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## STRS RETIREMENT FAQ

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### 1. How do I schedule an appointment and meet with a STRS Consultant?

CalSTRS Consultants can be reached at 800-228-5453. CalSTRS Consultants can assist you with your CalSTRS Retirement Application and will advise you and confirm your CalSTRS retirement date.

Your sick leave balance can be applied towards your STRS service credit. When you meet with your CalSTRS Consultant, take your most recent check stub with your sick leave balance or your updated balance in Employee Self Service (ESS).

As a member of CalSTRS you have access to a [Retirement Benefits Calculator](#) to help you with your planning.

### 2. What date do I use on my CUSD Notice of Retirement form?

Your retirement date with the District should be your last paid workday. Your CalSTRS retirement date cannot be the same date as your CUSD retirement date and must be the next day or any later date.

### 3. When do I submit my CUSD Notice of Retirement form to Human Resources?

You can submit your form to Human Resources as soon as you have confirmed your STRS retirement date with your STRS Consultant. CalSTRS requests that forms be submitted 90 days in advance of your retirement to allow for adequate processing time. This timeline allows for your STRS payments to be in place when you retire.

A link to the Retirement Form can be found on CUSD website on the About Human Resources webpage or [click here](#). This form can be submitted as soon as your last paid date is confirmed.

### 4. Who completes my STRS Express Benefit Form?

Please complete the employee information section on your CalSTRS Express Benefit Form. Your CUSD retirement date will be your last paid day with CUSD and your CalSTRS retirement date will be the next day or later. Submit the form to the Payroll Department and they will complete the employer information and send it directly to CalSTRS. Payroll will transfer your sick leave balance to CalSTRS on this form.

### 5. Are you eligible for CUSD District Retiree Lifetime Health Benefits per Board Policy 4154, 4254, 4354?

Eligibility is based on years insured under the CUSD Health Plan and as established by Board Policy 4154, 4254, 4354.

For more information about eligibility for CUSD Retiree Lifetime Health Benefits, please contact our Benefits department at 327-9125. Retiree premium information is available at <https://www.cusd.com/Retirement.aspx> on the Benefits Department webpage.

### 6. What if I want to work summer school and then retire?

If you work summer school, then your retirement date with the District needs to be your last day paid/worked with the District, which would include any summer school assignment. Your STRS retirement date would be the next day or later.

### 7. Can I work after I retire?

Retirees are required by CalSTRS to wait 180 days (6 months) before substituting, teaching part-time, or receiving any payment from the District from which they retired. In addition, retirees may only earn up to the CalSTRS earnings limit set by STRS each school year. To find the current earnings limit, please visit the CalSTRS website.

If you would like to return to substitute teach, you must indicate on your retirement form (notes field) that you would like to sub post-retirement.

After 180 days has passed, please contact [EllieMondragon@cusd.com](mailto:EllieMondragon@cusd.com) to add your name to the sub list.

After your waiting period, if you plan to work in a non-creditable, stipend position (i.e. walk-on coach) you must substitute teach at least one day during the school year in which you receive your stipend. This is a CalSTRS requirement.

For more information about CalSTRS and working after retirement please visit the STRS website at [www.CalSTRS.com](http://www.CalSTRS.com) or contact the CalSTRS office 800-228-5453.

### **STRS RETIREE CUSD Payroll Information**

#### **Below is key information regarding your upcoming retirement:**

- The Payroll Department will complete and mail your Express Benefit Report form directly to STRS no later than 30 days prior to your retirement date.
- Your STRS retirement must be **AFTER** your last contracted day of pay with CUSD.
  - Example: Your last contracted day with CUSD is 6/7/2024; therefore, your retirement date with STRS will be no sooner than 6/8/2024.
    - Please contact STRS at the number below if you are unsure of your retirement date.
- If your sick leave balance changes, after being reported to STRS, the district will inform STRS of the new balance.
- **For those employees who normally would receive deferred paychecks during the summer months:**
  - Your last paycheck will be paid to you on **6/28/2024**. **Your base pay, in addition to your deferred summer pay, will be included on your last check. You will not receive paychecks on 7/31/2024 or 8/31/2024.** The Deferred Held deduction will be deducted through your 5/31/2024 check.
  - **Important: June 15th** will be the last day to submit voluntary payroll deduction and W-4 changes to the Payroll Department.

Contact Information:

CUSD Payroll Department: (559) 327-9074