



Early Stage Partners receives fund investment

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Credit Suisse and the Ohio Public Employees Retirement System have invested a total of \$11 million in two more Ohio private equity fund managers, Early Stage Partners in Cleveland and Mistral Equity Partners, which is based in New York but operates an office in Columbus.

"These two fund managers are very well suited for our twofold mission of generating superior returns for our members and encouraging business growth within Ohio and the surrounding region," said Jennifer C. Hom, director of investments for Ohio PERS.

The fund managers selected for the program are required to have a significant market presence in Ohio and the Midwest, while maintaining a return-oriented investment strategy. Fund commitments are also targeted to take advantage of Ohio's clusters of innovation, including industrial, consumer and business services segments, information technology, advanced electronics, and biosciences.

The \$102 million Ohio-Midwest Fund, which was established by Ohio PERS and Credit Suisse in 2005, is a fund-of-funds that invests in private equity funds that focus, in whole or in part, on making investments in the Ohio and Midwest regions.

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