



**FROM DONNA M. MUELLER, CEO**

## Changes and Progress

Did you hear the good news about our investment performance for FY2014? The IPERS Trust Fund earned a 15.88 percent return--well above the assumed return of 7.50 percent. As long-term investors, IPERS pays more attention to our 30-year annualized return, which is 10.15 percent. The next big indicator of progress will come from the actuarial valuation where we will learn the funded ratio, along with other key measurements, including the contribution rates for fiscal year 2016.

This year IPERS' FY2014 CAFR (Comprehensive Annual Financial Report) will incorporate the requirements in the new [GASB](#) Statement No. 67, which applies to pension plans. If your organization utilizes GAAP accounting, the requirements of GASB Statement No. 68, the statement for employing entities that participate in pension plans, will be effective for your fiscal year beginning after June 15, 2014. The State Auditor's office and IPERS will help your accountants and staff with the information you need. Learn more on our [GASB webpage](#).

Enjoy your fall!

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DONNA M. MUELLER,  
CEO

Changes and Progress

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EDUCATIONAL EVENTS

Make Time for

## TRAINING & EDUCATIONAL EVENTS

### Make Time for IPERS Training

In November, join us for a training session for reporting officials. Registration forms will be [distributed soon](#). You can count on the employer relations team to give a complete overview and helpful tips of your most important reporting responsibilities. You bring your questions; we'll bring our answers!

IPERS Training

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**NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Bond Rating Agencies Take a Closer Look  
at Pension Obligations**

Bond ratings can help or hinder your organization's financial state. Your organization's rating influences the terms of any bonds that the local governmental unit may offer, much like your personal credit score can affect your mortgage prospects and other borrowing possibilities.

Recently, pension liabilities have gained more focus in discussions of public entity bond ratings. However, to date, not one city or school has been downgraded because of its participation in IPERS.

The "Big Three" agencies are Standard & Poor's (S&P), Moody's, and Fitch. Rating an organization is a complicated process. Key rating factors are economic conditions and forecast, finances and budget, and debt load. Keep in mind that pension debt is just one of several factors used in determining a bond rating. Pension liabilities are considered part of the debt load.

If your city or school's bond rating is being evaluated, give us a call. We can help highlight the financial aspects related to your participation in IPERS.

For additional information, check out the [quick video](#) on this topic from CEO Donna M. Mueller.

**Report a Member's Death Online**

IPERS has added a new [online form](#) you can use to report a member's death. It is best to notify IPERS as soon as possible after a death.

**IMPORTANT REMINDER**

***Information Request Form***

IPERS is updating its records and needs your help. If you haven't done so already, please complete the [Information Request form](#) and return it by October 15 to:

IPERS Employer Relations Team  
P.O. Box 9117, Des Moines, IA 50306-9117  
Fax: 515-281-0053  
E-mail: [employerrelations@ipers.org](mailto:employerrelations@ipers.org)

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## CONTACT US

[www.ipers.org](http://www.ipers.org) | [employerrelations@ipers.org](mailto:employerrelations@ipers.org) | [ipersaccounting@ipers.org](mailto:ipersaccounting@ipers.org)

### Employer HelpDesk

1-877-IPERS-99 (1-877-473-7799, extension 4) | Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

Fax 515-281-0055

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