



BOARD OF TRUSTEES ELECTED POSITION VACANCY Statutory Eligibility Requirements

Board of Trustees Election 2023 • Term: Sept. 1, 2023 to Aug. 31, 2029

1. To be eligible for appointment to fill a vacancy of an elected position and to serve on the ERS Board of Trustees, a person must be a member or a retiree of the retirement system. If the person is a member, then he or she and must hold a position that:
 - a. is included in the employee class of membership; and
 - b. is not with an agency or department with which another trustee holds a position.
(Tex. Gov't Code § 815.003)

2. A person is not eligible for appointment to the board if he or she:
 - a. is employed by or participates in the management of a business entity or other organization receiving funds from the retirement system; or
 - b. owns or controls, directly or indirectly, more than a 10% interest in a business entity or other organization receiving funds from the retirement system; or
 - c. is a paid officer, employee or consultant of a Texas trade association* in the field of insurance or investment; or
 - d. is required to register as a lobbyist under Tex. Gov't Code Chapter 305 because of his/her activities for compensation on behalf of a business or an association related to the operation of the board; or
 - e. is employed by the Department of Transportation or Health and Human Services Commission (see 1.b. above); or
 - f. is employed by ERS or has been employed by ERS within six (6) years prior to the nomination date.

3. A person is not eligible for appointment to the board if his or her spouse:
 - a. is employed by or participates in the management of a business entity or other organization receiving funds from the retirement system; or
 - b. owns or controls, directly or indirectly, more than a 10% interest in a business entity or other organization receiving funds from the retirement system; or
 - c. is a paid officer, manager or consultant of a Texas trade association* in the field of insurance or investment.

*For purposes of these requirements, a Texas trade association is a nonprofit, cooperative and voluntarily joined association of business or professional competitors in this state designed to assist its members and its industry or profession in dealing with mutual business or professional problems and in promoting their common interest.

(Tex. Gov't Code §§ 815.0031)

Find more election information at www.ers.texas.gov

The responsibilities and duties of the ERS Board of Trustees include, but are not limited to:

- Administration of ERS Trust funds and investment of Trust assets for the purpose of preserving and maintaining the value of the Trust and fulfilling promised benefits
 - Establish and assure adherence to ERS investment policies, including the allocation of Trust assets and standards for risk management
 - Review investment performance on a quarterly basis
 - Evaluate and select advisors for externally advised portfolios
 - Evaluate and select the plan investment consultants and custodian(s) of trust assets
 - Appoint members to the ERS Investment Advisory Committee
 - Review and consider certain investment transactions
- Administration of ERS retirement (defined benefit) and deferred compensation (Texa\$averSM 401(k) / 457 Program) plans while maintaining the highest standard of loyalty to all beneficiaries of the ERS plans as a whole
 - Evaluate the actuarial status of the defined benefit plans annually and review their plan experience at least every four or five years, making adjustments to economic and demographic actuarial assumptions as necessary
 - Evaluate and select investment options and the third-party administrator, advice provider and custodian for the Texa\$averSM 401(k) / 457 Program plans
- Administration of benefit programs under the Texas Employees Group Benefits Program
 - Set insurance plan design and annual contribution rates based on expected plan costs relative to available funds
 - Set annual rates for dental, vision, life, disability and accidental death & dismemberment plans
 - Evaluate annual actuarial cost of other post-employment benefits
 - Approve any new optional benefits programs
 - Appoint members to the ERS Medical Board and the Group Benefits Advisory Committee
- Appoint and annually evaluate the ERS executive director
- Approve the annual operating budget
- Make major contracting decisions through the evaluation of due diligence processes for the plan's actuaries and third-party administration of benefit programs
- Promulgate rules governing ERS and its plans and programs contained in the Texas Administrative Code
- Assure the existence of auditing standards and adherence to those standards for the purpose of providing independent assessment of risk management, control and governance processes for the system
 - Appoint internal auditor
 - Review internal and third-party audits and assure any concerns are addressed and any actions taken are appropriate

Nomination Process

Wednesday, March 1

ERS distributes nominating petitions.

Friday, March 31

Nominating petitions are due by 5 p.m. CT.

Thursday, April 13

ERS certifies candidates and draws for ballot order.

Election Process

Thursday, May 11

ERS holds candidate forum.

Friday, May 12

Voting begins.

Friday, June 16

Voting ends.

Thursday, July 20

ERS certifies election results.

Friday, September 1

New trustee begins their term.



QUESTIONNAIRE FOR BOARD OF TRUSTEES POSITION

The completed form and all information provided is public and subject to disclosure under the Texas Public Information Act.
Your questionnaire must be submitted in this format. Please do not retype or reformat.
You may attach additional pages for explanation, if needed. Resumes are not accepted.

Name		Employer (If retired, please write "Retired" below.)	
Personal telephone number (home or mobile)		Work telephone number (if employed)	
Email address			
Current classification/exempt title and position as a state employee (If retired, please write "Retired" below.)			
Home address (street/P.O. box, city, state, ZIP)		Name and address of your current employing state agency (If retired, please write "Retired" below.)	
County of residence		Working county (If retired, please write "Retired" below.)	
Spouse's name		Spouse's occupation	
State board(s), commissions(s) or task force(s) you have served on			
Education/training			
High school or equivalent (G.E.D.)		Year graduated	
Undergraduate school		Year graduated	
Graduate school		Year graduated	
License/certification (P.E., R.N., Attorney, C.P.A., etc.)	Date issued	Issued by (state or other authority)	Location of issuing authority (city and state)

Name

Past employers with dates and locations for past 10 years (If retired for more than 10 years, then write "None.")

Current and past professional memberships (for past five years)

Volunteer participation (include civic, community and other activities for past five years)

In 250 words or less (1,750 characters), please explain why you want to serve on the ERS Board of Trustees. This statement will be printed verbatim in the election newsletter.

Name

What do you believe should be the role and responsibility of an ERS Board member?

Please describe any experience and expertise you may have in each of the following areas.

1. Investments

2. Insurance

3. Financial management

4. Policy making

5. Oversight of a trust

6. Pension plan administration

7. Employee benefits-related law

8. Trust law

Name

Are you employed by ERS, or have you been employed by ERS within the last six (6) years? Yes No
If yes, provide details below.

Are you employed by or do you participate in the management of a business entity or other organization that receives funds from the Employees Retirement System of Texas? Yes No If yes, give details.

Is your spouse employed by or does s/he participate in the management of a business entity or other organization that receives funds from the Employees Retirement System of Texas? Yes No
If yes, give details.

Have you ever been required to register as a lobbyist or received compensation to represent someone before a local, state or federal government? Yes No If yes, give details.

Has your spouse ever been required to register as a lobbyist or received compensation to represent someone before a local, state or federal government? Yes No If yes, give details.

Do you own or control, directly or indirectly, more than a 10% interest in a business entity or other organization receiving funds from the Employees Retirement System of Texas? Yes No If yes, give details.

Does your spouse own or control, directly or indirectly, more than a 10% interest in a business entity or other organization receiving funds from the Employees Retirement System of Texas? Yes No
If yes, give details.

Have you ever been convicted of a felony? Yes No If yes, give details.

Do you have knowledge of any fact that would disqualify you for coverage under a fidelity/honesty bond?
Yes No If yes, give details.

Have you ever retired from Texas state government? Yes No If yes, please provide retirement date.

Do you have any relatives working for ERS? Yes No If yes, give details.

Do you have any relatives on the ERS Board of Trustees? Yes No If yes, give details.

Name _____

Is your spouse a paid officer, employee or consultant of a Texas trade association* in the field of insurance or investment?
Yes No If yes, provide name(s) and relationship(s).

Are you a paid officer, employee or consultant of a Texas trade association* in the field of insurance or investment?
Yes No If yes, provide name(s) and relationship(s).

*For purposes of this question, a Texas trade association is a nonprofit, cooperative and voluntarily joined association of business or professional competitors in this state designed to assist its members and its industry or profession in dealing with mutual business or professional problems and in promoting their common interest.

CERTIFICATION OF CANDIDATE

I hereby certify that the foregoing and any attached statements are true, accurate and complete. I understand that any misstatement, misrepresentation or omission of a fact may result in my disqualification as a candidate for the Board of Trustees. I further certify I have read and understood the Employees Retirement System of Texas Board of Trustees eligibility requirements and election criteria contained in Texas Government Code §815.001 - §815.008 and Title 34, Texas Administrative Code §§63.3 and 63.4.

I understand that a background check may be conducted with the Texas Department of Public Safety and/or the Federal Bureau of Investigation. My signature below authorizes ERS to conduct such background checks.

I understand that once elected to the Board, I am required to serve on the Board and to submit a personal financial statement to the Texas Ethics Commission.

I authorize any of the persons and organizations referenced in this questionnaire to give ERS and any of its representatives all information concerning my previous employment, education, experience and any other information they might have, personal or otherwise, with regard to any of the subjects covered by this application, and I release all such parties from all liability for damages which may result from furnishing such information to ERS.

Signature of Candidate

Date

Printed name

Date of Birth

Driver's License # or DPS I.D. #

Return to:
Employees Retirement System of Texas
Attention: Trustees Election
P.O. Box 13207
Austin, Texas 78711-3207
www.ers.texas.gov

2023 ERS TRUSTEE CANDIDATE FORUM

Board of Trustees Election 2023 • Term: Sept. 1, 2023 to Aug. 31, 2029

ERS Board of Trustees candidates will answer voter questions as part of a forum on Thursday, May 11, 2023.

Board members oversee a wide range of areas—the ERS retirement fund, and administration of the state’s insurance benefits, deferred compensation and flexible benefits program. The new trustee will serve a six-year term beginning Sept. 1, 2023 and ending Aug. 31, 2029.

Get to know the candidates

The forum is an opportunity for ERS members and retirees to ask questions and hear the candidates’ positions on state employee benefits and retirement issues. You may submit your questions electronically before the forum, or view the recording online during the voting period. In addition to the forum, you can also learn about the candidates by reading their statements, which will be available on the ERS website on May 12.

The time and location for the forum is being finalized. Please check the ERS website at www.ers.texas.gov for updates.

A forum for qualified candidates
will be held on Thursday,
May 11, 2023.

A recording of the forum will be
available on the ERS website
during the voting period.

ERS Board of Trustees Election Calendar 2023

Nomination Process

Wednesday, March 1

ERS distributes nominating petitions.

Friday, March 31

Nominations are due by 5 p.m. CT.

Thursday, April 13

ERS certifies candidates and
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Election Process

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ERS holds candidate forum.

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Thursday, July 20

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Friday, September 1

New trustee begins their term.

Find more election information at www.ers.texas.gov

ITEMS REQUIRED FROM CANDIDATES

Board of Trustees Election 2023 • Term: Sept. 1, 2023 to Aug. 31, 2029

1. In addition to the petition form, each candidate must complete the “Questionnaire for Board of Trustees Position.” These can be completed via the traditional paper method or the recommended electronic method.

2. The questionnaire requires candidates to provide a statement of no more than 1,750 characters (equivalent to 250 words or less). The statement should summarize his or her views and explain why the candidate wants to serve on the Board of Trustees. ERS will not edit the provided statement or correct grammatical errors. Therefore, it is important that the candidate carefully review his or her statement because it will be printed verbatim in the election newsletter.

3. The candidate should submit the following information for placement on the ballot.
 - a. Candidate’s name as it is to appear on the ballot and, if employed:
 - b. Candidate’s current classified or exempt title and functional position as a state employee and
 - c. Name of current employing agency

All documents listed above must be submitted to the ERS office or, if using the electronic method, the questionnaire completed and electronic signatures obtained by 5 p.m. CT, Friday, March 31, 2023. Facsimile copies will not be accepted.

Key dates

Wednesday, March 1, 2023
ERS distributes nominating petitions.

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Nominating petitions are due by 5 p.m. CT.

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Friday, Sept. 1, 2023
New trustee begins their term.

Find more election information at www.ers.texas.gov



NOTICE OF TRUSTEES ELECTION

Seeking candidate nominations for the ERS Board of Trustees

Board of Trustees Election 2023 • Term: Sept. 1, 2023 to Aug. 31, 2029

What do ERS Board members do?

ERS Board members serve an important role related to benefits for state employees and retirees. They oversee the administration of state benefit programs, including retirement, insurance, deferred compensation and flexible benefits. They also serve as trustees of the ERS Retirement Trust Fund and oversee the Trust's investments. Board members serve six-year terms. This term begins Sept. 1, 2023, and ends Aug. 31, 2029.

Board members attend quarterly meetings where they set policy and review investment and benefit programs. Board meetings are live-streamed and posted on the ERS website under About ERS, ERS Board of Trustees. Potential candidates are encouraged to review a recorded meeting to get an idea of Board member responsibilities.

Who is eligible to serve?

State of Texas agency employees who are contributing to the ERS Retirement Trust Fund can serve on the Board. In this year's election, employees of the Department of Transportation and the Health and Human Services Commission are not able to run because those entities already have representation on the Board. However, those employees can nominate a candidate and, of course, vote in the election.

State agency retirees getting an annuity payment from ERS can also serve on the Board. See the Board of Trustees Elected Position Vacancy Notice for more details on eligibility requirements.

How can I be nominated?

Electronic Method (recommended):

- Contact the ERS election coordinator at ERSelection@ers.texas.gov and request your personalized electronic nomination site platform.
 - The platform will enable you to complete the required Board of Trustees Questionnaire and provide you with your own personalized link to share with your supporters in order to garner the required electronic signatures.
 - The questionnaire will include a statement of no more than 1,750 characters (equivalent of 250 words or less). The statement will be printed verbatim in the election newsletter.
- Electronic signature requirements:
 - To qualify, you must have 300 unique electronic signatures from eligible voters using your personalized link. The nomination platform will use four easy-to-remember factors to determine eligibility and identity: first name, last name, ZIP code and date of birth. All ERS members are allowed to vote—this includes members who have an ERS account balance as of Jan. 31, 2023 and state agency retirees who get an annuity from ERS.
 - It is recommended you gather at least 400 e-signatures from eligible voters.
- All must be completed and submitted to ERS by 5 p.m. CT, Friday, March 31, 2023.

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March 1, 2023
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nominating petitions.

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Petitions are due by
5 p.m. CT.

Thursday,
April 13, 2023
ERS certifies candidates.

Thursday,
May 11, 2023
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Friday,
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Voting begins.

Friday,
June 16, 2023
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results.

Friday, Sept. 1, 2023
New trustee begins their
term.

Find more election information at www.ers.texas.gov

Traditional Paper Nomination Method

Candidates must:

- Use an official Nomination Petition form (available on the ERS website at www.ers.texas.gov).
- Gather original signatures of eligible voters. To qualify, you must have a minimum of 300 unique signatures from eligible voters to get on the ballot. ERS will accept up to 600 voter signatures from each candidate. **(NOTE: Reproduced or faxed copies of signed petitions will not be accepted.)** All ERS members are allowed to vote—this includes members who have an ERS account balance as of Jan. 31, 2023 and state agency retirees who get an annuity from ERS.
- Return the following to ERS by 5 p.m. CT, Friday, March 31, 2023:
 - The original signed petition
 - The Questionnaire for Board of Trustees Position, which includes a statement of no more than 1,750 characters (equivalent of 250 words or less) – The statement will be printed verbatim in the election newsletter.

Key dates

Wednesday,
March 1, 2023

**ERS distributes
nominating petitions.**

Friday,
March 31, 2023

**Nominating petitions are
due by 5 p.m. CT.**

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May 11, 2023

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Voting ends.

Thursday,
July 20, 2023

**ERS certifies election
results.**

Friday, Sept. 1, 2023

**New trustee begins their
term.**



PETITION TO NOMINATE A CANDIDATE FOR TRUSTEE

Board of Trustees Election 2023 • Term: Sept. 1, 2023 to August 31, 2029

CANDIDATE ELIGIBILITY: You may nominate State of Texas agency employees who are contributing to the ERS Retirement Trust Fund and state agency retirees getting an annuity payment from ERS to serve on the Board. In this year's election, employees of the Department of Transportation and Health and Human Services Commission are not able to run. These entities already have representation on the Board, and the law prohibits more than one trustee from the same agency serving at the same time. However, those employees can nominate a candidate and, of course, vote in the election.

NOMINATION PROCESS: A member must file a petition bearing the original signatures of **300** eligible voters. A signature is counted only if the printed name, ZIP code and date of birth are legibly included, the person is a member or retiree of the ERS plan, and the signature only appears one time for only one candidate. To allow for invalid entries, ERS will accept up to 600 signatures.

ELIGIBLE VOTERS: All ERS members – including current state agency employees who contribute to the ERS Retirement Trust Fund and former state agency employees who still hold ERS retirement accounts – and retirees getting annuity payments from ERS are eligible to sign a petition and to vote in the election.

PETITION REQUIREMENTS: *Petitions in paper or electronic form will be accepted.* Only this official petition or an exact blank reproduction may be used to gather signatures. A person may not sign a petition more than once, nor may a person sign a petition for more than one candidate. **If a person signs a petition more than once, or signs more than one petition, that person's signature will be disqualified from all petitions.**

DUE DATE: The original petition must be received at the ERS office by 5 p.m. CT, Friday, March 31, 2023. **Reproduced or fax copies of signed petitions will not be accepted.** The Questionnaire for Board of Trustees Position, which includes a statement of no more than 1,750 characters (equivalent to 250 words or less), must accompany the petition. The statement will be printed verbatim in the election newsletter.

MAIL TO:
Employees Retirement System of Texas
Attn: Trustees Election
P.O. Box 13207
Austin, TX 78711-3207

DELIVER TO:
Employees Retirement System of Texas
Attn: Trustees Election
200 E. 18th Street
Austin, TX 78701

Nominations due Friday, March 31, 2023

WE HEREBY NOMINATE _____
(Printed Name of Nominee)

AS CANDIDATE FOR TRUSTEE OF THE EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEM OF TEXAS.

Is the nominee a state agency employee or a retiree? **Employee** **Retiree**

If an employee, provide the name of the state agency. _____
(Name of State Agency)

You must include your printed name, ZIP code and date of birth, along with your signature, for your signature to count.

Signature	First name (print legibly)	Last name (print legibly)	Five-digit home ZIP code	Date of birth (mm/dd/yyyy)
1. _____	_____	_____	_____	__/__/____
2. _____	_____	_____	_____	__/__/____
3. _____	_____	_____	_____	__/__/____
4. _____	_____	_____	_____	__/__/____
5. _____	_____	_____	_____	__/__/____
6. _____	_____	_____	_____	__/__/____
7. _____	_____	_____	_____	__/__/____
8. _____	_____	_____	_____	__/__/____
9. _____	_____	_____	_____	__/__/____
10. _____	_____	_____	_____	__/__/____
11. _____	_____	_____	_____	__/__/____

Find more election information at www.ers.texas.gov

Petition to Nominate a Candidate for Trustee

WE HEREBY NOMINATE _____
(Printed Name of Nominee)

AS CANDIDATE FOR TRUSTEE OF THE EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEM OF TEXAS.

Is the nominee a state agency employee or a retiree? **Employee** **Retiree**

If an employee, provide the name of the state agency. _____
(Name of State Agency)

You must include your printed name, ZIP code and date of birth, along with your signature, for your signature to count.

Signature	First name (print legibly)	Last name (print legibly)	Five-digit home ZIP code	Date of birth (mm/dd/yyyy)
12. _____	_____	_____	_____	__ / __ / ____
13. _____	_____	_____	_____	__ / __ / ____
14. _____	_____	_____	_____	__ / __ / ____
15. _____	_____	_____	_____	__ / __ / ____
16. _____	_____	_____	_____	__ / __ / ____
17. _____	_____	_____	_____	__ / __ / ____
18. _____	_____	_____	_____	__ / __ / ____
19. _____	_____	_____	_____	__ / __ / ____
20. _____	_____	_____	_____	__ / __ / ____
21. _____	_____	_____	_____	__ / __ / ____
22. _____	_____	_____	_____	__ / __ / ____
23. _____	_____	_____	_____	__ / __ / ____
24. _____	_____	_____	_____	__ / __ / ____
25. _____	_____	_____	_____	__ / __ / ____
26. _____	_____	_____	_____	__ / __ / ____
27. _____	_____	_____	_____	__ / __ / ____
28. _____	_____	_____	_____	__ / __ / ____
29. _____	_____	_____	_____	__ / __ / ____
30. _____	_____	_____	_____	__ / __ / ____
31. _____	_____	_____	_____	__ / __ / ____
32. _____	_____	_____	_____	__ / __ / ____
33. _____	_____	_____	_____	__ / __ / ____
34. _____	_____	_____	_____	__ / __ / ____
35. _____	_____	_____	_____	__ / __ / ____
36. _____	_____	_____	_____	__ / __ / ____
37. _____	_____	_____	_____	__ / __ / ____
38. _____	_____	_____	_____	__ / __ / ____
39. _____	_____	_____	_____	__ / __ / ____
40. _____	_____	_____	_____	__ / __ / ____
41. _____	_____	_____	_____	__ / __ / ____
42. _____	_____	_____	_____	__ / __ / ____
43. _____	_____	_____	_____	__ / __ / ____
44. _____	_____	_____	_____	__ / __ / ____
45. _____	_____	_____	_____	__ / __ / ____
46. _____	_____	_____	_____	__ / __ / ____
47. _____	_____	_____	_____	__ / __ / ____
48. _____	_____	_____	_____	__ / __ / ____
49. _____	_____	_____	_____	__ / __ / ____
50. _____	_____	_____	_____	__ / __ / ____