



State Personnel Newsletter

Give Yourself an Extra Bonus!

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Congratulations! As a State of Alabama employee, you may be eligible to receive a longevity bonus on December 14th. Consider increasing your contributions to the Deferred Compensation Plan or enrolling in the Deferred Compensation Plan to put your bonus to work. Make your money work now, so maybe you don't have to later, and take control of your financial security today.

To enroll, simply go to **AlabamaRetire.com** and click *Register*. Select the option: "I have a plan enrollment code." The information you will need is as follows:

- Group ID/Plan number: 98954-01
- Plan Enrollment code (expires February 1): aemgj5Gc

Changing your contribution rate is easy. Log into your account and use the slider bar under *Contributions* to edit your current contribution amount.

To schedule one-on-one time with your local representative visit the website at **AlabamaRetire.com** or call **877-313-2262**.

A little more now could become a lot more for your future.



Point of Interest:

- The State Personnel Board will meet on December 13, 2018.

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*FOR ILLUSTRATIVE PURPOSES ONLY. This is a hypothetical illustration to show the value of an increase in contributions. This hypothetical illustration is not intended as a projection or prediction of future investment results, nor is it intended as financial planning or investment advice. It assumes monthly contributions of \$25, a 6% average annual rate of return and reinvestment of earnings with no withdrawals over a 30-year period, followed by 20 years of monthly withdrawals of \$179.92, including a 6% average annual rate of return, beginning at age 65. Rates of return may vary. This illustration does not include any charges, expenses or fees that may be associated with your plan. The tax-deferred accumulations shown above would be reduced if these fees had been deducted.

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New Local Vendors Added to PerksCard!

SAVE

LOCALLY

NATIONALLY

ON THE GO

PerksConnect: The Fastest Way To Connect To Deals And Discounts

The State of Alabama and PerksConnect have teamed up to provide you with exclusive deals and discounts in your neighborhood and as you travel around the country. We are always updating our offers so there are constantly more new ways for you to save.

In addition to discounts from **local merchants**, you can save on national deals from thousands of partners:

Discounted Movie Tickets: Visit the “Event Tickets” section and save on discounts from local movie theaters in your area.

Discounted Gift Cards: Access exclusive discounted gift cards and printable coupons online from companies such as Barnes & Noble, Chili’s, Lands’ End, Cabela’s, and JC Penney.

Online Discounts: Click the Deals and Discounts tab and find over 300 web-based savings from national retailers such as Costco, Samsung, and TrueCar, plus “Shop Now, Pay Over Time” with Zebit. You will also find savings for Disney Parks and From You Flowers. PerksConnect also offers great discounts on all your travel needs from rental cars to hotels.

Insurance and Benefits: As a PerksConnect member, you are eligible for special low rates on many insurance options. Get affordable coverage on Home & Auto Insurance and Pet Insurance.

Registration is simple and FREE. Simply go to alabama.perksconnection.com, pick the region closest to you and complete the short form. You can start saving immediately.

Submit Your Recipe for the Personnel Newsletter

Do you have a tried and true Southern recipe that’s been handed down for generations? Do you wow guests with your surprisingly easy slow cooker recipe? Does your casserole dish always end up empty at a potluck? We’re on the hunt for your delicious recipes for the Personnel Newsletter!

In the next several Personnel Newsletter issues, we will feature recipes from our talented State employee chefs. We can’t wait to spice up our pages with the best recipes State employees have to offer. Please submit your favorite recipe by email to newsletter@personnel.alabama.gov for consideration and include a picture of the finished product, if you have one. Also, please indicate if you would like your name shared. We’re looking for your secrets to delectable dishes of all kinds – fresh salads, buttery biscuits, shrimp ‘n grits, chicken casserole, chocolate cake, apple pie – you name it. Go ahead and share your recipe with us – our plates are waiting!



Employees' Suggestion Incentive Program Award Winner



Chad Holton (with his incentive check!), along with Frank Bentley (Back Left), Administrator Mac Gipson (Back Center), and Scott Crews (Back Right)

A huge congratulations to Mr. Chad Holton for receiving an Employee Suggestion Incentive Award! Mr. Holton is the Lead Network Administrator and Security Officer with the Alabama Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) Board. He submitted a cost-saving suggestion related to the consolidation of ABC's Central Office and 175 stores into one network serviced by one provider. ABC was convinced after Mr. Holton presented his cost-comparison model, and ultimately the Administrator signed off on the suggestion and implemented the idea. Mr. Holton's idea not only created an easier-to-manage network, but also added an additional layer of security for ABC customers. His suggestion saved \$70,000 in circuit costs alone. Thank you to Mr. Holton for submitting a suggestion that will save the State of Alabama thousands of dollars annually. See below for information on how to submit your own cost-saving idea!

Employees' Suggestion Incentive Program REMINDER

EMPLOYEES' SUGGESTION INCENTIVE PROGRAM

Don't forget to submit your cost-saving ideas to the Employees' Suggestion Incentive Board for the opportunity to earn a **CASH AWARD** up to **\$5,000!** You can find the rules and form on the State Personnel Department website, www.personnel.alabama.gov, under the "Employee Resources" tab, then "Online Options." **Please remember that your completed submission form must include approval from your appointing authority in order for your suggestion to be considered for an award.**



Fall Recipe



AA's Breakfast Casserole

Ingredients:

- 1 lb regular or spicy bulk pork sausage
- 8 oz. softened cream cheese (can also use whipped garlic herb cream cheese)
- 8 oz. shredded cheddar cheese
- 2–8 oz. cans crescent rolls or dough
- 1 egg, beaten
- Poppy seeds

Directions:

1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Grease a 9 x 11 baking dish
2. Cook sausage until brown and drain
3. Add cream cheese to sausage and stir
4. Roll one can of the crescent dough, unseparated, into bottom of baking dish and cook for 5 minutes
5. Top the baked crescent dough with the sausage and cream cheese mixture
6. Add cheddar cheese on top of sausage mixture, then cover with second can of unseparated crescent dough
7. Brush the top with the beaten egg, and sprinkle with poppy seeds
8. Cook for an additional 8 to 10 minutes until golden brown

State Personnel Department

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The Alabama Merit System law created the Personnel Department to be administered by a Personnel Director who answers to an independent board. The Board currently consists of five members who serve staggered six-year terms. Two members are appointed by the Governor, one by the Lieutenant Governor, one by the Speaker of the House, and one member is an elected classified State employee who is subject to all merit system rules and regulations.

By law, the Board is required to meet once each month. Its principal functions are to:

- * adopt and amend rules and regulations;
- * adopt and modify classification and pay plans;
- * hear the appeals of employees who have been dismissed;
- * represent public interest in the improvement of personnel administration in state service; and
- * advise and assist the Personnel Director.

The State Personnel Board is scheduled to meet December 13, 2018, at 10:00 a.m. in the Board Room on the 3rd Floor of the Folsom Administrative Building in Montgomery. The meeting is open to the public.