# **Employer Basics 101:** Annual Reporting

## **Annual reporting process**

Each year, all STRS Ohio reporting employers are required to submit an annual report in early August. This is an electronic report that lists all member contributions on compensation earned by STRS Ohio active members and reemployed retirees during the fiscal year, as well as service credit earned by active members.

To properly pay benefits for all members, STRS Ohio must know the amount of compensation and service credit each member earns during the STRS Ohio fiscal year (July 1–June 30). This information is reported in the employer's annual report. Payroll reports are based on **paid** compensation, while the annual report is based on **earned** compensation.

# What information is required in the annual report?

Keep in mind, annual reports are only for member contributions.

Annual reports include the following information for each member:

- Employer number,
- Member name,
- Member Social Security number,
- Member type (active or reemployed),
- Regular (after-tax) contributions,
- Picked-up (pretax) contributions,
- · Accrued contributions, and
- Service credit (for active members only).

# Annual Reporting Checklist

- Reconcile annual report figures to payroll
- ✓ Determine accrued contributions (if applicable)
- ✓ Calculate service credit
- ✓ Submit annual report
- Complete service credit verification report (if required)
- Complete accrued verification report (if required)
- Review Employer Detail Listing report
- ✓ Contact STRS Ohio if discrepancies are found

	\$	STATE TEACHERS RETIF Annual Report	Date : 08	Time: 15:38 age: 2 of 2			
mployer Name: Ohio Local Schools		Employer Number: 9599	Report ID: 16747194		Type of Report: Regular		
			Pretax employee contribution	After-tax employee contribution	Reporting For:	07/01/2022	To 06/30/202
SSN	Name	Membership Type	Pre- Tax	After- Tax	Accrued Contribution	S/C	_
XXX-XX-1298	Bud Abbott		16.58	0.00	0.00	0.01	
XXX-XX-6366	Stan Laurel	R	46.15	0.00	0.00	0.00	
XXX-XX- 9807	Oliver Hardy		6,200.37	0.00	1,308.12	1.00	
XXX-XX- 4779	Charlie Chaplin		8.13	0.00	0.00	0.01	

# **Understanding accrued contributions**

Accrued contributions are contributions on compensation that is earned by June 30 of the fiscal year, but not paid until July or August of the next fiscal year. In other words, if an educator is paid through the summer (in July and August) for work performed during the school year, then contributions on those payments are considered accrued.

For example, if your July 1 pay is payment for time worked June 12–23, then those contributions should be marked as accrued contributions on your payroll report.

Correctly reporting accrued contributions is critical for STRS Ohio to properly pay benefits to members. It is important that contributions are correctly accounted for in the fiscal year in which they are earned or corrections must be made.

Contributions can only be considered accrued if payment is made in July or August for prior year earnings. For example, payment made in October for work done in June is not considered accrued contributions but a correction to a prior fiscal year annual report. To make a correction, a backposting must be submitted in ESS.

# **Processing annual reports**

# How do I reconcile the annual report to fiscal year payroll reports?

Part of the annual reporting process includes reconciling the annual report to fiscal year payroll reports. It is important to remember that the annual report is based on what is **earned** during the fiscal year, not paid. To reconcile to a fiscal year payroll report, STRS Ohio uses the following formula:

## Annual report =

current fiscal year payroll

— prior year accrued contributions

+ current year accrued contributions

+ or — any backpostings included in payroll reports.

## How do I submit my annual report?

STRS Ohio requires the annual report to be submitted by using one of the following methods:

- Online report via ESS, or
- Secure file upload application on our website.

## When is my annual report due?

Annual reports are due to STRS Ohio early August each year. This year's report is due **by the first Friday in August**. Penalties will be assessed for late reports. Penalties **up to \$500** per day can be incurred.

# Am I required to provide any other information?

Once your annual report is received and processed you may receive the following additional reports.

### Service credit verification report

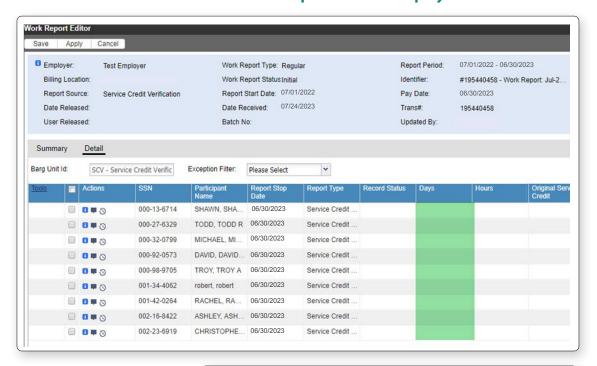
Employers may receive a service credit verification report if service credit appears inconsistent with contributions. For example, if the employer reports \$70 in member contributions and a full year of service credit is given, then STRS Ohio will generate a report asking the employer to verify the member's service credit. All questionable service credit is included on one report sent to the employer. Complete the number of days worked or percentage of full-time equivalent (FTE) for colleges and universities and indicate whether the individual was full or part time. A sample of the online service credit verification screen is below.

Your school's annual report contact will be notified via email when your online service credit verification is available for completion in ESS. For complete instructions, see the tutorial video in the Education & Training section of the employer website or find the ESS Instructions on the employer website.

\$328.37 STRS

\$710.47 STRS \$14.00 STRS

#### Service credit verification report for K-12 employers



\$141.32 STRS 1 \$142.40 STRS \$204.13 STRS \$263.01 STRS scroll to the right. \$282.98 STRS 1 \$315.00 STRS

1

# of Participants: 9 # of Rows: Billing Type:

Agreement:

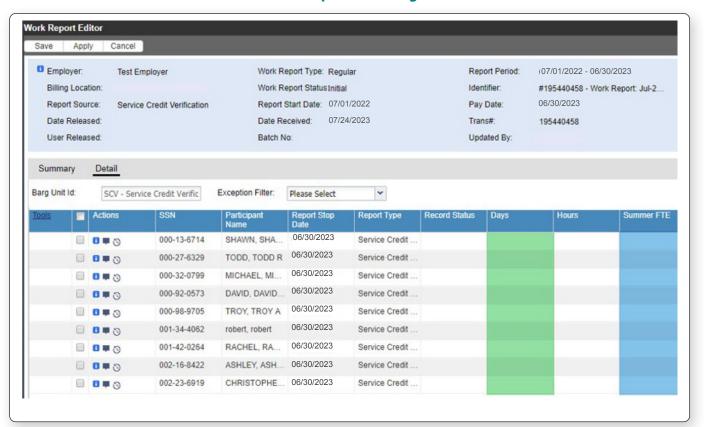
Contribution

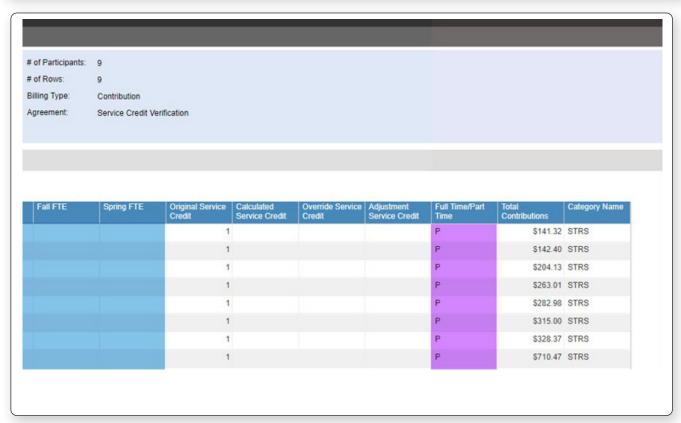
Service Credit Verification

Note: This is one screen. To see additional columns,



#### Service credit verification report for colleges and universities





Note: This is one screen. To see additional columns, scroll to the right.

#### **Accrued verification report**

In the fall, employers may receive the accrued verification report if accrued contribution amounts reported on their annual report do not match those reported through payroll.

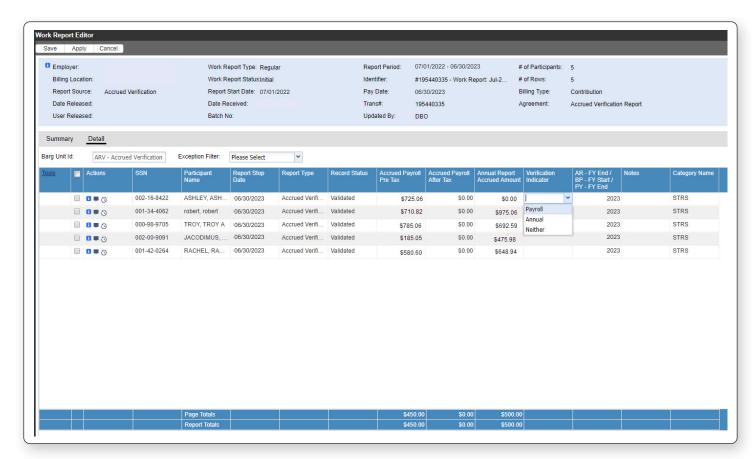
To ensure accuracy of each member's account, the employer is required to verify which accrued contribution amount is correct. Accrued contributions are contributions on compensation that is earned by June 30 of the fiscal year, but not paid until July and August of the next fiscal year. For example, this may be "summer stretch" pay, "advance" or perhaps payment for a late time card.

This report will list the total amount of accrued contributions reported through payroll, as well as the total accrued contribution amount reported on the annual report. To complete this report, choose the report title that shows the correct amount of

accrued contributions (either "Annual" or "Payroll"). If neither amount is correct, please choose "Neither" and indicate the correct amount of accrued contributions in the Notes field for that particular member. For step-by-step instructions, please see the tutorial in the Education & Training section of the employer website.

## **Employer Detail Listing report**

Starting in October, employers will receive an *Employer Detail Listing* report. This report lists the final amount of contributions and service credit that STRS Ohio has posted to individual member accounts for the fiscal year. Employers should keep this report for their file as it is considered a final record. A sample report is on Page 6. Your *Employer Detail Listing* report can also be found on ESS by clicking on "Documents" in the Application Menu.



Accrued verification screen

#### STATE TEACHERS RETIREMENT SYSTEM OF OHIO

EMPLOYER DETAIL LISTING FOR YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2023

**EMPLOYER CODE: 9599** 

DATE: 11/1/2023 TIME: 15:08 PAGE: 1

OHIO LOCAL SCHOOLS ATTN: TREASURER 123 MARKET ST ANYTOWN, OH 43210

MEMBER NAME	ACCOUNT	AFTERTAX	PRETAX	SVC	YEAR	ACCRUED
VICKI LOCKARD	XXX XX XX	XX 0.00	2,609.40	1.00	2023	434.88
RITA JOHNSON	XXX XX XX	XX 0.00	2,081.81	1.00	2023	346.96
KELE` WILLIS	XXX XX XX	XX 0.00	4,994.61	1.00	2023	832.42
MARY LOU WRIGHT	XXX XX XX	XX 0.00	13.42	.02	2023	0.00
SUE VOGEL	XXX XX XX	0.00 XX	4,460.53	1.00	2023	743.42
JOHN MORTON	XXX XX XX	0.00 XX	2,863.64	1.00	2023	477.26
TASHA MCGINNIS	XXX XX XX	XX 0.00	2,911.30	1.00	2023	485.16
LASCHELLE HAYES	XXX XX XX	XX 0.00	4,212.26	1.00	2023	702.04
JULIE LEWIS	XXX XX XX	0.00 XX	10.73	.01	2023	0.00
JAMES WEBB	XXX XX XX	0.00 XX	132.37	.17	2023	0.00
KATHRYN DUFOUR	XXX XX XX	XX 0.00	4,029.28	1.00	2023	671.54
JANICE TAYLOR	XXX XX XX	0.00 XX	321.52	.33	2023	0.00
CHRISTOPHER DECKART	XXX XX XX	XX 0.00	67.81	.07	2023	0.00
SUZI SMITH	XXX XX XX	0.00 XX	18.79	.02	2023	0.00
ANDREA WILLIAMS	XXX XX XX	XX 0.00	2,962.69	1.00	2023	493.78
COURTNEY LINN	XXX XX XX	0.00 XX	3,571.89	1.00	2023	595.30
JANE GREENE	XXX XX XX	XX 0.00	2,837.63	1.00	2023	472.92
ROGER LUCAS	XXX XX XX	XX 0.00	8.05	.01	2023	0.00
KENNETH WOODLAND	XXX XX XX	XX 0.00	2,120.81	1.00	2023	353.46
PAULA JOHNSON	XXX XX XX	XX 0.00	3,595.88	1.00	2023	599.30
JOSEPH THOMAS	XXX XX XX	XX 0.00	2,212.60	1.00	2023	368.76
KELLEY ALLEN	XXX XX XX	XX 0.00	4,388.36	1.00	2023	731.38
JENNIFER THOMSON	XXX XX XX	XX 0.00	2,148.96	1.00	2023	358.14
BONNIE THOMAN	XXX XX XX	XX 0.00	10.74	.01	2023	0.00
MARISSA MAHONE	XXX XX XX	XX 0.00	3,413.28	1.00	2023	568.86
SALLY HARRIS	XXX XX XX	XX 0.00	324.97	.38	2023	0.00
JENNIFER RAINIER	XXX XX XX	XX 0.00	3,832.95	1.00	2023	638.82
LISA BAUER	XXX XX XX	XX 0.00	2,042.56	1.00	2023	340.42
AMANDA MARCUM	XXX XX XX	XX 0.00	4,655.81	1.00	2023	775.96
ZACHARY BARNETT	XXX XX XX	XX 0.00	5.37	.01	2023	0.00
EMILY DOTSON	XXX XX XX	XX 0.00	4,200.85	1.00	2023	700.14

Employer Detail Listing report