

Updated Summary of Potential Changes to the MET Program to Improve Compliance

Background

The Pension Review Board (PRB) monitors public retirement system trustee and administrator compliance with the Minimum Educational Training (MET) program and annually reports compliance to the board. Compliance with the training requirements has increased over the past three reports, but some trustees and administrators remain noncompliant. Following the annual MET compliance report presentation at the December 2025 board meeting, the board directed PRB staff to research and present potential changes that could improve compliance with the education requirements.

PRB staff's initial proposed changes are separated into two categories; potential **statutory changes** that would require changes to state law that would need to be made through the legislative process, and potential **non-statutory changes** that the PRB could implement without legislation. The PRB hosted a virtual feedback session on April 9, 2026, to solicit feedback on the initial proposals and presented potential changes and stakeholder feedback to the PRB Education Committee on May 20, 2026, to receive suggestions from committee members. The PRB sent staff and Education Committee recommendations to stakeholders for a first round of written feedback in mid-June 2026. The proposed recommendations and comments received from stakeholders were then presented to the board at the July 23, 2026, PRB meeting for further discussion. The menu of options presented in this document reflects staff ideas as well as ideas and suggestions from the board.

Staff will present these proposed changes including feedback received from stakeholders at the September 30, 2026, board meeting, during which the board may vote to adopt any of the potential recommendations. If any statutory proposals are adopted, they will be included as recommendations to the legislature in the PRB's biennial report to the legislature.

Below is a summary of the PRB's updated ideas for potential statutory and non-statutory changes to the MET program for stakeholder feedback. This will be the **final** opportunity for stakeholders to provide feedback on these recommendations.

Potential Statutory Changes

Some proposed changes are broken down into further options, indicated by a, b, etc. options. These options are mutually exclusive and only one option would be adopted by the board, if they so choose.

Proposed Changes	Additional Information
Option 1 – Require systems to create an education and noncompliance policy, and the creation of guidance documents or sample policies by PRB staff.	• Potential statutory change would require systems to create an education and noncompliance policy. • At least five systems already have a policy or local statutory requirement that includes procedures for trustee education requirements, with some including additional training requirements, and steps for addressing noncompliant board members. • Though adoption of a policy would be mandatory, specific parameters of the policy would be up to systems' discretion. • The PRB would make guidance and sample policies available that systems may use to adopt a policy.
Option 2a – Suspend trustee's ability to vote if not compliant with the MET requirements.	• Potential statutory change could suspend the voting ability of trustees that are not compliant with one or more MET cycles, including both core and continuing education. • Once all outstanding MET hours have been completed, the trustee's suspension would be lifted.
Option 2a.1 – Suspend trustee's ability to vote or become an officer of the board if not compliant with the MET requirements.	• Potential statutory change could suspend the voting ability of trustees and the ability to become a board chair, vice-chair, etc. if not compliant with one or more MET cycles, including both core and continuing education. • Once all outstanding MET hours have been completed, the trustee's suspension would be lifted.
Option 2b – Suspend trustee's ability to serve on the board if not compliant with the MET requirements.	• Potential statutory change could suspend a trustee's ability to serve on their board if not compliant with one or more MET cycles, including both core and continuing education. • Trustees would have a six-month grace period from the first day they are not compliant to complete the outstanding required MET hours and report it to the PRB before the suspension would take effect. • Once all outstanding MET hours have been completed, the trustee's suspension would be lifted.

Potential Non-Statutory Changes

Proposed Changes	Additional Information
Option 4 – Provide more information and promote the individual course approval application (ICAA).	• The PRB could provide more information on the ICAA on its website and directly to system administrators. • The PRB could also publish a list of recently approved ICAs on the PRB website so systems could easily see which courses can be approved for MET credit.
Option 5 – Publish list of noncompliant trustees and administrators on the PRB website.	• The PRB could publish a list of noncompliant trustees and administrators annually on its website after the annual compliance report is presented to the board. • Systems would be notified prior to the publication of the report and the noncompliance list. • The compliance list would be updated as trustees and administrators reach compliance, similar to how the agency handles compliance issues with reporting requirements in general.