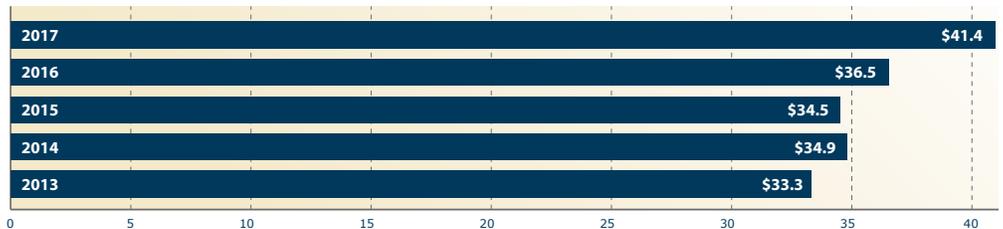
TOTAL FUND RETURNS FOR THE PAST 5 YEARS



FIDUCIARY NET POSITION

IMRF's fiduciary net position—total assets minus liabilities—was \$41.4 billion as of December 31, 2017.

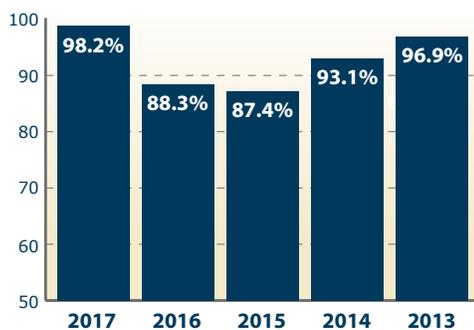
That was an increase of \$4.9 billion, or about 13.4%, from 2016. The increase is attributable to strong 2017 investment returns. Over the last five years, IMRF's fiduciary net position has increased by \$8.1 billion.



FUNDING STATUS

IMRF's funding status is a key indicator of its financial health. It reflects the percentage of benefit promises that IMRF has assets to pay. IMRF strives toward full funding because it guarantees that the system can meet its obligations. Full funding is also most cost-effective for taxpayers.

MARKET FUNDING STATUS: PAST 5 YEARS



ACTUARIAL FUNDING STATUS: PAST 5 YEARS



There are two measures of funding status. Market funding status describes the percentage of assets IMRF has to pay all current and projected benefits, as of a specific date. As of December 31, 2017, IMRF was 98.2% funded on a market basis. IMRF's market funding status increased from 2016 to 2017 due to strong investment returns.

The other measure is actuarial funding status. For this measure, independent actuaries determine the actuarial value of IMRF assets using a "smoothing" technique that recognizes investment gains and losses over a five-year period. The actuarial funding status is less volatile than the market funding status, which is why it is used to set IMRF contribution rates for participating units of government. As of December 31, 2017, IMRF was 92.9% funded on an actuarial basis.



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is published quarterly for active members of IMRF under age 40.

Erin Cochran, editor, ecochran@imrf.org
1-800-ASK-IMRF (275-4673) • www.imrf.org

Your Glass is Half Full
Understanding Your IMRF Benefits

If you want to **better understand IMRF and why you are making contributions**, this workshop is for you!

At this two-hour workshop for young and new members, an IMRF Field Representative will explain **how IMRF can benefit you right now, the opportunity of Voluntary Additional Contributions, and much more!**

2018 Workshop Dates & Locations			
	DATE	LOCATION	STARTS AT
OCT	10/10 (Wed)	Naperville	6 PM
	10/23 (Tue)	Galesburg	6 PM
DEC	12/04 (Tue)	Crystal Lake	6 PM

To view the most current list of workshop dates and locations, visit www.imrf.org/glass-half-full.

If you have a Member Access account, you can register online! If not, call IMRF at 1-800-ASK-IMRF (275-4673).