

How to Set Up Your Accounts with TIAA and PERA ^[1]



October 13, 2025 by [Employee Services](#) ^[2]

Setting up online access and regularly checking your retirement accounts empowers you to take control of your financial future. These platforms offer more than just a place to view your balance — they're essential tools for:

- **Managing contributions:** Adjust how much you're saving and where your money is going.
- **Monitoring performance:** Track investment growth and make informed decisions.
- **Updating beneficiaries:** Ensure your account reflects your current wishes.
- **Planning withdrawals:** Prepare for retirement by exploring withdrawal options and timelines.
- **Accessing support:** Get personalized advice and educational resources to help you stay on track.

Whether you're early in your career or nearing retirement, having online access ensures you're informed, prepared and in control.

Setting up your TIAA account

TIAA (Teachers Insurance and Annuity Association) manages retirement plans for many educational institutions, including CU.

Account types available:

- [Mandatory 401\(a\) plan](#) ^[3] (for University Staff and Faculty)
- [Voluntary 403\(b\) plan](#) ^[4]
- [Student Employee Retirement Program \(SERP\) plan](#) ^[5]

Register for online access:

1. Go to [TIAA's registration page](#) [6].
2. Select "Get online access."
3. Provide your personal information and contract number (if applicable).
4. Set up your User ID, password, and security preferences.

Steps to enroll your plan:

1. Visit TIAA's [CU landing page](#) [7].
2. Click "Enroll Now" under your specific.
3. Complete the Salary Reduction Agreement to fund your account.
4. Choose your investment options and beneficiaries.

Need Help?

Call TIAA at 800-842-2252 or explore their [FAQs](#) [7] for detailed guidance.

Setting up your PERA account

Colorado PERA (Public Employees' Retirement Association) provides retirement benefits for public employees in Colorado.

Account types available:

- Mandatory plans
 - [PERA Defined Benefit \(DB\) plan](#) [8] (Classified Staff, or any Faculty or University Staff who have a PERA DB account from a previous employer)
 - [PERA Defined Contribution \(DC\) plan](#) [9] (Classified Staff only)
- Voluntary plans
 - [PERA 401\(k\)](#) [10]
 - [PERA 457](#) [11]

Register for online access:

1. Go to copera.org [12].
2. Click "Member Login/Registration" in the top right corner.
3. Select "Register as a new user."
4. Enter your first and last name, date of birth and Social Security number.
5. Enter your email address.
6. Provide your current address and verify your identity using a phone number and one-time code.
7. Create your User ID, password and security questions.
8. Enroll in multifactor authentication for added security.

Mobile Access:

Download the PERA app from the [App Store](#) [13] or [Google Play](#) [14] to manage your account on the go.

Need Help?

Visit the [Online Account Access FAQs](#) [15] or call PERA's Customer Service at 800-759-7372.

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