



Returning Retiree Certification (Pursuant to SBCERA Board Benefits Policy No. 032)

P: 909.885.7980 | E: returningretirees@sbcera.org | sbcera.org

Submit this Form:

Mail | 348 W. Hospitality Lane Suite 100,
San Bernardino, CA 92408

Fax | 909.884.1904

Online | SBCERA.org/mySBCERA

All SBCERA retirees returning to work in any capacity must be authorized by SBCERA using this form.

Government Code section 7522.56 provides specific employment restrictions for retirees who return to work with an employer in the same public retirement system from which they receive a benefit. These restrictions are intended to prevent the "double-dipping" of a retiree receiving a monthly SBCERA retirement benefit while also receiving compensation for employment with an SBCERA-covered employer.

Employer: Use this form to report the details of any return-to-work arrangement with an SBCERA retiree prior to the retired member commencing re-employment. Once you have completed the sections that apply, provide the form to the retiree for review and signature.

Retiree: You are required to review and sign this form prior to your commencement of re-employment with an SBCERA-covered employer.

Section 1 Retiree Information

For security and identification purposes, we require an SBCERA ID.

Retiree's pension benefit may be subject to suspension if Retiree's Effective Date of Re-Employment commences prior to SBCERA's approval of this Certification form.

If your anticipated end date of re-employment will be beyond 18 consecutive months, this approval will be at the discretion of the Board of Retirement, if you meet the requirements stated in the policy.

SBCERA ID [REDACTED]		
Last Name Hargrove	First Name Ellen	Middle Initial D.
Date of Retirement 3/9/2024	Re-Employment Job Title Special Districts Project Manager	
Effective Date of Re-Employment 10/7/2024	Anticipated End Date of Re-Employment 1/2/2026	
Has retiree previously returned to work under a separate SBCERA certification? No	If yes, please indicate the dates of the prior certification below. (Only complete if there was a prior certification.) From _____ to _____	
Is this an initial request or a request to extend employment beyond 18 consecutive months? ☒ Initial Request ☐ Request to Extend		

Section 2 Employer Information

Employer Name San Bernardino County	
Name of Your Department (If Applicable) Department of Public Works - Special Districts	
Phone Number 909-386-8820	
Employer Representative Noel Mondragon	Representative's Title Division Manager

Section 3 **Return to Work – Type of Employment**

Returning retiree is subject to the limitation of Government Code Sec. 7522.56.

Note: A direct hire is someone who is employed directly by or employed through a contract with your organization.

Choose the nature of the employment relationship (select only one):

- ☒ Direct Hire (If selected, proceed to Section 4)
- ☐ Hired through Staffing/Temp Agency, or other third-party (If selected, proceed to Section 4)
- ☐ Independent or Sub- Contractor (If you checked this box because the retiree is being hired as an independent contractor or sub-contractor, proceed directly to Section 9, then sign and return this form to SBCERA immediately. Do not complete the rest of this form at this time. SBCERA will provide you and the employee with an "Employment Relationship Questionnaire." Additionally, you must attach any analysis and/or determination your organization has performed to indicate why you consider this role an independent contractor or sub-contractor. If you have already completed the questionnaire and received your determination, complete the rest of this form as instructed in your determination.)
- ☐ Board Member or Commissioner (**STOP and proceed to Sections 7–9 only**)
- ☐ Volunteer (**STOP and proceed to Section 7–10 only**)

Section 4 **Certification of Need for Re-Employment**

Please certify that one or both of the following are true. State law requires at least one of these conditions for a retiree to return to work. Check all that apply.

- ☐ The re-employment of the retiree is necessary during an emergency to prevent stoppage of public business.
- ☒ The retiree has skills needed to perform work for a limited duration.

Is the anticipated end date of employment (listed in Section 1) more than 18 consecutive months from the initial start date of the retiree's re-employment?

- ☐ Yes (If selected, **you must complete Section 6**)
- ☒ No (If selected, **do not complete Section 6**)

Section 5 **Employment Details**
Description of Role (select all that apply):

- ☒ Retiree training replacement.
- ☒ Retiree working in a temporary assignment or working on a special project.
- ☐ Temporary position due to peak or seasonal workload fluctuation for period _____ to _____
- ☒ Retiree filling a short-term vacancy need.

Section 5 Employment Details (Continued)

You may attach a supplemental document that answers this question.

Please provide a summary description of the duties the retiree is performing within this role:

Hands-on oversight of improvements, upgrades, and new construction of related water and wastewater systems and facilities. Responsibilities include preparing, reviewing, and approving structural and engineering design plans and specifications for water/sewer and power systems, including piping, pumps, pump stations, wells, motors, and meters, as well as for district buildings, roads, and parks and a variety of related capital improvement projects. This position administers and manages construction contracts, including requests for proposals, estimating expenses, determining adherence to schedules, negotiating agreements and change orders, ensuring compliance with building codes and inspections, and acting as technical advisor to ensure projects are completed safely, timely, and within contract specifications.

SBCERA's Retirees Returning to Work policy requires that an employer shall be actively recruiting for a permanent replacement for the regular position being occupied by a retiree, unless the position is temporary or seasonal.

Are you actively recruiting for this role?

☒ Yes (If yes, please describe your recruitment efforts.)

Received recruitment list and scheduling interviews, however we have 2 vacancies currently and anticipate 1 more vacancy in a few months.

☐ No

Did this person retire with a Service-Connected Disability Retirement Benefit?

☐ Yes (If selected, you will be required to complete additional information.)

☒ No

The retiree shall not be eligible to serve or be employed by a public employer if, during the 12-month period prior to returning to employment, the retired person received any unemployment insurance. See Gov. Code Sec. 7522.56(e)(1).

During the 12 months prior to re-employment, did the retiree receive unemployment insurance compensation from prior employment with an SBCERA participating employer?

☐ Yes

☒ No

What is the salary range paid to similarly situated employees performing duties according to the employer's publicly posted salary schedule?

Rate of pay for employment shall not be less than the minimum, nor exceed the maximum, paid by the employer to other employees performing comparable duties.

See Gov. Code Sec. 7522.56(d).

Job Title Special Districts Project Manager

Salary Minimum \$ 39.63 (per hour)

Salary Maximum \$ 57.41 (per hour)

What will be the returning retiree's hourly pay rate?

\$ 53.29 (per hour)

Section 5 Employment Details (Continued)

Will the re-employment start within 180 days following the retiree's date of retirement?

- ☐ Yes
- ☒ No (If selected, please proceed to the Instructions listed at the end of this section.)

If the answer is Yes, please check the box that applies to the retiree's re-employment.

- ☐ The retiree is a public safety officer or firefighter, and the re-employment is for the performance of functions regularly performed by a public safety officer or firefighter.
- ☐ The re-employment is necessary to fill a critically needed position, and the re-employment has been approved by the governing body of the agency in a public meeting on the non-consent calendar (Employers must submit the minutes from the meeting where the employment was approved by its governing board.)

A member who retires at an age younger than the normal retirement age must have at least a continuous 60-day break in service from the date of the member's last day of employment prior to being re-employed while retired by any SBCERA-covered employer.

Is the retiree a general member under the normal retirement age of 55 or a safety member under the normal retirement age of 50?

- ☐ Yes (If selected, answer questions A and B below)
- ☒ No (If selected, skip questions A and B below)

A. Was there a verbal or written agreement between employer and the retiree regarding this position prior to his/her retirement?

- ☐ Yes (If selected, stop completing this form and contact SBCERA immediately.)
- ☐ No

B. Has it been at least 60 days since the retiree's date of separation of employment?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No (If selected, stop completing this form and contact SBCERA immediately.)

Instructions: If you selected Yes in the last question of Section 4, you must proceed to Section 6. If you selected No, then skip to Section 9.

Section 6

Beyond 18 Consecutive Months Supplemental Questions

Only members who selected Yes to the last question in Section 4 should complete this section. Do not complete if this is an initial request.

You may attach a supplemental document that answers the questions in this section.

When you're done with this section, please proceed to Section 7.

SBCERA Board of Retirement policy requires the following conditions to be met before the retiree can be re-employed beyond 18 consecutive months:

- Re-employment is necessary to enable the employer to continue effective operations in light of genuinely extreme necessity that is unavoidable or could not have been anticipated.
- Re-employment is limited to the completion of a discrete quantity of genuinely limited work that one would expect to be completed at a foreseeable time, such as the completion of a special project.

Your answers to the following questions will help SBCERA staff determine if the requested re-employment meets the conditions above. Staff will then take their recommendation to the Board for approval. Any re-employment beyond 18 consecutive months must be approved by the Board of Retirement. **Please complete the following supplemental questions:**

1. How many hours a week does/will the SBCERA retiree work?

2. What special skills does the SBCERA retiree have to perform the duties of the position?

3. Why is the re-employment of the SBCERA retiree necessary?

4. If the re-employment is unavoidable or could not have been anticipated, please explain why.

5. If the agency cannot continue to re-employ the SBCERA retiree, what will it do?

6. What will the detriment be to the public, job tasks, programs, or projects the SBCERA retiree is working on if employment is not extended?

7. Is anyone else able to do the SBCERA retiree's current job?

8. What measures is the agency taking to ensure it will have qualified employees on staff when the retiree's extension ends?

9. If this retiree does not perform the work, will there be a stoppage of public business?

10. Who would perform this work if the retiree was not available?

11. Is there anyone else currently working for the agency that can perform these functions?

Section 7 Employer Acknowledgements

Employer must acknowledge by signing below that they have read and understand these statements.

If the retiree is a member of a Board or Commission or serves as a volunteer, some of the provisions outlined in this section may not apply directly. However, you should be aware of these provisions should the conditions of employment

As a participating employer, you have read and understand the following:

- Returning retiree will not work more than 960 hours during any fiscal year (July 1 through the following June 30).
- Retiree's pay will not be less than the minimum nor more than the maximum paid to other employees performing comparable job duties.
- While SBCERA and the employer will cooperate to facilitate compliance with the terms of California Gov. Code sections 7522.56 and 31680.6, and SBCERA Board Benefits Policy No. 032, compliance is ultimately the retiree's responsibility.
- A member who retires at an age younger than the normal retirement age must have at least a continuous 60-day break in service from the date of the member's last day of employment prior to being reemployed while retired by any SBCERA-covered employer.
- Failure to comply with any of the returning retiree requirements may result in reinstatement from retirement. Reinstatement has serious consequences for the retiree and the employer. These consequences are effective on the date the re-employment ceased to comply with the returning retiree restrictions and include the following:
 - Suspension of member's retirement pension benefit payments. Additionally, the member may need to repay the benefits received during the time the employment was not in compliance.
 - SBCERA will collect retirement contributions from the retiree and the employer on any pay received by the retiree during any period of unlawful re-employment.
 - Retiree will earn a new retirement benefit during the period of re-employment that was not in compliance with the law.
 - Employer and/or retiree will be subject to any other consequence provided by law.

In addition to the terms and conditions herein, the employer agrees to comply with:

- (1) California Government Code section 7522.56
- (2) California Government Code section 31680.6
- (3) SBCERA Board Benefits Policy No. 032

Annual Reporting: Employers shall report the following to SBCERA not later than 10 business days after the end of each fiscal year: a list of all SBCERA retirees working in any capacity, including: direct employment or as independent contractors contracted directly with the employer, along with the total number of hours worked for each retiree during the fiscal year.

Notice of Violation: An employer shall notify SBCERA within two business days of the discovery that a retiree has exceeded 960 hours worked in a fiscal year or the limited duration period.

Recruitment Prior to and During the Return to Work of a Retiree: An employer shall be actively recruiting for a permanent replacement for the regular position being occupied by a retiree, unless the position is temporary or seasonal.

Substantial Compliance: If genuine documentation regarding the re-employment of a retiree is submitted as required by this Policy and accepted by SBCERA as adequate at the time of the re-employment, this shall be considered conclusive evidence that the re-employment was commenced in compliance with applicable law. The CEO or designee shall notify the employer in writing of the acceptance of the documentation required by this policy.

Section 7 Employer Acknowledgements (Continued)

~~This form will be rejected~~
if this section is not
complete.

Retiree must complete
Section 8 and return to
employer.

I have read the foregoing Employer Acknowledgments and understand the limits placed on SBCERA retirees returning to work for SBCERA-covered employers. Furthermore, I certify that all statements herein are true to the best of my knowledge.

I declare under penalty of perjury all the foregoing statements to be true and correct.

Executed on 09/18/2024 at San Bernardino, CA
Date City, State

☒ Noel Mondragon
Employer Representative's Printed Name

☒ 
Employer Representative's Signature

Section 8 Retiree Acknowledgements

Retiree must acknowledge
by signing below that they
have read and understand
these statements.

If you are a member of a Board or Commission or serve as a volunteer, some of the provisions outlined in this section may not apply directly to you. However, you should be aware of these provisions should the conditions of your employment change.

As a returning retiree, you have read and understand the following:

- You shall not work more than 960 hours during any fiscal year (July 1 through the following June 30).
- Your pay will not be less than the minimum nor more than the maximum paid to other employees performing comparable job duties.
- While SBCERA and the employer will cooperate to facilitate compliance with the terms of California Gov. Code sections 7522.56 and 31680.6, and SBCERA Board Benefits Policy No. 032, compliance is ultimately your responsibility.
- If you retire at an age younger than the normal retirement age, you must have at least a continuous 60-day break in service from the date of your last day of employment prior to being reemployed while retired by any SBCERA-covered employer.
- Failure to comply with any of the returning retiree requirements may result in reinstatement from retirement. Reinstatement has serious consequences for the retiree and the employer. These consequences are effective on the date the re-employment ceased to comply with the returning retiree restrictions and include the following:
 - Suspension of your retirement pension benefit payments. Additionally, you may need to repay the benefits received during the time the employment was not in compliance.
 - SBCERA will collect retirement contributions from you and your employer on any pay received by you during any period of unlawful re-employment.
 - You will earn a new retirement benefit during the period of re-employment that was not in compliance with the law.
 - Employer and/or you will be subject to any other consequence provided by law.

In addition to the terms and conditions herein, the retiree agrees to comply with:

- (1) California Government Code section 7522.56
- (2) California Government Code section 31680.6
- (3) SBCERA Board Benefits Policy No. 032

Substantial Compliance: If genuine documentation regarding the re-employment of a retiree is submitted as required by this Policy and accepted by SBCERA as adequate at the time of the re-employment, this shall be considered conclusive evidence that the re-employment was commenced in compliance with applicable law. The CEO or designee shall notify the employer in writing of the acceptance of the documentation required by this policy.

Section 8 Retiree Acknowledgements (Continued)

**This form will be rejected
if this section is not
complete.**

I have read the foregoing Retiree Acknowledgments and understand the limits placed on me, as an SBCERA retiree returning to work for SBCERA-covered employers. Furthermore, I certify that all statements herein are true to the best of my knowledge.

I declare under penalty of perjury all the foregoing statements to be true and correct.

Executed on 9/18/24 at Calimesa, CA
Date City, State

☒ Ellen D. Hargrove
Retiree Printed Name

☒ [Redacted Signature]
Retiree Signature

RETURN COMPLETED FORM TO:

**San Bernardino County
departments** should submit
this form to San Bernardino
County Human Resources
for processing.

San Bernardino County Human Resources Dept.
ATTN: Employee Benefits and Services
157 West Fifth Street, First Floor
San Bernardino, CA 92415

OFFICE: (909) 885-7980
FAX: (909) 885-7446

All other employers should
submit this form to SBCERA.

San Bernardino County Employees' Retirement
Association
Member Services Dept.
348 W. Hospitality Lane, Suite 100
San Bernardino, CA 92408

OFFICE: (909) 885-7980
or (877) 722-7321
FAX: (909) 885-7446

FOR SBCERA USE ONLY

Expected End Date Approved by SBCERA

1/2/2026

Accepted and Approved by SBCERA

Signed On: 10/10/2024

By:

Christina Cintron

Printed Name

Its: Chief of Member Services

Approval of this form by SBCERA entitles employer and employee to the conclusive presumption that the re-employment has commenced lawfully, so long as all statements made herein are true. A copy will be returned to the employer and employee.

REV. 10/26/2023

Instructions: Only complete one of the following supplemental sections if you are a member of a Board or Commission or serve as a volunteer.

Section 9 Board or Commission

Only complete this section if the retiree is a member of a Board or Commission.

Provide information about the retiree's service on the Board/Commission.

SBCERA retirees are allowed to serve on the Boards and Commissions of Participating Employers and receive the same per diem payment as other members of the Board or Commission, without being subject to returning retiree restrictions.

Board/Commission Name: _____

Term of Appointment/Election:

Start Date _____ Anticipated End Date _____

Per Diem Paid to All Board/Commission Members \$ _____ (per meeting)

Meeting Frequency: _____

Does retiree receive any additional benefits such as health or dental insurance?

☐ Yes

☐ No

If the answer above is Yes, provide details about additional benefits:

You've completed the required section that applies to Boards/Commissions. Employer should return the form to

Section 10 Volunteer

Only complete this section if the retiree is a volunteer.

SBCERA retirees are allowed to volunteer with any SBCERA-covered employer without being subject to Return to Work requirements so long as they are not compensated for their service.

Position: _____

Estimated Work Hours Per Week: _____

Describe volunteer duties:

Does retiree receive any additional benefits such as health or dental insurance?

☐ Yes

☐ No

If the answer above is Yes, provide details about additional benefits:

You've completed the required section that applies to volunteers. Return the form to SBCERA.