Welcome to our Newsletter!

Please enjoy the March edition of our newsletter! We hope you and your family have a happy and safe spring. If you have any suggestions or recommendations for our upcoming newsletter, please email us at newsletter@personnel.alabama.gov.

The State Personnel Board will meet on April 20, 2022, at 10:00 a.m. in the Board Room of the Folsom Administrative Building in Montgomery.

Don’t forget to follow us on all of our social media platforms for updates on testing, job announcements, and more! You can find us on Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, Instagram, and YouTube. Search for “State of Alabama Personnel Department.”
Don’t forget to submit your cost-saving ideas to the Employees’ Suggestion Incentive Board for the opportunity to earn a CASH REWARD up to $5,000! You can find the rules and submission form on the State Personnel Department website, [www.personnel.alabama.gov](http://www.personnel.alabama.gov), under the “Employees” button, then press “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.
Alabama is no stranger to disasters. Our state is susceptible to every national disaster except for volcanoes and leads the county in tornado deaths. According to the National Weather Service, Alabama has had more than 600 tornado-related deaths since 1950, well over 100 more tornado-related deaths than any other state in the country.

In a state where tornadoes are so prevalent, what can you do to prepare and keep you and your family safe? You can start by making a plan, building a kit, and having multiple ways to receive weather notifications.

Your plan should identify a safe space for you and your family to take shelter during a storm. Identify and practice going to a safe shelter or safe room built using FEMA criteria. The next best protection is a small, interior, windowless room or basement on the lowest level of a sturdy building. Your family may not be together if a disaster strikes, so it is important to know how you’ll contact one another and reconnect if separated. Establish a family meeting place that is familiar and easy to find. Remember to tailor your plan to accommodate pets and any other specific needs in your household.

A disaster preparedness kit is a collection of basic items your household may need in an emergency. After a storm, you may need to survive on your own for several days. Being prepared means having your own food, water, and other supplies to last for at least 72 hours. Since you do not know where you will be when a disaster strikes, prepare supplies for home, work, and cars.

When emergencies strike, public safety officials use timely and reliable systems to alert you. It is essential to have multiple ways to receive weather notifications. Utilizing a weather radio, weather apps, and local meteorologists are examples of ways you can receive notifications. Do not solely rely on outdoor sirens.

For more information on how you can prepare for disasters, please visit [www.ema.alabama.gov](http://www.ema.alabama.gov). Thank you so much to the Alabama Emergency Management Agency for submitting this helpful and informative feature!
Your investment strategy plays an important role in helping you reach your retirement goals. If you are saving through the AlabamaRetire Deferred Compensation Plan, take advantage of these services available at no additional cost to create an investment approach based on your goals:

- Meet with a professional\(^1\) - Meet with your local AlabamaRetire Retirement Plan Advisor for a one-on-one Retirement Readiness Review and create an investment strategy that makes sense for you. To find your local Retirement Plan Advisor, visit [AlabamaRetire.com](https://www.alabamaRetire.com) and click on “Contact Us.”

- Get Online Advice\(^2\) - Receive fund-specific recommendations and build your investment portfolio using the investment options available in AlabamaRetire. To learn more, visit [AlabamaRetire.com](https://www.alabamaRetire.com) and click on “Investment Assistance.”

For a more comprehensive strategy, you may want to consider My Total Retirement\(^3\). Available for an additional fee, this service provides personalized management of your account by investment professionals who build and monitor your portfolio for you based on your unique goals and financial situation.\(^3\) There is no guarantee provided by any party that participation in any of the advisory services will result in a profit.

For a limited time, you can sign up for this service at no cost to you for 90 days if you enroll on or before June 30, 2022.\(^4\) To learn more or enroll, schedule a meeting with your Retirement Plan Advisor by visiting [AlabamaRetire.com](https://www.alabamaRetire.com) and clicking on “Contact Us.”

Would you like more information about the AlabamaRetire Deferred Compensation Plan? Visit our website at [AlabamaRetire.com](https://www.alabamaRetire.com) and click on “About Your Plan.” You can find the Plan Highlights and information about enrolling there. If you would like to enroll, click on “Register” on the homepage, then click “I Do Not Have a PIN” and follow the prompts. You can also contact our Customer Care Center at 877-313-2262 for assistance.

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\(^1\) The Retirement Readiness Review is provided by an Empower representative registered with Advised Assets Group, LLC and may provide investment counseling and/or recommendations at no additional cost to you. There is no guarantee provided by any party that use of the review will result in a profit.

\(^2\) Online Advice and My Total Retirement are part of the Empower Retirement Advisory Services suite of services offered by Advised Assets Group, LLC, a registered investment advisor.

\(^3\) Annual fees are charged on a tiered basis: 0.45% of your assets under management up to $100,000; 0.35% for the next $150,000; 0.25% for the next $150,000; and 0.15% on all assets above $400,000.

\(^4\) After the 90-day period, you will remain in the managed account service unless you cancel your enrollment. If you choose to remain enrolled in the service, you will be charged applicable fees.

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Investing involves risk, including possible loss of principal.

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STATE OF ALABAMA EMPLOYEES NIGHT!

THURSDAY, MAY 5 AT 6:35PM
VS. BILOXI SHUCKERS W/ T-SHIRT GIVEAWAY TO THE FIRST 1,000 FANS 16 & OLDER

ENJOY THE GAME WITH FAMILY, FRIENDS & THE BISCUITS!
ALL TICKETS MUST BE ORDERED BY TUESDAY, MAY 3rd TO RECEIVE DISCOUNT.
[$7 LAWN SEAT // $9 RESERVED SEAT]

MAIL TO: MONTGOMERY BISCUITS | ATTN: STATE EMPLOYEE NIGHT | 200 COOSA ST. MONTGOMERY, AL 36104 OR EMAIL TO: CWALKER@BISCUITSBASEBALL.COM | PHONE: 334-323-0387 | FAX: 334-323-2225

CONTACT NAME:__________________________________________________________
ADDRESS:____________________________________________________________________
CITY: ___________________________ STATE: ___________________________ ZIP: __________
PHONE NUMBER:____________________ EMAIL ADDRESS:____________________
NUMBER OF TICKETS FOR JULY 1st: _______ X $7 _______ X $9 _______ = TOTAL: __________
CREDIT CARD #: __________________________________________________________
EXP: __________________ VER #: __________________
CHECK #: ________________________________________________________________
How do I claim Veteran’s Preference Points?

Attach copies of the required documentation to your application to support your claim. These documents will not be returned and will remain in our office. Additional information may be requested.

1. Veteran (5 points) - Requires DD214 or document showing dates of service and type of discharge. Note: Must be active duty for other than training purposes.

2. Disabled Veteran (10 points) - Requires DD214 or document showing dates of service and type of discharge and a V.A. letter of disability dated within the last six months. Note: Letter must be kept updated until the register is established, or you lose the extra 5 points.

3. Deceased Veteran’s spouse (10 points) - Requires DD214 or document showing dates of service and type of discharge and marriage and death certificates. Note: It cannot be claimed if the spouse remarries.

4. Disabled Veteran’s spouse (10 points) - Requires DD214 or document showing dates of service and type of discharge and a V.A. letter of disability dated within the last six months. Note: It cannot be claimed unless still married to the disabled veteran who, because of this disability, is not qualified.

5. Permanently Disabled Veteran (10 points) - Requires DD214 or document showing dates of service and type of discharge indicating the veteran is permanently disabled or DD214 or document showing dates of service and type of discharge and a V.A. letter indicating permanent disability.

How can I find the statewide testing location that is closest to me?

You can find a list of all of the Exam Centers utilized for statewide testing on the State Personnel website under “Testing,” click on “Exam Centers” and then on “All Other Exam Center Directions.”