

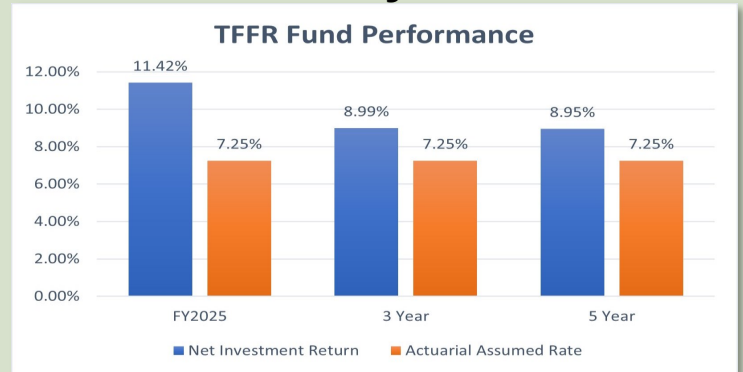
TFFR's financial strength grows, unfunded liability reduced

The Teachers' Fund for Retirement (TFFR) continues to make steady progress toward long-term financial health.

Each year, the Board of Trustees reviews an independent actuarial valuation to assess the plan's financial strength. The most recent report, prepared by GRS as of July 1, 2025, shows encouraging results.

A key measure of the plan's financial health is the funded ratio, which compares the assets available to pay benefits with long-term obligations. In 2025, TFFR's funded ratio improved to 73.4%, up from 71.6% in 2024. This increase reflects solid investment performance and disciplined funding practices.

As investment gains continue to reduce the plan's unfunded liability, the estimated time needed to fully



fund all benefits has shortened to 17 years. In addition, the plan's long-term investment return assumption was lowered from 7.25% to 7.15%.

Overall, these results highlight continued progress and reinforce TFFR's commitment to providing a secure and sustainable retirement for North Dakota educators.

Total Retired Members: 9,664
Average Annual Pension: \$29,370
Average Current Age: 74.2
Oldest Retiree: 103
Average Years of Service: 26.95
Most Years of Service: 49.083



Active Members Total: 12,012
Average Annual Salary: \$70,749
Average Age: 41.6
Average Service: 11.6 years
Inactive Members Total: 4,262
Vested 2,308; Non-vested 1,954

*All data as of 07/01/2025.

TFFR earns national honor

In December, the Teachers' Fund for Retirement (TFFR) was recognized with the 2025 Public Pension Standards Award for Funding and Administration. The award is the benchmark for excellence in public defined benefit plans, evaluating standards of management, administration, and funding.

Overseen by the TFFR Board of Trustees and administered by RIO, this is the ninth consecutive year that the program has received the award from the Public Pension Coordinating Council.

RIO receives financial award

RIO was awarded the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting by the Government Finance Officers Association in September.

This honor recognizes RIO's FY 2024 Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR) for its clarity, organization, and compliance with both generally accepted accounting principles and legal requirements. This achievement reflects RIO's commitment to transparency and accountability in managing public funds.

Board of trustees

Dr. Robert Lech, president, active
 Alexis Rasset, vice president, active
 Mike Burton, trustee, retired
 Scott Evanoff, trustee, retired
 Cody Mickelson, trustee, active
 Levi Bachmeier, state superintendent
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 Denise Weeks, retirement program manager
 Jayme Heick, retirement specialist
 Denise Leingang-Sargeant, retirement specialist
 Rachelle Smith, administrative assistant
 Sarah Mudder, communications director

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Your 1099-R was mailed in late January and also posted to *MyTFFR* under the *My Tax Forms* tile.