

Alabama Public Education Employees'
Health Insurance Plan
Report of Actuary on the Retiree Medical Valuation

Prepared as of September 30, 2006



October 5, 2007

Retirement Systems of Alabama P.O. Box 302150 Montgomery, AL 36130-2150

Members of the Board:

Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statements No. 43 and 45 require actuarial valuations of retiree medical and other post employment benefit plans. We have submitted the results of the annual actuarial valuation of the Alabama Public Education Employees' Health Insurance Plan (PEEHIP) prepared as of September 30, 2006. While not verifying the data at source, the actuary performed tests for consistency and reasonability. The valuation indicates that an annual required contribution of \$962,761,662 or 17.64% of active payroll payable for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2009 is required to fund the benefits of the PEEHIP in an actuarially sound manner.

The promised medical and drug benefits of the Plan, as well as the Optional Plans, are included in the actuarially calculated contribution rates which are developed using the unit credit actuarial cost method with projected benefits. GASB requires the discount rate used to value a plan be based on the likely return of the assets held in trust to pay benefits. As of September 30, 2006, the Plan does not have assets in trust solely to provide benefits to retirees and their beneficiaries. Because it is our understanding that a trust fund has been established and approximately \$400 million will be contributed to the trust, we have increased the discount rate used in the valuation from 4% to 5%. Also since the previous valuation an experience study has been performed and some decrements have changed. Gains and losses are reflected in the unfunded accrued liability that is assumed amortized by regular annual contributions as a level percentage of payroll within a 30-year period, on the assumption that payroll will increase by 4.50% annually. The assumptions recommended by the actuary are, in the aggregate, reasonably related to the experience under the Plan and to reasonable expectations of anticipated experience under the Plan and meet the parameters for the disclosures under GASB 43 and 45.

This is to certify that the independent consulting actuary is a member of the American Academy of Actuaries and has experience in performing valuations for public retirement systems, that the valuation was prepared in accordance with principles of practice prescribed by the Actuarial Standards Board, and that the actuarial calculations were performed by qualified actuaries in accordance with accepted actuarial procedures, based on the current provisions of the medical plans and on actuarial assumptions that are internally consistent and reasonably based on the actual experience of the Plan.



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In our opinion, if the required contributions to the Trust Fund are made by the employer from year to year in the future at the levels required on the basis of the successive actuarial valuations, the Plan will operate in an actuarially sound manner.

Respectfully submitted,

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Senior Actuary

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ALABAMA PUBLIC EDUCATION EMPLOYEES' HEALTH INSURANCE PLAN (PEEHIP) REPORT OF ACTUARY ON THE RETIREE MEDICAL VALUATION PREPARED AS OF SEPTEMBER 30, 2006

SECTION I - SUMMARY OF PRINCIPAL RESULTS

1. For convenience of reference, the principal results of the valuation are summarized below:

Valuation Date	9/30/2006	9/30/2005
Number Active and Retired*	197,188	199,492
Annual Salary**	\$ 5,458,443,133	\$ 4,733,415,807
Assets: Market Value Unfunded Actuarial Accrued Liability	0 \$12,532,330,293	0 \$14,611,991,403
Amortization Period (Years)	30	30
Annual Required Contribution (ARC): Normal Accrued Liability*** Total	\$515,461,955 447,299,707 \$962,761,662	\$ 634,660,521 451,781,309 \$1,086,441,830
Annual Required Contribution as a Percent of Payroll Discount Rate	17.64% 5.00%	22.95% 4.00%

^{*}Number as of 9/30/2006 matches pension report for active and DROP participants and is before the application of the participation assumption. Retiree number comes from actual retiree medical census data. Number as of 9/30/2005 matches pension report for active, DROP and retired participants and is before the application of the participation assumption.

**Annual salary as of 9/30/2006 includes DROP salary. Annual salary as of 9/30/2005 does not include DROP salary.

- 2. The valuation indicates that contributions of \$962,761,662 or 17.64% of active payroll are sufficient to support the current benefits of the Plan. Comments on the valuation results as of September 30, 2006 are given in Section IV and further discussion of the contribution levels is set out in Sections V and VI.
- 3. Because it is our understanding that a trust fund has been established and approximately \$400 million will be contributed to the trust, we have increased the discount rate used in the valuation from 4% to 5%. Since the previous valuation, the assumed rates of withdrawal, disability,

^{***}Accrued liability is assumed amortized as a level percent of payroll with inflation assumption of 4.5%, similar to pension plan.



retirement and mortality have been revised to reflect the results of the experience investigation for the five-year period ending September 30, 2005. Schedule C of this report outlines the full set of actuarial assumptions and methods employed in the current valuation. We have shown in Schedule A the decrease in the liabilities that could be accomplished if the Plan is pre-funded in an actuarially sound manner and thereby utilizes a 6% discount rate.

4. The valuation takes into account the Plan as in effect September 30, 2006.

SECTION II - MEMBERSHIP DATA

Data regarding the membership and recent claims and enrollment experience of the Plan for use as a basis of the valuation were furnished by the Retirement System office. Pension data was used for active and DROP participants with a post-employment health plan participation assumption applied. Data for current retired members with their medical, dental, cancer, indemnity and vision elections were supplied separately from the pension data.

SECTION III - ASSETS

Schedule B shows information regarding assets for valuation purposes. As of September 30, 2006, no plan assets are held in trust solely to provide benefits to retirees and their beneficiaries in accordance with the terms of the plan. Because it is our understanding that a trust fund has been established and approximately \$400 million will be contributed to the trust, we have increased the discount rate used in the valuation from 4% to 5%. Since the previous valuation an experience study has been performed and some decrements have changed.

SECTION IV - COMMENTS ON VALUATION

 Schedule A of this report outlines the results of the actuarial valuation. The results are shown based on a discount rate of 5% and also at 6%. The valuation was prepared in accordance with the actuarial assumptions and the actuarial cost method, which are described in Schedule C.



- 2. The valuation shows that the Plan has an actuarial accrued liability of \$6,300,036,101 for benefits expected to be paid on account of the present active membership, based on service to the valuation date. The liability on account of benefits payable to retirees, covered spouses and DROP participants amounts to \$6,232,294,192. The total actuarial accrued liability of the Plan amounts to \$12,532,330,293. Against these liabilities, the Plan has present assets for valuation purposes of \$0. Therefore, the unfunded actuarial accrued liability is equal to \$12,532,330,293.
- 3. The normal contribution is equal to the actuarial present value of benefits accruing during the current year. The normal contribution is determined to be \$515,461,955.



SECTION V - CONTRIBUTIONS PAYABLE UNDER THE PLAN

ANNUAL REQUIRED CONTRIBUTION

For Fiscal Year Ending September 30, 2009

Annual Required Contribution (ARC):	
Normal	\$ 515,461,955
Accrued Liability	 447,299,707
Total	\$ 962,761,662

- The valuation indicates that a normal contribution of \$515,461,955 is required to meet the cost of benefits currently accruing.
- 2. The unfunded actuarial accrued liability amounts to \$12,532,330,293 as of the valuation date. An accrued liability contribution of \$447,299,707 is sufficient to amortize the unfunded actuarial accrued liability over a 30-year period, based on a 5% investment rate of return and the assumption that the payroll will increase by 4.5% annually.
- 3. The total Annual Required Contribution is, therefore, \$962,761,662 or 17.64% of total active payroll.

SECTION VI - COMMENTS ON LEVEL OF FUNDING

- The monthly contribution for retirees to opt into the medical plan is based on plan election, Medicare eligibility and election, and tobacco use. For members retiring October 1, 2005 or after, a Retire Sliding Scale premium based on year of service is applicable.
- 2. The valuation indicates that a decrease in the recommended employer contribution rate over last valuation's recommended rate from 22.95% of payroll to 17.64% is required to fund the plan in an actuarially sound manner. This corresponds to a state contribution of \$962,761,662 required to meet the cost of benefits currently accruing and provide for the amortization of the unfunded actuarial accrued liability over a period of 30 years. The major cause of the decrease in the contribution rate is the increase in discount rate from 4% to 5% due to the partial pre-funding of



retiree medical benefits. If the plan begins fully pre-funding, the discount rate can be raised to 6% or possibly even higher. A second cause of the decrease in the contribution rate is an assumption that retiree contributions will increase 2% per year. The decrease in contribution rate due to trending retiree contributions is 0.25%. These decreases in the contribution rate are offset by a 1.49% increase in the contribution rate due to change in decrements caused by the experience study.

SECTION VII - ACCOUNTING INFORMATION

 Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statements 43 and 45 set forth certain items of required supplementary information to be disclosed in the financial statements of the Plan and the employer.

SCHEDULE OF FUNDING PROGRESS

Actuarial Valuation <u>Date</u>	Actuarial Value of Assets (a)	Actuarial Accrued Liability (AAL) Projected Unit Credit (b)	Unfunded AAL (UAAL) (b-a)	Funded Ratio (a/b)	Covered Payroll (c)*	UAAL as a Percentage of Covered Payroll ((b-a)/c)
6/30/2003*	\$0	\$ 7,836,000,000	\$ 7,836,000,000	0%	\$ 4,486,058,170	174.7%
9/30/2005	0	14,611,991,403	14,611,991,403	0	4,733,415,807	308.7%
9/30/2006	0	12,532,330,293	12,532,330,293	0	5,458,443,133	229.6%

^{*}Reported by prior actuarial firm.



 The information presented in the required supplementary schedules was determined as part of the actuarial valuation at September 30, 2006. Additional information as of the latest actuarial valuation follows.

Valuation date	9/30/2006
Actuarial cost method	Projected unit credit
Amortization method	Level percent of pay, open
Remaining amortization period	30 years
Asset valuation method	Market Value of Assets
Actuarial assumptions:	
Investment Rate of Return*	5.00%
Medical cost trend rate*	12.00%
Ultimate trend rate	5.00%
Year of Ultimate trend rate	2013
Dental trend rate	5.00%
*Includes inflation at	4.50%



RESULTS OF THE VALUATION AND THE BENEFITS OF ADVANCE FUNDING PREPARED AS OF SEPTEMBER 30, 2006

			-	5% discount Rate urrent Funding Level)	(0	6% Discount Rate Contribute Full RC Annually)
1.	PAYR	ROLL	\$ 5	5,458,443,133	\$	5,458,443,133
2.		JARIAL ACCRUED LIABILITY ent value of prospective benefits payable in				
	(a) (b)	Present active members: Present retired members and surviving spouses and DROP participants:		5,300,036,101 5,232,294,192	\$	5,137,286,877 5,528,271,589
	(c)	Total actuarial accrued liability	\$1	2,532,330,293	\$	10,665,558,466
3.	-E 1E1E20000	SENT ASSETS FOR VALUATION POSES	\$	0	\$	0
4.		JNDED ACTUARIAL ACCRUED LIABILITY () minus (3)]	\$1	2,532,330,293	\$	10,665,558,466
5.	AMO	RTIZATION PERIOD		30		30
6.	NOR	MAL CONTRIBUTION	\$	515,461,955	\$	406,642,487
7.	ACCI	RUED LIABILITY CONTRIBUTION		447,299,707		433,822,285
8.	тоти	AL CONTRIBUTION (6) + (7)	\$	962,761,662	\$	840,464,772
9.		AL CONTRIBUTION AS A PERCENT OF ROLL (8) ÷ (1)		17.64%		15.40%



SCHEDULE B

PLAN ASSETS

GASB 43 and 45 define plan assets as resources, usually in the form of stocks, bonds, and other classes of investments, that have been segregated and restricted in a trust, or equivalent arrangement, in which (a) employer contributions to the plan are irrevocable, (b) assets are dedicated to providing benefits to retirees and their beneficiaries, and (c) assets are legally protected from creditors of the employers or plan administrator, for the payment of benefits in accordance with the terms of the plan. Because it is our understanding that a trust fund has been established and approximately \$400 million will be contributed to the trust, we have increased the discount rate used in the valuation from 4% to 5%.



OUTLINE OF ACTUARIAL ASSUMPTIONS AND METHODS

The decremental assumptions used in the valuation were selected based on the actuarial experience study prepared as of September 30 2005, submitted to and adopted by the board on May 21, 2007.

VALUATION DATE: September 30, 2006

DISCOUNT RATE: 5.0% per annum, compounded annually.

HEALTH CARE COST TREND RATES: Following is a chart detailing Medical/Rx trend assumptions. The trend assumption for the Optional Plans is 5% per year and the trend on retiree contributions is 2% per year.

Year	Trend
2006	12.0%
2007	11.0%
2008	10.0%
2009	9.0%
2010	8.0%
2011	7.0%
2012	6.0%
2013 and beyond	5.0%

AGE RELATED MORBIDITY: Per capita costs are adjusted to reflect expected cost changes related to age. The increase to the net incurred claims was assumed to be:

Participant Age	Annual Increase
< 40	0.0%
40 – 44	2.6%
45 – 49	2.6%
50 – 54	3.2%
55 – 59	3.4%
60 - 64	3.7%
65 - 69	3.2%
70 – 74	2.4%
75 – 79	1.8%
80 – 84	1.3%
85 and over	0.0%

Optional plan costs are not age adjusted.



ANTICIPATED PLAN PARTICIPATION: The assumed annual rates of plan participation and spouse coverage is as follows:

Medical	Under 65	Over 65
Participation	80%	80%
Spouse Coverage	60%	35%

Optional Plans				
Plan Participation				
Hospital Indemnity	10%			
Dental	40%			
Cancer	10%			
Vision	10%			

ANNUAL EXPECTED MEDICAL/RX CLAIMS (AGE 65): Following is a chart detailing expected medical/RXclaims for pre and post Medicare for the year following the valuation date. Claims are age-adjusted to age 65.

	Medical/Rx
Pre-65	\$8,932
Post-65	\$3,040

ANNUAL EXPECTED OPTIONAL PLAN CLAIMS: Following is a chart detailing expected optional plan claims for the year following the valuation date. Claims are not age-adjusted.

Dental	Vision	Cancer	Hospital
\$312	\$83	\$166	\$245

ACTUARIAL METHOD: Costs were determined using the Projected Unit Credit Actuarial Cost Method. The annual service cost is the present value of the portion of the projected benefit attributable to participation service during the upcoming year, and the accumulated postretirement benefit obligation (APBO) is equal to the present value of the portion of the projected benefit attributable to service before the valuation date. Service from hire date through full eligibility was used in allocating costs.



SEPARATIONS BEFORE SERVICE RETIREMENT: Representative values of the assumed annual rates of death, disability, and withdrawal are as follows:

			Annual Rate	of		
Age	Death	Disability		Withdra	awal	
				Years of S	Service	
			0-4	5-9	10-20	20+
		<u>Male</u>				
20 25 30 35 40 45 50	0.05% 0.07 0.08 0.09 0.11 0.16 0.26 0.44	0.05% 0.06 0.07 0.13 0.20 0.21 0.64 1.20	30.00% 16.50 15.00 15.00 14.50 14.50 12.00 11.50 10.00	12.00% 5.50 5.50 5.50 5.25 4.50 4.00	5.50% 3.00 3.00 3.00 3.00 2.25	1.25% 1.00 1.00 1.00
60 65 69	0.80 1.45 2.17	- 1	10.00 10.00 10.00	6.00 6.00		
		<u>Female</u>				
20 25 30 35 40 45 50 55 60 65 69	0.03% 0.03 0.04 0.05 0.08 0.10 0.16 0.26 0.51 0.97 1.37	0.10% 0.10 0.15 0.16 0.37 0.70 1.10	30.00% 14.50 14.50 13.50 12.00 11.50 11.00 10.50 11.00 14.00	8.00% 6.00 6.00 4.50 3.75 3.75 4.50 6.00	4.00% 3.50 2.50 2.50 2.50 2.50	1.50% 0.75 0.75 0.75



SERVICE RETIREMENT: Representative values of the assumed annual rates of service retirement are as follows:

For members first eligible for unreduced benefits upon attaining 25 years of service but before age 65, rates are as follows:

	Annual Rate*		
<u>Age</u>	Male	<u>Female</u>	
45	30.0%	30.0%	
50	15.0	16.0	
55	48.0	53.0	
60	40.0	49.0	
62	50.0	55.0	

^{*}Retirement rates are increased by 7% in year when member first becomes eligible for unreduced service retirement on or after age 50 but before age 60.

For members first eligible for unreduced benefits before attaining 25 years of service and all members age 65 and over, the rates are as follows:

	Annual Rate		
<u>Age</u>	Male	<u>Female</u>	
60	13.0%	22.0%	
62	30.0	30.0	
65	34.0	35.0	
67	26.0	27.0	
69	25.0	26.0	
70	25.0	26.0	
72	26.0	25.0	
75	100.0	100.0	



DEATHS AFTER RETIREMENT: Rates of mortality for the period after service retirement are according to the 1994 Group Annuity Mortality Table set forward one year for females. Special tables are used for the period after disability retirement. Representative values of the assumed annual rates of death after service and disability retirement are as follows:

		Annual Rate of Death after			
	Service R	etirement	Disability F	Retirement	
<u>Age</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	
40	0.11%	0.08%	3.32%	2.60%	
45	0.16	0.10	3.49	2.43	
50	0.26	0.16	3.76	2.50	
55	0.44	0.26	4.20	2.67	
60	1.80	0.51	4.88	2.95	
65	1.45	0.97	5.95	3.39	
70	2.37	1.50	7.63	4.08	
75	3.72	2.53	10.22	5.16	
80	6.20	4.40	14.17	6.85	
85	9.72	7.53	20.09	9.47	
90	15.29	12.88	28.67	13.46	



SUMMARY OF MAIN PLAN PROVISIONS AS INTERPRETED FOR VALUATION PURPOSES

ELIGIBILITY: Retiree medical eligibility is attained when an employee retires, and is immediately eligible to draw a retirement annuity from the Alabama Teachers Retirement System.

RETIREE CONTRIBUTIONS: Vary based on plan election, dependent coverage, Medicare eligibility and election, and tobacco use. Plan costs are determined for valuation purposes considering claims costs net of member premiums paid.

In November 2004, the Alabama Legislature enacted legislation (Act 2004-649) that required the Public Education Employees' Insurance Board to implement a sliding scale premium on all employees retiring after September 30, 2005, based on their years of service.

The premium for retiree coverage is broken down into the employer share (what PEEHIP pays) and the retiree share. Under the sliding scale, the retiree will still be responsible for the retiree share, however, the employer share will increase or decrease based upon a retiree's years of service. For those employees retiring with 25 years of service, the employer would pay 100% of the employer share of the premium. For each year less than 25, the employer share would be reduced by 2% and the retiree share will be increased accordingly. For each year over 25, the employer share would be increased by 2% and the retiree share reduced accordingly.

Retired Members

The premiums listed below show the retiree's out-of-pocket cost after subtracting the retiree allocation. These rates apply only to members who retire prior to October 1, 2005. All members who retire on or after October 1, 2005 will be subject to the Retiree Sliding Scale premium based on years of service.

Adopted for fiscal Year 2007 - 2008

Rate	Type of Contract	Retiree Monthly Out-of-Pocket Expense	Cost to State	Total Premium
Α	Individual Coverage/ Non-Medicare Eligible Retired Member	\$ 90.00	\$ 477.00	\$ 567.00
В	Family Coverage/Non-Medicare Eligible Retired Member and Non-Medicare Eligible Dependent(s)	\$ 222.00	\$ 848.00	\$ 1,070.00
С	Family Coverage/Non-Medicare Eligible Retired Member and Dependent Medicare Eligible	\$ 181.00	\$ 622.00	\$ 803.00
D	Individual Coverage/ Medicare Eligible Retired Member	\$ 1.14	\$ 242.86	\$ 244.00
E	Family Coverage/Medicare Eligible Retired Member and Non-Medicare Eligible Dependent(s)	\$ 133.14	\$ 613.86	\$ 747.00
F	Family Coverage/Medicare Eligible Retired Member and Dependent Medicare Eligible	\$ 92.14	\$ 387.86	\$ 480.00

The out-of-pocket costs for an eligible husband and wife who choose to combine their insurance allocations must be calculated on an individual basis because of the new Retiree Sliding Scale legislation.



The State allocation can be used to purchase the new PEEHIP Supplemental Plan or two optional plans at no cost to the retiree if the retiree is not using the allocation for one of the hospital medical plans. Additional optional plans can be purchased for \$38.00 per month per plan.

Optional Coverage: Active and Retired Members

Cancer \$38.00/month Individual or Family Coverage \$38.00/month Individual or Family Coverage \$38.00/month Individual or Family Coverage Vision \$38.00/month Individual or Family Coverage

Retiree premiums for the four optional plans, Hospital Indemnity, Dental, Cancer and Vision, are \$38 per retiree per month. Since these plans can be purchased with State allocations, it is assumed that 75% of participants in the Dental plan and 50% of participants in the other optional plans are making the \$38 per month contributions.

The University System makes a contribution to PEEHIP for every University retiree regardless of age or plan tier election. For 2008, this amount is \$367 per month. This amount has decreased from the 2006 and 2007 amounts to give Universities credit for the Medicare Part D subsidy for their retirees.

PLAN SUMMARIES AND BENEFITS: The following summaries describe benefits for Non-Medicare-eligible and Medicare-eligible retirees.

PEEHIP Hospital Medical Coverage

(Coverage for Active Members and Non-Medicare-eligible Retirees)

Hospital Benefits (Administered by Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Alabama)

- Inpatient Hospitalization: Services are covered in full for 365 days without a dollar limit.
- Deductible: \$100 for each admission.
- Outpatient Hospital Charges: \$75 facility copay for outpatient surgery and \$25 facility copay for medical emergencies and hemodialysis.

Major Medical Benefits (Administered by Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Alabama)

- Deductible: \$100 deductible per person per calendar year; maximum of 3 deductibles per family per year.
- Maximum: \$1,000,000 lifetime maximum for each covered member.
- Coinsurance: After you pay the \$100 deductible, the plan pays 80% of the Usual Customary Rates (UCR) of covered expenses for the first \$2000 and 100% UCR thereafter.

Preferred Medical Doctor (PMD)

- \$3 Copay Per Test
- \$20 Copay Per visit

Pharmacy Program (Administered by Express Scripts)

- Participating Pharmacy
 - \$5 for any covered generic prescription drug
 - o \$30 for any covered preferred brand drug
 - \$50 for any covered non-preferred brand drug
- The PEEHIP prescription drug plan includes Step Therapy and prior authorization for certain medications.



Non-Participating Pharmacy

There are no benefits for a non-participating pharmacy in Alabama.

Excluded Services

 Coverage is not proved for nursing home costs, vision and dental care (except accidental injuries), cosmetic surgery, hearing aids and experimental procedures.

PEEHIP Medicare Plus

(Coverage for Medicare-Eligible Retirees)

This plan is a supplement to hospital and medical benefits provided under Medicare Part A and Part B, and is available to Medicare-eligible retirees.

If a Medicare-eligible member or dependent chooses to enroll in a Medicare Part D plan, he or she will lose the PEEHIP prescription drug coverage.

PEEHIP Hospital Benefits

(Administered by Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Alabama)

Benefit	TEAL OF THE	
Inpatient Hospital Charges	Management	
Medicare Pays	PEEHIP Pays	Retiree Pays
All but the Part A deductible per admission. All but applicable coinsurance after 60 days.	All but \$100 per admission. Applicable coinsurance after 60 days.	A \$100 deductible and any personal charges (such as private room, telephone, TV etc.

PEEHIP Non-Hospital Benefits

Outpatient Hospital Charges				
Medicare Pays 80% of Medicare's approved amount after the Medicare Part B deductible.	PEEHIP Pays 20% of Medicare's approved amount after the member meets Medicare Part B deductible and the \$20 copay for physician visit.	Retiree Pays The Part B deductible, a copay up to \$20 for physician visits, any charges not covered by Medicare or PEEHIP, and charges above the Medicare allowable amount when using unassigned providers.		

Pharmacy Program (Administered by Express Scripts)

- Participating Pharmacy:
 - \$5 for any covered generic prescription drug
 - \$30 for any covered preferred brand drug
 - \$50 for any covered non-preferred brand drug
- The PEEHIP prescription drug plan includes Step Therapy and prior authorization for certain medications.
- There are no benefits for using a non-participating pharmacy in Alabama.