



# Website Policy

## Statement Regarding Website Accessibility

The Government Employees' Retirement System (GERS) strives for a website with an accessible design, which allows as many people as possible to use technology regardless of disability, age or functional limitation. This website is complying with the Technical Standards from [Section 508 Electronic and Information Technology Accessibility Standards](#), Web-based intranet and internet information and applications (36 CFR § 1194.22), as well as conforming to the XHTML 1.0 Transitional standard. Section 508 addresses accessibility for people who have visual, hearing, motor or speech disabilities.

## GERS Contacts

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# Website Policy

## Cookies

The EU Cookie Legislation came into force on May 25, 2011 and to comply the GERS must warn users that we use cookies on our site. We use cookies for essential parts of our site to operate and some have already been set. You may delete and block all cookies from this site, but parts of the site will not work. GERS uses cookies - small text files that are placed on your machine to help the site provide a better user experience. In general, cookies are used to retain user preferences required to access some GERS online services and provide anonymized tracking data to third party applications like Google Analytics. As a rule, cookies will make your browsing experience better. However, you may prefer to disable cookies on this site and on others. The most effective way to do this is to disable cookies in your browser. We suggest consulting the Help section of your browser or taking a look at [the About Cookies website](#) which offers guidance for all modern browsers.

## Copyright Notice

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For permission to use GERS material, please contact the Public Information Officer.



# Website Policy

## Disclaimer

GERS provides this website as a convenient method for members and the public to obtain information about the benefits and services provided by GERS. Every effort is made to ensure that all information is timely and accurate. However, this information is subject to change and GERS will not be held responsible for any errors.

In the event of any conflict between the information presented on this website and the laws governing retirement benefits, the law prevails (3 VIC Chapter 27 & 28A). It is important to also note that the Legislature of the Virgin Islands makes changes to these laws periodically. GERS is a defined benefit pension plan for officials and employees of the Government of the Virgin Islands, and for their dependents and beneficiaries, for the payment of retirement annuities, disability annuities and other benefits.

## E-mail Security

Do not send confidential or personal information, such as a Social Security number, via e-mail from your computer, through the GERS website or through secure areas of the site. GERS will send only non-confidential replies.

You are not required to provide any information requested via this website. However, please be aware that some features or services, such as Web forms, may not function without the requested information.

**Important E-Mail Notice:** Do not send confidential or personal information, such as a Social Security number, via e-mail. This communication is not secure. To protect the privacy of our members, GERS will send only non-confidential replies.




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## Linking Policy

This website includes hyperlinks to other websites that are neither controlled nor sponsored by the Government Employees' Retirement System. They are included on the GERS site solely as a reference, research or information tool related to GERS' mission. Inclusion of any hyperlink should not be interpreted as an endorsement by GERS of the site, the site's sponsor, information, product or service.

## Plug-ins Required to Use This Site

Some of the content provided on the GERS website requires the following plug-ins, or separate browser components, to view properly. These are free plug-ins:

- **Viewing Downloads:** [Adobe's Acrobat Reader®](#)  is required to view most PDF files on this site.

## Privacy Statement

The Government Employees' Retirement System (GERS) is committed to protecting the privacy of its members. GERS does not sell member information to anyone. Information is shared only with those authorized to administer benefits and services for GERS members, retirees and beneficiaries. Personal information, such as name and Social Security number, is collected solely to administer benefits and services, including online services.

## Security

GERS employs 128-bit encryption to protect the information on the secure site. This is standard industry technology that creates a secure environment for the transfer of information from your computer to GERS.



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You can tell you are on a secure page by looking at the symbol at the bottom of the Web page. There will be a key or lock displayed on secure pages. Only submit data if these signs are present.

If GERS suspects there has been unauthorized access to member information, we will contact the appropriate legal authorities.

### **Surveys**

From time to time, GERS may request information from members via surveys. Participation is completely voluntary and responses are kept strictly confidential. If you are contacted to complete a survey, it is your choice whether or not to participate. Survey information is used to monitor or improve GERS customer services and products as well as this website.

### **System Availability**

When needed, routine maintenance of the GERS website occurs on Friday afternoons after 4:00 p.m. Occasionally, maintenance is necessary on other days of the week as well. GERS will post an announcement on the website if the maintenance window will impact website availability by more than 15 minutes.

### **Translation**

For users of the language translator tool provided here:

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