

Announcing An Exciting New Opportunity for Public Pension Fiduciaries

New Certification Program

A Cooperative Effort Between PAPERS & Penn State Behrend



PennState

PAPERS is proud to announce its partnership with Penn State Behrend on its new Certified PA Public Retirement Plan Professional program. This certification is an ideal way to better understand your fiduciary role and how to carry out fiduciary responsibilities.

Is your PA retirement system meeting its obligations to employees and their families? If you're in a decision-making role on behalf of your PA retirement system plan, it's your legal responsibility to ensure that decisions are being made in the best interests of plan participants and beneficiaries. What's more, as a fiduciary you may be personally liable for the decisions made by the plan. With increasing news headlines and legal and regulatory pressure on public retirement plans, now is the time for comprehensive fiduciary education.

The certification program provides participants with exposure to a diverse and comprehensive curriculum of fiduciary and plan management topics in a two-part process:

1. Complete an on-line introductory fiduciary process course developed by PAPERS and Penn State Behrend
2. Attend program sessions at PAPERS conferences focused on regulatory updates, plan management best practices and service provider due diligence.

Make a difference! Become a Certified PA Public Retirement Plan Professional



Certified PA Public Retirement Plan Professional

Course Design

The certification program provides participants with exposure to a diverse and comprehensive curriculum of pension topics in a two-part process:

- **On-line introductory education modules developed by Penn State Behrend.**
- **Attendance at PAPERS conferences**

Program Enrollment

Please use the *Certification Program Enrollment* form below or access a fillable version of the form on the "Certification Program" page of the PAPERS website www.pa-pers.org.

Submit the completed form to PAPERS by mail to: **PAPERS, PO Box 61543, Harrisburg, PA 17106-1543** or by e-mail to: douglas.b@verizon.net. Call PAPERS @ 717-921-1957 with questions about enrolling.

Program Cost

The one-time enrollment fee is \$499, payable to Penn State Behrend. Payment details provided after enrollment.

Process

After receiving your completed *Certification Program Enrollment*, PAPERS will provide notice to Penn State Behrend of your enrollment. Penn State will contact you with more details, including the requirement to pay the one-time enrollment fee. Upon payment of the enrollment fee, enrollees will receive a link giving access to the three on-line modules. Modules may be taken at one's leisure to be completed within six months of enrollment.

At the conclusion of each module, participants will take an on-line test to check their understanding of the material. The test may be re-taken any number of times until a passing grade is received. Participants will receive notification upon successful completion of the on-line modules.

The next step in the certification process is attendance at three of the next four PAPERS conferences (held each spring and fall). After attending the required number of conferences, participants will be awarded the *Certified PA Public Retirement Plan Professional* designation. Public recognition of this achievement will be provided at PAPERS conferences.

Certification Program Enrollment

Name: _____ Date: _____

(Please **print** your name the way you would like it on your final certification)

Pension plan or firm: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone: _____ E-Mail: _____

Please submit this completed application to PAPERS by one of following methods:

by mail to: **PAPERS, PO Box 61543, Harrisburg, PA 17106-1543** OR by e-mail to: douglas.b@verizon.net