Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)
League 2019 Pension Survey

Q: Is this survey only for cities that offer a defined benefit pension via CalPERS?
A: Yes.

Q: Our city completed this survey in 2017, is it necessary provide our information again?
A: Yes. Significant changes have occurred since 2017. The new survey responses will reflect major changes to CalPERS policy (including changes to investment return targets and debt repayment policies), and underperforming market returns that have significantly changed local government pension obligation numbers, particularly for 2025 forecasts.

Q: Should Classic and PEPRA data be combined when reporting PERS contributions?
A: Yes.

Q: Does the public safety column mean only for “police”?
A: No. The public safety column is intended for any employees who are defined/classified as safety members for CalPERS purposes.

Q: We contract with CalPERS for healthcare, but not for the defined benefit pension, do you want us to report healthcare or other retirement contributions?’
A: No. The survey only seeks information from cities on their CalPERS Defined Benefit pension plans.
Q: Regarding Q8 – for “General Fund Budget” do you want the total GF Budget (including safety) or the total non-safety GF budget?

A: For Q8 for “General Fund Budget,” in the first column, we are looking for the total (both safety and non-safety).

Q: Regarding Q8: Do I include the Employer Paid Member Contribution (EPMC)?

A: No. We ask that the CalPERS contribution be the employer contribution only, excluding any amounts the city pays for the employees’ share.

Q: Regarding Q8: My city only does a one year budget, do I estimate figures for FY 2020/2021?

A: Yes. If necessary, please provide estimates for FY 2020/2021.

Q: If we contract for services, do we have to report the amount of our contract that goes towards contracted employees’ pensions?

A: Yes.