



Board of Education Retirement System

Securing your financial future today

Winter 2024



BERS DOCUPLOAD

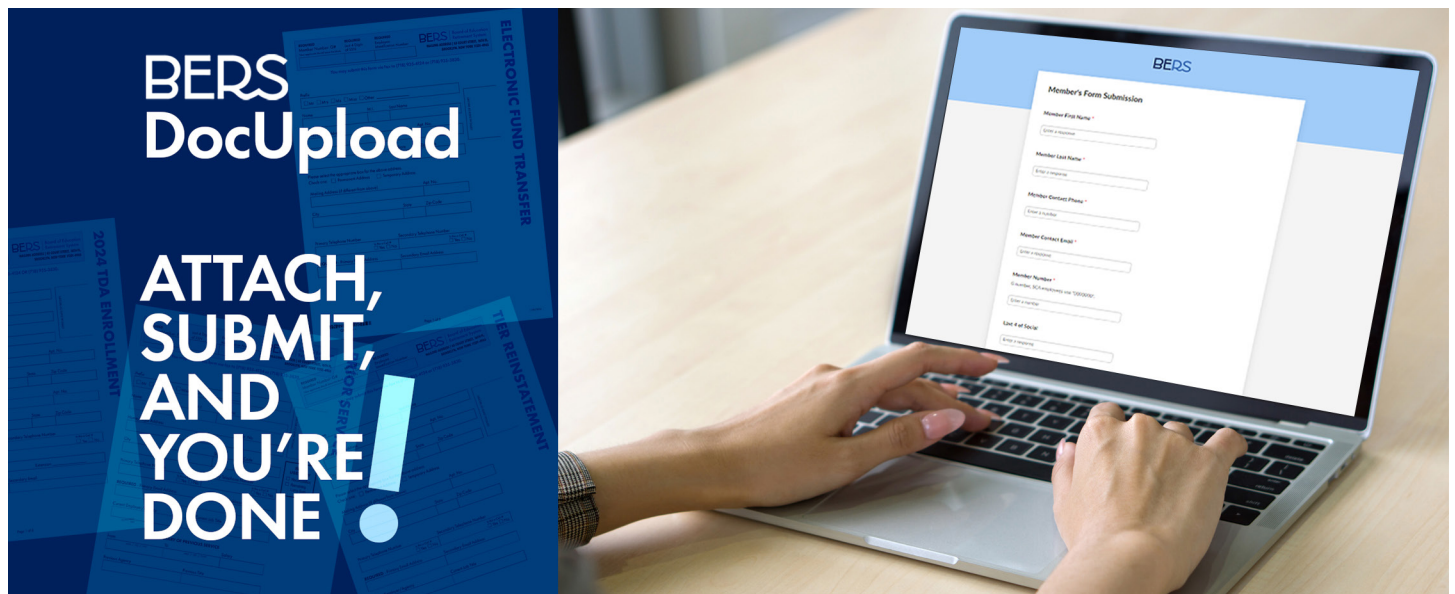
Say goodbye to the hassle of email attachments! With our new BERS DocUpload, the form submission process becomes easy! Members can now click on this [link](#) to upload their forms and required documentation for processing.

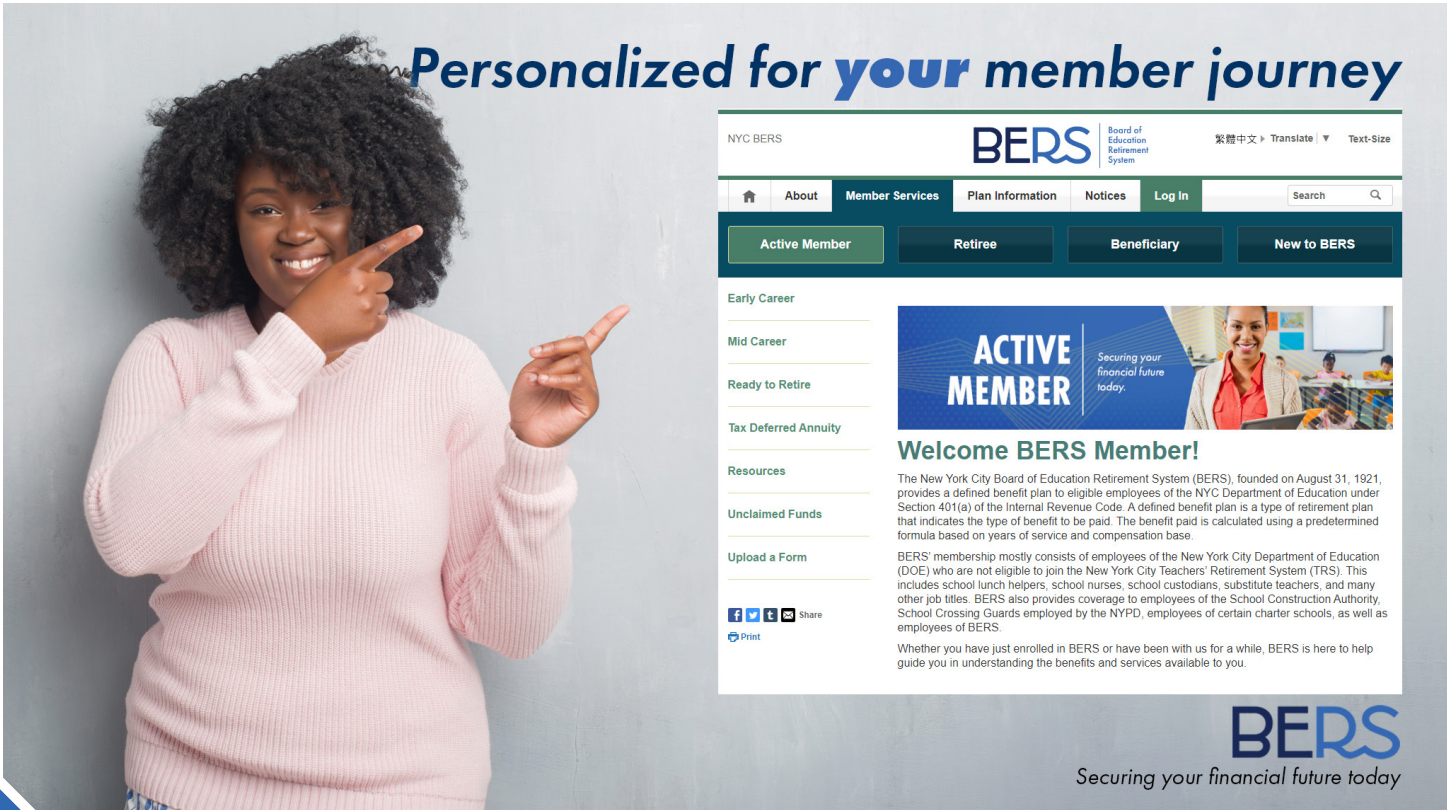
Before you upload, check that all your documents have been filled out properly and have them ready to upload. You must upload one document at a time and select the matching name for the document from the Document Type drop-down list. A document is all the pages that belong to

a form and should be combined in one PDF file. Please do not upload one page at a time. If a document has multiple pages they should all be combined before you upload.

This new method ensures a smoother experience for you. Thank you for adapting with us as we embrace this more efficient approach.

As always you can continue to email us at brespon@bers.nyc.gov for any questions and inquiries you have. ■





*Personalized for **your** member journey*

NYC BERS **BERS** Board of Education Retirement System 繁體中文 Translate Text-Size

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ACTIVE MEMBER Securing your financial future today.

Welcome BERS Member!

The New York City Board of Education Retirement System (BERS), founded on August 31, 1921, provides a defined benefit plan to eligible employees of the NYC Department of Education under Section 401(a) of the Internal Revenue Code. A defined benefit plan is a type of retirement plan that indicates the type of benefit to be paid. The benefit paid is calculated using a predetermined formula based on years of service and compensation base.

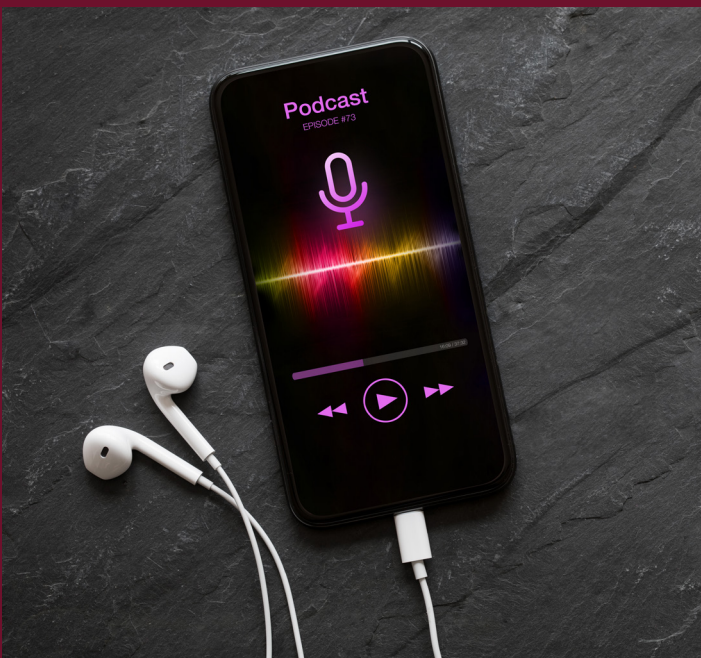
BERS' membership mostly consists of employees of the New York City Department of Education (DOE) who are not eligible to join the New York City Teachers' Retirement System (TRS). This includes school lunch helpers, school nurses, school custodians, substitute teachers, and many other job titles. BERS also provides coverage to employees of the School Construction Authority, School Crossing Guards employed by the NYPD, employees of certain charter schools, as well as employees of BERS.

Whether you have just enrolled in BERS or have been with us for a while, BERS is here to help guide you in understanding the benefits and services available to you.

BERS
Securing your financial future today

Check out our new [Active](#) Member, Retiree, Beneficiary, and New to BERS webpages. Everything that pertains to your BERS journey is now in one convenient place. You will spend less time hunting for what you need on the website and more time enjoying the web pages we created just for you. ■

WORKWELL PODCAST



As a city employee of New York, you are busy and on the go. But don't worry, WorkWell NYC has got you covered. This month's Wellness Snacks Podcast episode guides you on how to slow down and enjoy your food. In this episode, Brenda Dash, Senior Wellness Educator and Dietician at WorkWell NYC explains the benefits of mindful eating and provides listeners with a mindful eating exercise you can put into practice. You can check out the latest episode here: [WorkWell NYC Podcast](#).

WorkWell NYC helps workplaces engage and empower their employees to live a healthy and active lifestyle. They provide a multitude of services, programs, and resources to city employees so they can live their healthiest lives. For more information and helpful resources, check out the [WorkWell NYC website](#). ■

AUTO ENROLLMENT (TELL A FRIEND TO TELL A FRIEND)

Thank you to DC37 for your tireless efforts in helping to pass the Chapter 721 Auto Enrollment Bill! On December 8, 2023, Governor Kathy Hochul signed into law Chapter 721 of the Laws of 2023. This law will automatically enroll employees eligible for BERS membership unless they opt out. Chapter 721 covers all employees who are active on payroll and who are eligible (but not otherwise mandated) to join BERS, other than provisional employees.

Existing covered employees as of July 1, 2024, will be given until September 30, 2024, to opt out of automatic enrollment in BERS. If an existing covered employee does not opt out of automatic enrollment or leave service by then, that covered employee must be enrolled in BERS on October 1, 2024, which will also be the date of membership.

As a BERS member you know the benefits BERS provides you such as a paycheck for life in retirement, vesting

after five years of service, a death benefit after one year of service (payable to beneficiaries of your choice), disability retirement coverage after ten years of service (or



if you suffer a work-related accident), and the opportunity to save even more money for retirement through the Tax-Deferred Annuity (TDA) Program for eligible employees.

Help us spread the word to your colleagues who haven't enrolled yet and new hires, that Auto Enrollment is here! If they are not sure if they are enrolled, don't hesitate to reach out to a BERS Representative for help. ■

WHERE DO I SEND IN MY PAYMENT?

Checks payable to BERS should be sent to the following address:

**Board of Education Retirement System
P.O. Box 21269
New York, NY 10087-1269**

Please include your member number on the check and a brief description of the purpose of the payment (e.g. loan number) in the memo line located on the check or money order. This will ensure that your payments are processed efficiently and accurately.

For quick processing, please write a separate check for each loan. If BERS receives one check to cover more than one loan, it will cause a delay in processing your payments. BERS bank information can be found here: [Send in a Payment Notice](#). ■





OFFICE CLOSED DATES

Our Walk-In Center at 65 Court Street will be closed on the following dates:

March:

- Good Friday: Friday, March 29

April:

- Easter Monday, Monday, April 1
- Eid al-Fitr: Wednesday, April 10
- First Day of Passover: Tuesday, April 23
- Second Day of Passover: Wednesday, April 24

May:

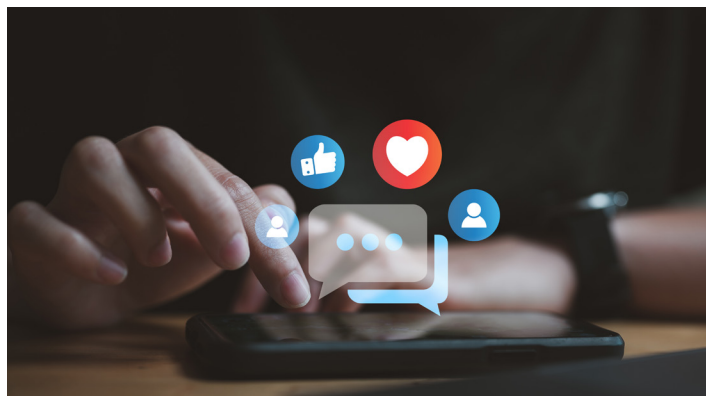
- Memorial Day: Monday, May 27

June

- Eid al-Adha: Monday, June 17
- Juneteenth: Wednesday, June 19

COME GET SOCIAL WITH US!

Are you waiting on the phone to get in touch with us? Good News we are only one click away! Search NYCBERS in the search bar of [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [YouTube](#), and [LinkedIn](#), and hit that follow button to keep up to date or communicate with your retirement system.



Service Center

65 Court Street, 1st Floor, Brooklyn, NY 11201

Mailing Address

65 Court Street, 16th Floor, Brooklyn, New York 11201

Executive Office

55 Water Street, 50th Floor, New York, NY 10041

Call Center hours

Monday through Friday, 8:30 am to 4:30 pm
PH 929.305.3800 • 800.843.5575

Fax 718.935.3830 • 718.935.4124

Web www.nycbers.org

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