

Information for New School Employees



The Public School Employees' Retirement System (PSERS) provides retirement benefits for eligible school employees. Once you qualify, you become a PSERS member and join one of the largest public pension funds in the country—with more than 500,000 fellow PSERS members.

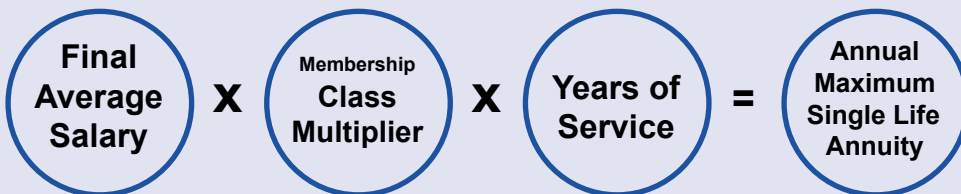
With PSERS you can get the best of both worlds when it comes to retirement income: a guaranteed retirement benefit for life plus a separate benefit that is invested and has the opportunity to grow based on investment performance.



Keep an eye on PSERS' communications. New PSERS members will receive important information on time-sensitive elections. To make sure you don't miss anything, keep your email address, mailing address, and phone number current.

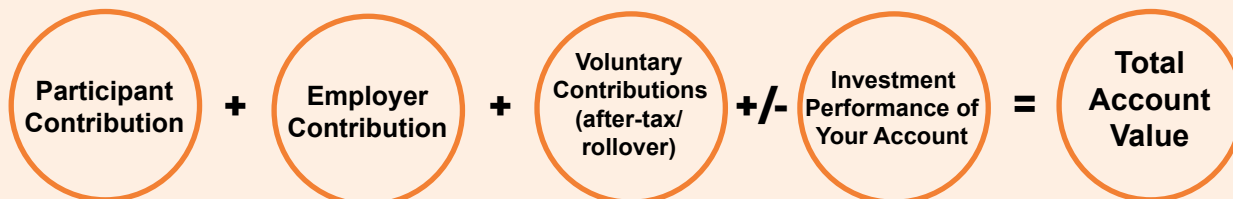
PSERS Defined Benefit (DB) Plan

In the DB plan, the guaranteed retirement benefit is based on a formula that includes your final average salary, a pension multiplier, and your credited years of service.



PSERS Defined Contribution (DC) Plan

In the DC Plan, the retirement benefit is based on the amount of contributions made to the plan, the investment performance of those contributions, and the fees, costs, and expenses deducted from your PSERS DC account. Your DC contributions and earnings, if any, are available for you to withdraw when you retire or leave employment.



Class T-C, Class T-D, Class T-E, and Class T-F have only a DB component. Class T-G and Class T-H have both DB and DC components. Class DC has only a DC component.

Qualifying for PSERS Membership

All “full-time” employees must join PSERS and start making retirement contributions on their first day of employment. For PSERS purposes, “full-time” means working at least five or more hours a day for five days a week or its equivalent (25 or more hours a week). This applies even if your employer considers you to be part-time.

Part-time salaried employees must join PSERS and start making retirement contributions on their first day of employment and must have retirement contributions withheld.

Part-time hourly and part-time per diem employees must meet minimum service requirements to qualify for PSERS membership, which is at least 500 hours or 80 days in a school year. Once qualified, service rendered for any school employer is reportable to PSERS. Refer to the [PSERS Active Member Handbook](#) for more information.

All part-time employees can choose to waive membership in PSERS, if they do so within 90 days of notification from PSERS. To waive, an employee must be part-time and have an individual retirement account. When you waive membership in PSERS, you permanently forfeit all PSERS benefits for the waived time period.

Withheld Contributions

Your employer will withhold contributions beginning with your first day of qualifying PSERS service. If you are a full-time employee or a part-time salaried employee, this will be your first day of employment.

If you are a part-time hourly or per diem employee, your employer can choose to withhold contributions for the PSERS DB plan before you qualify for membership. If you do not qualify for membership, then all contributions withheld will be returned to you. Your employer cannot withhold contributions for the PSERS DC Plan until you qualify for PSERS membership. Once you qualify, your employer must withhold contributions for both the PSERS DB and DC Plans.

The amount you contribute depends on your membership class. If you were previously a PSERS member, you will stay in the same membership class, and your contributions will be based on the rate for that class.

Please visit pa.gov/PSERS for the current member contribution rates.

Retired Members Returning to Public School Service

By law, PSERS retirees cannot work for a public school in any capacity, full-time or part-time, qualifying or non-qualifying service, while receiving a PSERS retirement benefit except under limited circumstances. If you are a PSERS retiree and return to Pennsylvania public school service as a school employee, your monthly retirement benefit will be stopped unless a return to service exception is approved by the employer and PSERS. Please visit the PSERS website or contact PSERS for more information.

Questions?

PSERS Retirement Plan Information:

Toll-Free: 1-888-773-7748 (8 a.m. to 4:45 p.m., M-F)

Website: pa.gov/PSERS

Mailing Address: 5 N 5th Street, Harrisburg PA 17101-1905

Send us a Secure Message in Your MSS Account!

PSERS DC Plan Information:

Toll-Free: 1-833-432-6627 (8 a.m. to 8 p.m., M-F)

Participant Web: PSERSDC.voya.com