

Welcome to Employer Self-Service (ESS)



2019



Agenda

- Introduction
- Enrollments
- Contributions
- Services



Introduction



"The Sandbox"

In the test environment you will be able to practice with functions such as:

- 1. Setting up your agency info and your users of the ESS system
- 2. Uploading enrollment and contribution files
- 3. Manually entering employees into ESS
- 4. Correcting errors
- 5. Searching for employee information

Please note that the sandbox is for practice only and the only information that will be brought over to the live environment is that of the Administrator for your agency



Welcome to ESS!

Log-in to the Sandbox following these four steps:

- 1. Log-in to the ESS sandbox
 - Use the following link: <u>https://test1-ess.rsa-al.gov/Common/Pages/Login.aspx</u>
- 3. For the F5 Login :
 - Username: portal_admin
 - Password: R3tirementForTheFuture!
- 4. For ESS Login:
 - User the credentials you created

6	
F5 Login Only: Username	
Password	



Overview of ESS Tabs

<u>Report</u>

- Submit Enrollments
- Submit Contributions
- View the History of submitted files
- Set up a Payroll
 Schedule
- View Invoices





Overview of ESS Tabs

Services

- Death Notice (for current or prior employees)
- Employer Certification for retirements, service purchase, or refunds
- Employee Information to look up anyone in RSA's database
- Search Demographics of your employees
- Employer Information
- Reports
- Message and Question Centers

Services

Death Notice Employer Certification Employee Information Search Demographics Employer Information Reports Message Center Question Center



Overview of ESS Tabs

<u>Account</u>

 Change Password, Pin, or Security Questions

<u>Admin</u>

- Manage Payment Accounts
- Office Locations
- Contact Persons
- Manage Users

Must complete in this order

Account Change Password Change PIN Change Security Questions





ESS Homescreen

The menus shown on the prior slides display across the top of the screen

The Retire	ment Systems	of Alabam	ıa						
Employer Self-Service Emp	ployer Home Report	Services /	Account	Admin	Logout				
Welcome to The Retirement Systems of Ala	bama (RSA) Employer Self-Se	ervice web site. This	site provides e	employers v	vith a number of	resources to accura	tely and efficiently	report employee data	a to The
Reporting wages and contributions Processing EFT Payments Processing employee wage adjustm Adding or updating employer informa Reviewing employer reports and invv Verifying Personal Identification num Reviewing and verifying contribution Providing access to the secure mess	Retirement Systems of Alabama (RSA). From this site, employers are able to interact with us in a number of ways, including: Reporting wages and contributions Processing EFT Payments Processing employee wage adjustments Adding or updating employer information Reviewing employer reports and invoices Verifying Personal Identification numbers (PIDs) Reviewing and verifying contribution rates								
This tool is designed to improve the service	that The Retirement Systems	of Alabama (RSA) p	provides by offe	ering secure	online access to	your account inform	nation.		
It is our privilege to provide this additional le	evel of service to you.								
The Retirement Systems of Alabama Home Contact Us Disclaimer Privacy Non-Discrimination Notice Hours of Operation: 8:00am-5:00pm CT Phone: (334) 517-7000 or Toll Free: (877) 517-002	The Retirement Syst P.O. Box 302150 Montgomery, AL 3613	ems of Alabama XO-2150							
© 2019 - The Retirement Systems of Alabama. All rig	hts reserved.								



Manage Payment Accounts

- All payments will be made by debit to your account
- You must ensure that you have removed debit blocks from your account
- To do this, contact your financial institution and provide them with the ACH Company ID for the transactions

Type of Transaction	<u>ACH Company ID</u>
Employer	F636045055
RSA-1	H636045055



How to Set up a Payment Account

- Select <u>Admin</u>
- Select <u>Manage Payment Accounts</u>
- Select Add Payment Account
- <u>Fill in the Account Information</u> (such as Routing Number and Account Number)
- Select <u>Continue</u>
- You will receive a message that your account was added successfully



Enrollments



Enrollment

Enrollments take the place of the Form 100. After a new participating employee is enrolled, they will receive a welcome packet that includes beneficiary designation.

Any time an employee changes in contribution group or position status, they should have a new enrollment; you must end the previous enrollment.



Enrollment Record Overview



Job-Related Information

- Record Type
- Contribution Group
- Position Status
- Enrollment Begin Date
- Enrollment End Date
- Enrollment End Reason
- LOA Status Effective Date
- LOA Status
- Scheduled Units Effective Date
- Scheduled Type of Units Worked
- Scheduled Units to Work per Week
- Schedule Full Time Units per week
- Payroll Frequency
- Number of Months Paid
- Tier/Group



Personal and Demographic Information

- First Name
- Middle Name
- Last Name
- Suffix
- Date of Birth
- Gender
- SSN
- PID
- Primary Address Line
- Secondary Address Line
- City
- State
- Zip Code
- Foreign Address Line
- Country Code



Position Status

Alphanumeric Code	Definition
01 = Regular	Should be used for full-time employees, as well as part-time employees who have a regular work schedule.
03 = Seasonal / Irregular	Should be used for employees who do not have a regular work schedule. This includes retirees who have returned to work.
04 = Temporary	Should be used for someone hired with a pre-determined termination date that is less than one year from the date of hire.
08 = Ineligible to Contribute	Should be used for positions that are by definition never eligible to contribute towards an RSA retirement benefit regardless of the fulltime/part-time status of the person or any previous eligibility that was established for the member.



Contribution Groups- ERS LOCAL

Description	Position Code	Contribution Group for a Contributing Member	Contribution Group for a Non-Participating Employee
Firefighter	021	021CONT	021NONP
Law Enforcement Officer	022	022CONT	022NONP
Elected Official	031	031CONT	031NONP
FLC Elected Official	032	032CONT	032NONP
County Engineer	043	043CONT	043NONP
Local Employee	044	044CONT	044NONP
FLC Dual	099	099CONT	Not Applicable



Leave of Absence (LOA)

What is LOA?

LOA is used to indicate that someone has been placed on **unpaid** leave

What does LOA impact?

LOA helps track service credit that members may be eligible to purchase at a later time

Examples of when to place someone on LOA include medical, maternity, or military leave



Payroll Schedule

Under <u>Reports</u>, select <u>Payroll Schedule</u> Select Plan Year <u>2018-2019</u> Select Payroll Frequency of <u>Monthly</u> Select Initial Pay Date <u>10/31/2018</u> Select <u>0</u> Days in Arrears Select <u>Generate</u>

Report

Submit Report View History View Reporting Packets Download PIDs Invoices Payroll Schedule Error Correction



Payroll Schedule

- Payroll Schedule must be set up for each plan year for each type of payroll.
- Three components to the payroll schedule:
 - Pay date: Date the wages are paid
 - Pay period begin date: the first day of the pay period
 - Pay period end date: the last day of the pay period
- The dates in the payroll schedule must match the same dates used when reporting wages and employee contributions.
- Edit Payrolls

Payroll Sche	dule					
Payroll Sche	dule					
	Retirement System	Plan Year	Payroll Frequency	Initial Pay Date	Arrears	Generate
Ŧ	Employees' Retirement System of Alabama	2017 - 2018	Monthly	10/31/2017	0 Days	
۲	Employees' Retirement System of Alabama	2017 - 2018	Weekly	10/01/2017	0 Days	
Œ	Employees' Retirement System of Alabama	2016 - 2017	Monthly	10/31/2016	0 Days	
	* Employees' Retirement System of Alabama	*	*	*	* ~	Generate
1						



Payroll Schedule

Warning: One or more rows has a Pay Date on a weekend or holiday and has been adjusted to the previous business day.

Payroll Schedule

Payroll Schedule

			Retirement System	Plan Year	Payroll Frequency	Initial Pay Date	Arrears					Generate
Edit	*	-	Employees'	2018 - 2019	Monthly	10/31/2018	0 Days					
			Retirement System of						Pay Date	Pay Period Begin Date	Pay Period End Date	Skip Report
			Alabama				Edit	*	10/31/2018	10/01/2018	10/31/2018	
							Edit	*	11/30/2018	11/01/2018	11/30/2018	
							Edit	*	12/31/2018	12/01/2018	12/31/2018	
							Edit	*	01/31/2019	01/01/2019	01/31/2019	
							Edit	*	02/28/2019	02/01/2019	02/28/2019	
							Edit	8	03/29/2019	03/01/2019	03/31/2019	
							Edit	8	04/30/2019	04/01/2019	04/30/2019	
							Edit	*	05/31/2019	05/01/2019	05/31/2019	
							Edit	8	06/28/2019	06/01/2019	06/30/2019	
							Edit	*	07/31/2019	07/01/2019	07/31/2019	
							Edit	8	08/30/2019	08/01/2019	08/31/2019	
							Edit	*	09/30/2019	09/01/2019	09/30/2019	



Enter Online Enrollments - Demo

- Adding Employee
- Adding Enrollments
- Updated Existing Enrollments
 - Search Demographics





Manual Enrollments

Employer Self-	Service	Employer Home	Report Services	Account
			Submit Report	
Getting Started >	Details >	Summary >	View History View Reporting Pack	ets
Enrollments			Download PIDs	
Choose this option to u You can upload multip enroliment information	upload only enro le enrollment file for existing men	allments in a file. s per month as needen bers.	Invoices Payroll Schedule Error Correction	
	• Uplo	ad File 🛛 🖸 Ent	er Online	

- To manually enroll an employee,
- Select <u>Report</u>
- Select Submit Report
- Select Enter Online



Manual Enrollments

ALABAMAN		1								
Employer Self-Ser	vice Employe	rHome Re	eport Services	Account	Admin	Logout			O EXYZ	- John Doe
							Available Fo	orms:	~	Open Forr
Search Employee Dem	ographics									
Enter an Employee SSI	N, PID, First Name,	or Last Name	and click the Search	n button.						
Note: Clicking the Show the search options.	v All button will disp	lay all employe	ees for the logged in	employer. If y	you would lif	ke to view employe	es who do not ha	ive an enrollme	ent with your a	agency, use
Search Employee										
Employee SSN:		- m			PID:					
First Name:					Last Name	2:				
Advanced Search										
Display Records:		10	~			Search Q	Show Active 🔻	Show All 🗲	Add N	ew Employee
Search Details										
Last Name	First Name	PID	SSN		Birt	h Date	Employer		Action	
MEMBER	MICHAEL	1000000)1 XXX-X	X-0001	12/1	7/1981	XYZ_AIRPORT		Maintain 👻	

- You may search for any employee in the RSA database by SS#, PID, or name
- Enter Data and Select Search
- If the person is in RSA's database, you can enroll the employee by clicking Maintain, and updating the employee's data



Manual Enrollments

Employee Information			
SSN: * Foreign National with no SSN :	Date of Birth: *		Q Verify SSN and Date of Birth
Personal Information			
First Name:*	Suffix:	Select Suffix	~
Middle Name:	Gender: *	Select Gender	~
Last Name:*			
Address Information			

- Select Add New Employee
- Enter Personal and Demographic Data
- Select Save Changes



Manual Enrollments



- Select Go to Enrollments
- Add New Enrollment
- Fill in Enrollment information
- Select Save Changes

Note that the Tier automatically populates to Tier 99 because RSA does not have a record of this person in the system. You must determine if they are a Tier 99 (NONP) or Tier 2 (CONT).

If the employee has ever been a Tier 1 employee, they will be a Tier 1 employee for life.



Enrollment Details

Edit Enrollment	
Current Tier/Group:	Tier 1
Retirement Plan: *	ERS T1 Regular
Contribution Group: *	Contribution Local Employee
Position Status: *	Regular
Scheduled Units Effective Date: *	
Scheduled Units to Work per week: *	
Scheduled Type of Units Worked: *	×
Scheduled Full Time Units per week: *	
Payroll Frequency: *	×
Number of Months Paid: *	×
Enrollment Begin Date: *	
Enrollment End Date:	
Enrollment End Reason:	×
LOA Status Effective Date: *	
LOA Status: *	~
X Cancel	M Save Changes



Users will enter Enrollment details in the table shown here



Enrollment Reports

- Current Enrollment
 Summary
- Current Enrollment Detail

View Reports	
Report Name:	
Description:	Outstanding Edit Errors Demographic Errors Non-Participating Part-Time Status Leave Without Pay Outstanding Load Errors Employer Historical Payments
Format:	Annual Checklist Report for ERS Exception Report for ERS Post-Retirement Employment
RSA PIN: *	Current Enrollment Summary Error Summary Overtime Limit
Reset Generate	Current Enrollment Detail



Common ENRL Errors

- Position Status Not Valid
- Full Time Units vs Scheduled Units
- Contribution Group
- Enrollment Begin date

New Enrollment									
_									
Enrollment Validation Errors									
Error Code	Error Message	Severity	Category						
ER0274	Invalid work schedule provided. (Scheduled Units per Week must be greater than 0, Scheduled Full Time Units per week must be greater than 0, and Scheduled Units per Week cannot exceed Scheduled Full Time Units per Week or the Scheduled Fulltime units is outside the allowable limits).	Error	GENERAL						



Contributions



Enrollments vs. Contributions

Enrollments	Contributions
 Contribution Group 	Contribution Group
 Position Status 	 Position Status
• Type of Units Worked	 Type of Units Worked
Begin Date	 Pay Period Begin Date
End Date	 Pay Period End Date
 Unnaid Leave (IOA) 	Pay Date
 Expected Work Schedule 	 Units worked during the Pay Period
Payroll Frequency	 Wages earned during the Pay Period



Contribution Components





FIRST TIME CONTRIBUTION SET-UP FOR ENTER ONLINE

Getting Started 📏	Details 📏	Summary >	Payments	Resu	llts			
Enrollments				Contributions				
Choose this option to u You can upload multipl members or update en	pload only enro e enrollment files rollment informat	Ilments in a file. per month as need ion for existing men	led to enroll new nbers.		Choose this option to upload only contributions in a file. Once an enrollment has been created for an employee, you can upload a contribution file to report contribution details. An enrollment must exist before contributions can be reported for an employee.			
•	Upload File	🖸 Enter Onli	ine	Opload File Senter Online				



Entering Contribution Information

Users will enter or adjust Contribution Information as needed

Perso	nal Information														
PID: X0000000K				SSN:			3008-908	3006-903-90306							
First N	lame:	John					Last Name:	Last Name: Doe							
Tier/G	roup:	Tier 1	Tier 1				Employment Begin / End Date:				11/01/2012 - Present				
Contri	bution Group:	Contribution Local Employee					Position Status:		Regula	Regular					
Payroll Period:		09/01/2018-09/30/2018				Payroll Frequency:				Month	Monthly				
LOA S	itatus Effective Date:	11/01/2012				LOA Status:			Not on	Not on Unpaid Leave					
Sched	uled Units Effective Date:	11/01/2012						Scheduled Type of Units Worked:		Days	Days		1		
Sched	uled Units to Work per Week:	5.00	5.00			Scheduled Full Time Units per Week: 5.00									
Units	Annually Contracted to Work:														
Contri	ibution Information														
	Payment Reason		Error Count	Units Worked	Type of Units Worked	Full Time Units	Wages	Excess of IRS	Employee Contribution	Employer Contribution	RSA-1 Contribution	Rate of Pay	Rate Of Pay Type	Summer Position	Override Warnings
0	Regular Pay		0	20.00	Days 🗸	20.00	\$1,129.87		\$84.74	\$138.30	\$0.00	\$1,129.87	Monthly 🗸		
	Total:			20.00		20.00	\$1,129.87	\$0.00	\$84.74	\$138.30	\$0.00				
<															>



Correcting Contribution Errors

A few common errors are:

- Incorrect/missing full time units
- Actual units worked invalid
- Same payment reason reported
- Unexpected employee contribution
- Type of units worked mismatch
- Invalid payment reason



Add Adjustment or New Contribution

Contribution records can be added or adjusted anytime before payment is submitted.

- Example of adjustment: employee was overpaid/underpaid the previous pay period.
- Example of adding: employee was paid overtime or other pensionable wages.
- If contributions do not match what the system is calculating you must correct the amounts before moving forward. An error message will not let you proceed.
- <u>REMEMBER</u>: Whatever you adjust or add in ESS you MUST add in your system as well.



Review the Summary

SUMMARY SCREEN

ESS allows employers to view a summary of the amounts that were submitted. The payment amounts from the accounts display along with any applicable invoices.

	Contribution Summary									
	Regular Contributions									
	Employer / Retirement Plan	Wages	Employee Contributions	Employer Contributions						
vvages and	EXYZ - XYZ AIRPORT									
Contributions	ERS T1 Local Regular- Contributing	\$ 15,102.40	\$ 755.12	\$ 1,895.36						
	Total	\$15,102.40	\$755.12	\$1,895.36						
	Employer / Retirement Plan	Wages	Employee Contributions	Employer Contributions						
	EXYZ - XYZ AIRPORT									
	ERS T2 Local Regular- Contributing	\$ 2,951.67	\$ 177.10	\$ 275.39						
	Total	\$2,951.67	\$177.10	\$275.39						
N										
	Totals	\$18,054.07	\$932.22	\$2,170.75						
	Prior Period Adjustments and/or Retroactive Contributions									
Invoices	No Adjustments available.									
	Invoices									



Payment Screen

 The employer will be presented with a finalized list of all costs for the contribution report submission, including any credits or debits that may have resulted from the applied invoices.

Getting Started 🗲	Details > Summary > Payment	s Results					
Report Submission 9553	#: Submission Date: 06/20/2018	Type: Contribution	ons Only	Mode: Enter Online		Status: In Progress	
Contribution Payment	ls						
Review Your Paymer	it Information						
Employer			Employee Contributions	Employer Contributions	RSA-1 Con	tributions	Total
TXYZ - XYZ Employer			\$22,920.83	\$37,794.49		\$0.00	\$80,715.32
Totals			\$22,920.83	\$37,794.49		\$0.00	\$60,715.32
Invoicoc							
Invoices	Employee		Investor Tor			Data	(mount
2018EMP000554	TXYZ - XYZ Employer		Employer P	enalty		05/02/2018	\$967.77
2018EMP000630	TXYZ - TXYZ Employer	Employer C	Employer Contribution Report			(\$1,171.22)	
Total Invoices Applied							(\$203.45)
Remit Your Employee	/Employer Contributions and Invoice Pa	yments:					
Pay from				Amount			
		t	bank - WELLS FARGO BANK,	1234	\$0.00	🖸 Ed	lit
			Total App	olied:	\$0.00		
			Balance Remain	ning: \$6	60,511.87		
			Total Amount	Due: \$4	60,511.87		
			The RSA F	PIN: *	0000		
Co Back						Submit Your P	ayment 🔉



Contributions Submitted – Now What?

- 1. RSA will now retrieve the authorized payment amount from your EFT account.
- 2. The contributions are then posted to the employees' accounts with ERS.
- 3. Reporting packets will be sent to each employer using ESS Secure Message Center.



Reporting Packets

- The **Reporting Packets** screen displays all reporting packets for the Plan Year and / or Pay Date.
 - Leave Without Pay
 - Non-Participating Part Time Status
 - Overtime Limit Report
- Click on the **Report Name** link to view a PDF of the reporting packet.

To view a reporting packet, please choose the Plan Year and Report Data from the menus below. To view an individual report, select the appropriate link and the report will open in a new browser window.										
Please Note: Reports are generated for the reporting packet as necessary based on the contribution and employee enrollment information reported since then prior pay d										
Plan Year.	10/2017 - 09/2018 🗸	Pay Date:	01/31/2018	~						
REPORT NAME		RETIRE	EMENT SYSTEM CODE							
Leave Without Pay		Employ	vees' Retirement System of Al	Jabama	3					
Overtime Limit Report Employees' Retirement System of Alabama										
Non-Participating Part-Time Sta	atus	Employ	Employees' Retirement System of Alabama							



Services

Retirement Systems of Alabama



Services - Overview





Death Notice

- Allows you to report the death of active and retired members online
 - This is simply a notification of a member's death which will initiate the proper correspondence be mailed from our office
- Allows you to provide ERS with the beneficiary's contact information
- Provides a link to the Application for Survivor Benefit form



Services – Enrollment and Contribution Related

Employee Information

- View an employee's basic account information and demographics
 - Address, date of birth, PID, Tier Status, service credit and salary history

Search Demographics

- View an employee's information that your agency has reported to RSA
- Edit demographic information
- Edit enrollment information
 - Add new enrollment
 - Update LOA Status, Enrollment begin/end dates, and FTE changes

Employer Information

- Contribution rates
- Basic plan information
- GASB reports
- Actuarial Valuation reports

These sections will assist you with enrollment and contribution files



Services - Reports

Reports

- Allows you to generate reports related to enrollment and contribution files
- Annual Checklists
- NOTE: you must click the "Generate" button to view the report

View Reports	
Report Name:	Outstanding Edit Errors
Description:	Demographic Errors Non-Participating Part-Time Status Leave Without Pay Outstanding Load Errors
Format:	Employer Historical Payments Annual Checklist Report for ERS Exception Report for ERS Post-Retirement Employment
RSA PIN: *	Current Enrollment Summary Error Summary Overtime Limit
Reset Generate	Current Enrollment Detail



Services – Message and Question Center

Message Center

- RSA can use this feature to contact you for information
- Allows you to maintain records of requests you have received from RSA
- You will receive an email notification to notify you of new messages

Question Center

- You can use this feature to contact RSA with questions
- RSA will respond to your question accordingly





Services – Employer Certification

Employee Retirement Request

• Allows RSA to request certification of Retirement Applications by ESS

Employee Service Purchase Requests

• RSA will use this feature to request certification of service or salary credit when calculating purchases

Employee Refund Requests

- If an request for refund form (RSA Form 7) is submitted electronically, then the certification request can be sent to you electronically
- If a paper RSA Form 7 is submitted to RSA, you will still receive a certification request letter by mail, as is currently our process



Summary

Retirement Systems of Alabama



Summary

- View online CBT (computer based training) videos on the RSA website
- Practice creating and maintaining records in the Test Environment
 - Set-up a Method of Payment
 - Create a Payroll Schedule
 - Create a New Employee
 - Create a New Enrollment
 - Edit an Existing Enrollment
 - Submit a Contribution File



- Ask for help! You may contact the RSA Employer Services Division at 334-517-7005 or <u>employer.services@rsa-al.gov</u>
- THANK YOU for all of your cooperation, assistance and patience during this process!