

This is intended to provide you with general information about Electronic Fund Transfer (EFT). The statements in this booklet are general and we have made them as simple as possible while still being accurate. The retirement law is sometimes very complex, but when a conflict arises, any decision will be based on the law and not on this booklet.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Advantages.....	2
Date of Transfer	4
Frequently Asked Questions.....	5
How to Enroll	3
Period of Coverage	4
Replace Lost Transfer.....	4
What is it?	2

What is Electronic Deposit?

Have you ever received your check late because it was lost or misplaced in the mail? San Joaquin County Employees' Retirement Association (SJCERA) is now providing a safe way to deliver your monthly retirement allowance to you. We call it "Electronic Deposit". Electronic Deposit electronically places your retirement allowance into your checking or savings account through an electronic automation process. Electronic Deposit is different, however, from direct bank mail which mails your check from the County Auditor-Controller's Office to your financial institution. Electronic Deposit is sometimes called Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT).

Many of the SJCERA Retirees are already having their monthly Social Security benefits processed by electronic deposit.

What are the Advantages of Using Electronic Deposit?

The Electronic Deposit process is important to you for the following reasons:

- Reduces the risk of loss, theft, or forgery of benefit checks,
- Gives you immediate and uninterrupted deposits when you are away from home,
- Eliminates inconveniences associated with the cashing of benefit checks, such as standing in line or traveling to check-cashing facilities,
- Relieves you of the anxiety associated with the uncertainty of mail delivery service, and
- Provides you with a monthly deposit advice that shows your benefits and deductions and is directly mailed to your residence.

How Do You Enroll In Electronic Deposit?

To enroll in Electronic Deposit, you must fill out "Section I" of the application included in the centerfold section of this brochure. Then take it to your bank, savings and loan, or credit union for them to complete "Section II" to provide us with the proper account codes. Finally, forward that form along with the appropriate deposit slip to SJCERA.

Your financial institution must be a member of the Automated Clearing House Association (ACHA) to accept an Electronic Deposit from SJCERA. (Almost all banks, savings & loans and credit unions in the United States belong to ACHA.)

Once your application is submitted to us, we will run a test transaction so your financial institution can notify us if any problems occur. After the test verification is complete, SJCERA will write to you stating when your first monthly allowance will be transferred to your account by Electronic Deposit. It takes about 60 days for us to process, test, and validate your Electronic Deposit application. In the meantime, your check will continue to be processed as in the past.

While your monthly retirement benefit is electronically deposited, a monthly "Deposit Advice" will be mailed to the most recent residence address you have given us; please keep your address current. If you have given us a mailing address different from your home address, the statement will be mailed to your mailing address. You should keep the monthly deposit advice for your records. If you do not want to receive this deposit advice, you must request in writing that we discontinue sending it.

Date of Transfer

Your SJCERA benefit allowance will transfer electronically into your account (either checking or savings) on the first day of the month. If the first day is a non-banking day, the transfer happens on the next banking day after the first.

Special Note: For income tax purposes, transfers dated January 1st must be processed on the first banking day after New Year's Day. This assures that SJCERA complies with IRS regulations in reporting the retirement income for the proper tax year.

Period of Coverage

Just like your regular check, each Electronic Deposit covers the month prior to the date of the transfer. For example, a transfer dated December 1st covers the period from November 1st through November 30th.

Replacing A Lost Electronic Deposit Transfer

If a Electronic Deposit payment is not credited to your account, you should first contact your financial institution and provide information from the current or previous Deposit Advice to assist them in locating the payment. If the matter cannot be resolved at that financial institution, then call SJCERA.

Frequently Asked Questions

Must I Receive Direct Deposit?

Electronic Deposit is an option. If you do not want it, we will continue mailing your monthly checks to either your mailing address or financial institution. However, many financial institutions

will no longer forward the monthly check statement or any inserted material. You may miss out on valuable information if your check is simply mailed to your financial institution. Some financial institutions encourage Electronic Deposit by offering incentives, such as no-fee checking accounts. Contact your financial institution for details.

When May I Enroll In The Electronic Deposit Program?

You may sign up at any time.

How Can I Verify That My Payment Has Been Deposited?

You can verify a deposit by contacting your financial institution.

What If I Choose To Transfer My Electronic Deposit To Another Account Or To Change My Financial Institutions?

If you are transferring your Electronic Deposit to another account with the same financial institution, please send us the new account number in writing. If you are changing your financial institution, you must complete and send us a new Electronic Deposit enrollment form. SJCERA will process the new Electronic Deposit account just as we did for your "old" Electronic Deposit account. Since the payroll runs only once per month it will take approximately two to three months, after we receive your new application, for your Electronic Deposit to be redirected to your new account and/or financial institution.

Note: You should leave your old account open until your first payment is deposited into your new account. If your old account closes too

soon, your financial institution may return the funds directly to SJCERA. If you prefer, you may request us in writing, to mail your checks directly to your home or to your new bank while your new Electronic Deposit form is being processed.

Can I Have Electronic Deposit If I Live Outside Of California?

Yes. Most financial institutions within the United States provide a Electronic Deposit. However, Electronic Deposit is not available at this time to financial institutions located outside of the United States.

Can Anyone Else Establish Electronic Deposit For Me?

Yes. Your attorney-in-fact can establish a Electronic Deposit. But SJCERA will need a copy of the "Power Of Attorney" document showing that person has the authority to act on your behalf.