



900 S. Capital of Texas Hwy, Suite 350

Austin, TX 78746

Phone 512.795.8999 Fax: 512.795.0414

Toll Free 800.943.9179 Fax: 888.989.9247

Email: 457@tcgservices.com

## 457(B) FICA ALTERNATIVE PLAN AND TRUST

**Account Access:** To review your account balance or request a distribution, you can access your account on the Region 10 RAMS website at [www.region10rams.org](http://www.region10rams.org). Please follow the steps below to access your account online.

1. Click the green Login box in the upper right-hand corner
2. Click the yellow Retirement Login box
3. User Name will be your Social Security Number (no spaces or dashes): #####
4. Password will be your date of birth (MMDDYYYY): #####

**Distributions:** The employee or their beneficiary will receive the FICA Alternative Plan account balance when an employee becomes eligible for a distribution for any of the following reasons:

- Termination of Employment
- Permanent and Total Disability
- Changed employment status to a position covered by another retirement system (e.g., TRS)

*If there have been no contributions to the account for two (2) years and the account balance is less than \$5,000, the employee may be able to request a distribution.*

**Taxation:** When the employee begins to receive benefits, the funds received become taxable income. If the taxable portion of the account balance exceeds \$200, the employee can avoid immediate taxation by directing the account balance to:

- A traditional IRA
- An eligible employer plan that accepts the rollover (i.e., TRS, 403(b), 457, etc.)

(continued)

**Designating a Beneficiary:** If the employee dies while a participant in the Plan, the account balance will be distributed to the employee's beneficiary. If the employee is married at the time of death, the spouse is automatically the beneficiary. If the employee wishes to designate someone other than the spouse as beneficiary, the employee must do so in writing and the spouse must sign a spousal consent form. If the employee is unmarried at the time of death, the account balance will be paid to the employee's estate unless another beneficiary has been designated. To designate a beneficiary, please login to your account at [www.region10rams.org](http://www.region10rams.org) using the instructions under "Account Access" below.

**Company Offering Services:** The Company chosen to provide the 457(b) FICA Alternative Plan is TCG Administrators, a company with many years of proven expertise in administering retirement plans to public sector employees.

**Protection from Liability:** The District as a 457(b) plan sponsor is responsible for the types of investments offered to participants. Most 457(b) plans do not protect the District from fiduciary liability. The ESC Region 10 457(b) FICA Alternative Retirement Plan offers fiduciary protection for the District through an Investment Advisory Agreement with TCG Investment Advisory Services, LP.