

FPPA PensionCHECK

A review of your retirement benefits.

Summer 2003

Goal Setting

Run The Numbers
On Retirement

Many people saving for retirement don't know where their financial finish line is. In fact, only about four out of every ten have calculated their "retirement savings goal."¹ Fortunately, it's never too late to run the numbers - a key step that may jump-start your retirement planning and help guide important decisions, including how much you set aside each month and which investments you choose.

Visualize the Future

First, think about how you'd like to spend your retirement and put your ideas on paper. Some people want to leave the workforce completely, so they can travel or just kick back. Others want retirement to be an opportunity to work under their own terms: a chance to try a new field part time or start a small business.

Next, consider ways in which your retirement expectations could affect your living expenses. For example, will you move to a smaller home that costs less to care for? Will you spend less on transportation without the daily commute?

Will you need more insurance, including long-term care coverage? Answering questions like these can help you estimate how much you'll need to enjoy the retirement you want. Some financial professionals use 70% of an individual's preretirement income as a rule of thumb. But you might want a more precise estimate that reflects your unique plans. Fidelity Investments® has a very useful retirement budget calculator at www.fidelity.com/atwork. For more information about this web site see the related article on page 6.



In addition to your retirement income needs, consider these important factors:

- ✓ **Your retirement age and expected number of years in either your FPPA or local plan retirement.**
Given rising life expectancies, your retirement could last 30 years or more.
- ✓ **Any Social Security benefits you are entitled to receive.**
You'll want to take income from part-time work into account too.
- ✓ **Existing savings.**
Total up money in retirement savings plans and personal accounts, like an IRA or Roth.

Test drive your numbers through the calculators on the Fidelity web site mentioned above. It won't take long, and once you have a goal, you can make more informed decisions about your future. **FPPA**

¹ Source: Employee Benefit Research Institute, April 2003.

The information provided in this article is general in nature and should not be considered legal, tax, or investment advice. Consult with an attorney or a tax or investment professional to discuss your specific situation.

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FPPA Retiree Insurance Options

Group And Individual Plans Are Available For FPPA Retirees



We would like to remind our retirees and members of the following insurance plans that are available to you.

Group Plans

Secure Horizons Medicare + Choice Group Retiree Plan. This plan is an enhancement to Medicare by which PacifiCare is totally responsible to cover your health care costs plus provide additional programs to get you healthy and keep you healthy. PacifiCare has a select network of contracting Primary Care Physicians, health care professionals and medical providers, including prescription drugs and vision care.

Fortis Group Dental Plan.* This plan offers true freedom of choice, you may go to any dentist you want, nationwide. There are two plans to choose from, and there is a PPO network of dentists available to save even more out of pocket expenses.

EyeMed Vision Care Plan.* This plan provides a choice of two plans (Premier and Preferred), attractive monthly premiums, and your choice of independent optometrists, ophthalmologists, opticians and LensCrafters locations throughout the country.

Vision Service Plan (VSP).* This plan provides comprehensive vision services and is available in the Rocky Mountain Region. VSP has an extensive list of participating doctors from which to choose.

Group Plans Contact Information

Premiums for all group plans are paid by a monthly payroll deduction from your FPPA retirement check.

Primary Contact: FPPA's Payroll Specialist

(303) 770-3772 in the Denver Metro area or toll free (800) 332-3772 nationwide, for general information and enrollment applications.

Secondary Contact: Gemini Group (See the contact information below.)

**If your current medical plan has dental or vision coverage incorporated into it, you may be unable to drop that portion of your coverage. Please check on your current coverage before enrolling in the dental or vision plans mentioned in this article to avoid double coverage.*

Individual Plans

FPPA has the following individual supplemental insurance plans available to our retirees and members:

- Long-term Care Insurance
- Affordable Life Insurance
- Individual Health Insurance Plans (*for individuals under and over age 65*).
- AFLAC Supplemental Benefit Plans

Individual Plans And Group Plans Contact Information

Contact **The Gemini Group**, (FPPA's service provider)

(303) 893-0300 in the Denver Metro area or toll free (888) 795-0300 nationwide, for an analysis of your needs and the options available to you. **FPPA**

Each year the recipients of Statewide Death & Disability Plan benefits are required to verify their eligibility to continue receiving benefits from FPPA.

Eligibility Verification Forms are scheduled to be sent out from FPPA the last week in August to those currently receiving those benefits from the Statewide Death & Disability Plan. Once the form arrives: please provide the information requested, sign your name at the bottom in the presence of a notary, and return the form in the envelope provided no later than September 30, 2003. Failure to return the form by the assigned date or failure to verify the information may adversely affect the future eligibility of your benefits.

For more information or if you have questions about the process, please call FPPA at (303) 770-3772 in the Denver Metro area or (800) 332-3772 toll free nationwide. **FPPA**



Statewide Death & Disability Eligibility Verification

The Deadline To Return Eligibility Verification Forms Is September 30th

NOW AVAILABLE! Statewide Defined Benefit Plan Service Credit Calculator

FPPA members having prior public or private employment with a non-FPPA employer or prior military service may be eligible to purchase service credit under the *Statewide Defined Benefit Plan*. The service credit calculator now found on our web site will help members determine if purchasing service credit may be the right decision for them.

If after using the calculator you would like more information about purchasing service credit, you may want to request our *Purchasing Service Credit Packet*. The packet outlines the conditions and procedures for purchasing service credit under the *Statewide Defined Benefit Plan* as well as providing the forms you will need to apply. The packet is also available on our web site along with the calculator.

Another Payment Option Now Available To Employers

FPPA requests that all FPPA affiliated employers who report contributions on 15 or more members submit their contribution reports in an electronic format. Once the information is gathered, employers may transmit the data directly to FPPA through the secure Employer section of the FPPA web site. To complete the electronic reporting process, employers are now also encouraged to take advantage of our secure ACH Debit Transaction feature.

ACH Debit Transactions

FPPA offers employers ACH Debit Transactions as an alternative to allow FPPA to initiate a debit transaction that will remove a designated amount of money out of your bank account and transfer it directly to FPPA's account. The difference between a wire transfer and an ACH debit transfer is that you initiate wire transfers, whereas ACH debit transfers are initiated by FPPA. If you are interested in learning more about ACH debit transactions, contact the Accounting Department of FPPA and request an "Electronic Funds Transfer Authorization Agreement". Once this agreement form is completed and returned to FPPA, ACH debit transactions can begin. Each month, upon receipt of your "Contributions Summary" report (either by Internet, mail, or fax), FPPA will set up the ACH debit transaction for the amount you show on your "Contribution Summary" report, and the money will be taken out of your bank account on the payment due date. It's that easy! **FPPA**

FPPA Web Site News

JUST ADDED!
The Statewide Defined Benefit Plan Service Credit Calculator

PLUS...
Employer Options For Electronic Transfers Of Contributions & Transactions



Comprehensive Annual Financial Report Highlights

For the Fiscal
Year Ended
December 31, 2002



Statement of Plan Net Assets

Assets

Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 149,421,770
Total Investments	2,195,238,118
Total Receivables	91,035,283
Properties and Equipment, at Cost, Net of Accumulated Depreciation	1,598,083
Other Assets	111,137
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 2,437,404,391

Liabilities

Payables, Pending Trades & Accrued Expenses	325,145,847
TOTAL LIABILITIES	\$ 325,145,847

Net Assets Held in Trust for Pension Benefits/

Fund Balance Reserved for Withdrawals **\$ 2,112,258,544**

Statement of Changes in Net Assets

From Investment Activities

Change in Net Assets Derived from Investment Activities	\$ (206,663,222)
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From Participant Activities

Funds Invested by Members & Employers	131,404,424
Funds Withdrawn by Members & Employers	(153,793,862)
Administrative Expenses	(3,320,776)
	\$ (232,373,436)

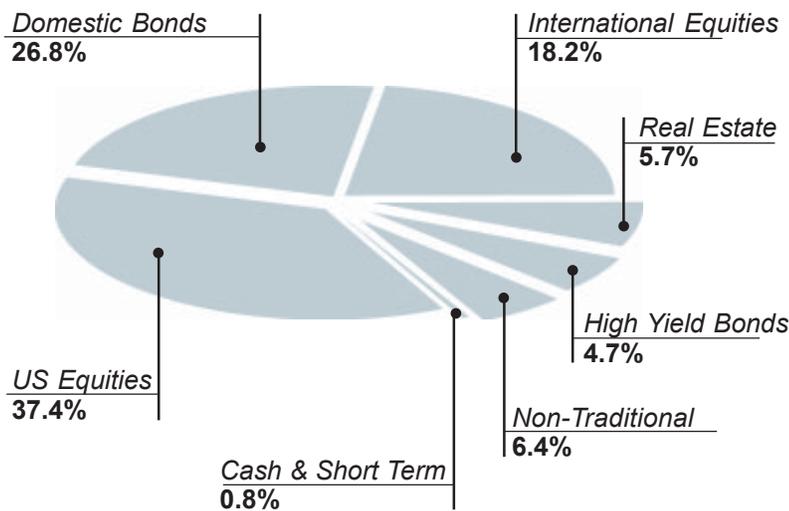
Net Assets

Beginning of Year	\$ 2,344,631,980
End of Year	\$ 2,112,258,544

This Statement of Net Assets which certifies the financial condition of FPPA's benefit fund at the close of 2002 is based on the official audit report on the fund prepared by Bondi & Co. LLP.

continued on next page

2002 Asset Allocation As Of December 31, 2002



The statements on the previous page and the chart above are highlights taken from the FPPA Comprehensive Annual Financial Report for the year ended 2002. To request a printed copy of the FPPA Comprehensive Annual Financial Report, contact FPPA by calling (303) 770-3772 in the Denver Metro area or toll free (800) 332-3772 nationwide. Or you may log on to www.FPPAco.org to view, download or print a copy of the report. **FPPA**

In the last issue of PensionCheck we published a list of individuals who have separated service from either a Colorado fire or police department and are due a refund from FPPA. The response was very good and we were able to match up at least eight people with their money!

Every year in September, the State of Colorado requires that we turn over the names and funds of members we have been unable to find in the last five years to the State Treasurer. Despite our investigative efforts, we are still unable to find these last few missing members. If you are in contact with any of these members listed below, please have them contact FPPA immediately for us to process their refund. We are hoping this one last notice may clear up the search so that no refunds will go unclaimed. **FPPA**



<u>Member Name</u>	<u>Separated Service From</u>
Castle, Richard T.	Johnstown Supp. Police
Fraley, Christopher A.	La Veta Police
Jackson, Joseph L.	Colorado Springs Fire
James, Louis E.	Granada Police
Miller, Eric N.	Granada Police
Monroe, Fredrick S.	Colorado Springs Fire

Report Highlights

Continued

Member Search

We're Looking for These FPPA Members Who May Be Due A Refund

Retirement Planning Made Easier

With Retirement Planning Tools From Fidelity Investments®



You don't need to be invested with Fidelity Investments® in order to access and enjoy the advantages of the www.fidelity.com/atwork web site.

However the Fidelity NetBenefitsSM link from the "At Work" section of the website is reserved for those FPPA members who are currently participating in the 457 Deferred Compensation Plan, an affiliated money purchase plan or a DROP plan.

Want to learn more about workplace savings planning – quickly and easily? Want to know more about investing for retirement – when it's most convenient for you? Want to see how easy planning calculators are to use? All of this and more is available at,

www.Fidelity.com/atwork

Bringing together all of the following in one convenient location:

- Calculators to help you determine how much you may need for your retirement
- Tools to help you set goals and create investment strategies
- Worksheets to see if you are on track for the retirement lifestyle you hope to enjoy
- Ways to make sure you are taking full advantage of the savings at your workplace.

Easy to access and easy to use.

The web site is a great resource, whether you are an Internet expert or a complete novice. We've thought about what information you'd like to see and organized it in an easily accessible way. Then, we added easy-to-use planning tools, calculators, educational videos, and easy access to Fidelity NetBenefitsSM so you can make transactions if you're already enrolled in your organization's workplace savings plan. And if you're not enrolled yet, you can get the information you need right on line.

You can now take control of your financial future.

Fidelity.com/atwork gives you easy and direct access to the information that's important to you. It also gives you resources to help you make smart investment decisions and manage your Workplace Savings Account. Some key features include:

- ✓ QUICK LOG ON TO FIDELITY NETBENEFITSSM for account information, transaction capabilities, and Fidelity PortfolioPlannerSM - a powerful planning tool. (NetBenefitsSM is reserved for those FPPA members who are currently participating in the 457 Deferred Compensation Plan, an affiliated money purchase plan or a DROP plan.)
- ✓ EASY-TO-USE TOOLS AND CALCULATORS like the Contribution Calculator, Growth Calculator, and Asset Allocation Planner.
- ✓ THE LATEST THINKING ON RETIREMENT PLANNING AND INVESTING FOR RETIREMENT to keep you up on what the retirement experts are saying.
- ✓ A SPECIAL SECTION on how the provisions of the new Economic Growth and Tax Relief Reconciliation Act (EGTRRA) can help you achieve your retirement goals.
- ✓ HELPFUL ARTICLES AND CURRENT INFORMATION on issues and opportunities that concern your current life stage – whether you're just getting started, building wealth, or nearing retirement.
- ✓ LINKS TO OTHER VALUABLE INFORMATION on Fidelity.com/atwork, such as college planning and estate planning.

Put Fidelity.com/atwork to work for you.

Visit the site and see for yourself what a great resource it can be for your retirement savings plan. Then "bookmark" it so you can have even faster access. Fidelity designed it for you. Now make it work for you. **FPPA**

In the last issue of PensionCheck we reported the criteria and process for Volunteer Fire Pensions to apply for statewide matching funds. The process is very crucial for securing the funds in an accurate and timely manner. We are repeating some of the information here in way of reminding each Volunteer Fire Pension plan of the importance of returning the applications by the August 29th deadline.

FPPA mails out applications for matching funds every year in late April or early May. Affiliated departments must fill out the application, sign it, notarize it, and return it to FPPA by August 29th.

Departments who are affiliated with FPPA need to send financial statements the first year they affiliate. FPPA does not need financial statements thereafter. Non-affiliated departments must submit an annual audit or the 'application of exemption from audit and certification by the State Auditor's office' with their application.

If the application and supporting required documentation are not returned to FPPA by August 29th, your plan will not receive matching funds for that year.

FPPA will only process applications for the current year matching funds. No applications for prior years will be accepted.

Contributions to the pension plan must be received in the calendar year that you are applying for matching funds. Adjustments will be made to your matching funds amount if your budgeted contribution from the prior year application does not equal the actual contribution to the plan.

FPPA bills the state for matching funds in late September/early October. If your department is affiliated with FPPA, your department's state funds will be transferred directly into the pension fund in late-October. Non-affiliated departments will be mailed a check for their portion of state funds. State matching funds are shown on the department's allocation report under "state funding/affil."

Any questions about the matching funds may be directed to FPPA at (303) 770-3772 in the Denver Metro area or toll free (800) 332-3772 statewide or visit our web site at www.fppaco.org. **FPPA**

An affiliated volunteer fire department is a department that has affiliated with FPPA to manage its pension fund investments. FPPA invests the pension fund's money and pays retirement benefits to any retirees and survivors of that department who are eligible for pension benefits.

Volunteer Fire Pension Funds

Reminder Of The Statewide Matching Funds Timeline



Late April/Early May

FPPA mailed the application for state matching funds to all volunteer fire departments.

August 29th

The application and required supporting documentation must be returned to FPPA.

October

FPPA bills the state for matching funds within the current year.

Late October

State matching funds are disbursed to all departments that FPPA determines to be in compliance with state statutes.

Investment Returns as of June 30, 2003



As of June 30, 2003 FPPA's total assets exceeded \$2.163 billion.

Investment Returns

Rates Of Return: 2nd Quarter, One, Five And Ten Years, And Since Inception



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Upcoming Seminars



- ▶ **Investment Strategy Workshop • Thursday August 28th**
This seminar is specifically for members in the FPPA 457 Deferred Compensation Plan, Statewide or affiliated money purchase plans or the DROP Plan.

FPPA has selected Fidelity Investments® to present this seminar. This workshop will provide important techniques for investing.

- ▶ **Wills, Estates, Taxes & Trusts • Thursday October 9th**
This seminar will focus on the importance of an estate plan, will and other ‘legal seat belts’ used to secure your assets. The emphasis will be to take an objective look at these issues *now* and allow you to make rational decisions before you may be faced with life challenging situations in the future.

For more information about either of these seminars, call Rory Mammen at FPPA, (303) 770-3772 in the Denver Metro area or toll free (800) 332-3772 nationwide, or log on to www.fppaco.org and click on the *Calendar* button. **FPPA**

Members APB

All Points Bulletin
For Your Address
Changes



FPPA is currently over 20,000 members strong. That number includes active firefighters and police officers throughout the state as well as survivors and retired members worldwide. Please help us keep up with you by submitting your change of address each time you move.

Survivors or Retired Members

To protect the receipt of benefits to you, FPPA requires that all address changes be submitted in writing. Request a *Change Of Address Form* by calling FPPA or visiting our web site.

Active Members

You may let us know of an address change by calling (303) 770-3772 in the Denver Metro area or (800) 332-3772 toll free nationwide or by emailing your address change to addrchanges@fppaco.org. **FPPA**