

## CalSTRS Presents a Solution!

Recently, concerns have been raised about certificated administrators in positions that qualify them for participation in another retirement system having missed the 60-day window to complete an election form that would allow service credit to, instead, continue to be applied to the California State Teachers' Retirement System (CalSTRS). In response, CalSTRS just posted an Employer Information Circular, "Right of Retirement System Election When Changing Positions" (Volume 29: Issue 3), noting that the error is correctable and it allows certificated staff in affected positions the opportunity to complete the Retirement System Election Form ES-372 (found [here](#)) within 180 days of the date of the Circular (November 25, 2013). The form must be accompanied by a letter providing some additional information explaining late submission of the election form. The Circular with instructions can be found [here](#).

CalSTRS emphasizes that, if there is any doubt as to whether the position is a certificated or a classified position, if the incumbent is a CalSTRS member, then the election form should be completed. Although the Circular does not specifically address retirees, we believe that this should also apply to previously retired members who may have been in positions subsequently found to not directly qualify for CalSTRS service credit, and so would urge that they also take the step of filing the Retirement System Election Form ES-372. CalSTRS original Circular, "Positions Not Eligible for Creditable Service," dated August 29, 2012 (Volume 28; Issue 1), about service credit elections is available for reference [here](#).

We applaud CalSTRS and all of the players involved—the Association of California School Administrators, Association of California Community College Administrators, education law offices, and others—for arriving at this solution! We urge all certificated administrators that have concerns about potentially occupying a classified position to complete this form and ensure that it is submitted to CalSTRS within the 180-day window.

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—*Sheila G. Vickers, Michael Ricketts  
and Kathleen O'Sullivan*