



IMPORTANT MEMBER NOTICE:

2011 SBCERA COLA APPROVED

SBCERA Board of Retirement Approves a 1.5% Cost-of-Living Adjustment

On Thursday, February 3, 2011, the SBCERA Board of Retirement approved a 1.5% cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) for SBCERA retirees and beneficiaries.

COLAs are given on April 1st of each year based upon the increase or decrease in the Consumer Price Index (CPI) as of January 1st of that year, pursuant to Government Code section 31870. The current *Bureau of Labor Statistics Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers*, for the Los Angeles area, for the year ending December 31, 2010, is 1.34%, which rounded to the nearest one-half of 1 percent is 1.5%. To find this figure go to www.bls.gov/cpi, go to the Regional Resources Map and select "Los Angeles," then click "Go". For a background on COLAs, please read the [Frequently Asked Questions \(FAQ's\) regarding Cost-of-Living Adjustments](#).

SBCERA retirees and beneficiaries are affected in the following manner:

Those who have a COLA bank of 0.5% or greater (member retirement date on or before April 1, 2007), will receive a 2% COLA after April 1, 2011, as their accumulated or "banked" COLAs from previous years exceeded 2%.

Those who have a COLA bank of 0% (member retirement date after April 1, 2007 and before April 2, 2011), will receive a COLA of 1.5% after April 1, 2011, as their accumulated or "banked" COLAs from previous years never exceeded 2%.