

Will your retirement income be enough? Your online account can help you find out

It's one of the fundamental questions to answer when you plan for retirement: Will my post-retirement income be enough to maintain the quality of life I want?

One of the best ways you can answer this question is by using the retirement benefit estimator within your online retirement account on the [DRS website](#). With the estimator, you can run many different scenarios to help you determine what your income (based on your own current data) will be when you retire. The estimator is just one of many services you'll find in this one convenient location.

When you are ready for retirement, the first step is to request an official estimate from DRS. Not only can you do this through your online account, but you can complete the entire retirement process with the online retirement application.

If you haven't signed up for your online account yet, consider doing so. It's the one-stop location to monitor your pension benefit (including your annual retirement statement). If you're a Plan 3 member or a participant in the Deferred Compensation Program (DCP) you can access and make changes to these accounts as well.



Inside this issue

2016 legislative update.....	2
Benefit summit this summer.....	3
Retirement planning seminars.....	3
Retire online: quick, convenient.....	4
Email updates.....	4



2016 legislative update

Among the many pension-related bills that were introduced during the 2016 legislative session, eight were passed and signed into law.

To see the complete list and additional details, visit the legislative information page on the [DRS website](http://www.drs.wa.gov/legislative). www.drs.wa.gov/legislative

Here's a summary of the bills that were approved.

SB 5435 – Addressing optional salary deferral programs

After Jan. 1, 2017, anyone newly employed by the state of Washington in a full-time position will be automatically enrolled in the state's Deferred Compensation Program (DCP), with an option to stop deferrals within the first 90 days. Administered by DRS, DCP is a supplemental savings program that allows participants to defer part of their income pre-tax. Under the new law, auto enrollees will start with a default contribution rate of 3%, but will also have the opportunity set their own rate.

SB 6455 – Expanding the professional educator workforce

Are you a former teacher who retired under the 2008 early retirement factors? If so, this law will allow you to return to work as a substitute teacher without suspension of your benefits. This new provision, which includes limitations on total work hours and other restrictions, will be in effect until Aug. 1, 2020.

SB 5873 – Creating another opportunity for LEOFF Plan 1 retirees to designate a spouse as a survivor beneficiary

Gives a LEOFF Plan 1 retiree a chance to name as survivor a spouse he or she married after retiring. To qualify, the marriage needs to have spanned at least two years before Sept. 1, 2015.

SB 6091 – Definition of “Slayer”

Changes the definition of a “slayer” to include a person found not guilty by reason of insanity. A “slayer” is not entitled to receive a retirement benefit from the person he or she killed.

SB 6194 – Charter Schools

Allows employees of charter schools to become members of the state retirement system as long as the IRS determines that the inclusion of these employees does not jeopardize the status of the systems as governmental plans.

SB 6263 – LEOFF Plan 2 Disaster Coverage

Impacts LEOFF Plan 2 members who are called into eligible federal service to respond to natural disasters or other federal emergencies. It will provide them with benefit protections similar to the ones provided to members of the National Guard or military reserves who are called during a time of war.

SB 6264 – Annuity purchase for LEOFF and WSPRS members

Allows retirees of LEOFF and WSPRS a six-month window to purchase an annuity. The annuity may be purchased between Jan. 1 and June 1, 2017.

SB 6523 – Service credit for certain emergency services employees

Allows an employee who provides emergency medical services to a consortium of local governments the option to establish service credit in PERS for service performed before July 23, 2003. The service must have been performed in a county whose current population is more than 700,000 residents but less than 800,000 residents. The employee must pay both the employer and employee contribution, as calculated by DRS, within five years of choosing to establish service credit.

Benefit summit this summer

Is this you?

- PERS member (Public Employees' Retirement System)
- Worked for Washington for more than 15 years
- Would like to know more about retirement prep

If you consider attending the summit on Tuesday, Aug. 9 at 12:30 pm in Olympia. Register online at <http://tinyurl.com/DRSSummit>

Is Olympia far from you? You may need to use leave time if the seminar interferes with your work schedule. Talk with your supervisor. Look for future summits coming to different parts of the state!

This benefit summit is full. Thank you! Watch for future events in your area.



Retirement planning seminars

Are you within five years of retirement? If so, consider attending a DRS Retirement Planning Seminar. Seminars are held from 9 am to 2:15 pm Fridays and Saturdays at locations around the state. Below is a partial list of upcoming seminar dates and locations. The fall 2016 seminar schedule will

be available in July. To learn more or register for a seminar, visit [Seminar Registration](#) on the DRS website. www.drs.wa.gov/seminars

You can also view retirement planning seminar videos at any time on the [DRS website](#)

City	Date	Plans Covered
Edmonds	7/9/2016	LEOFF 2, PERS 2, PERS 3, PSERS 2, SERS 2, SERS 3, TRS 2, TRS 3, WSPRS 2 <i>This seminar is full. Enrolling at this time will place you on a first-come, first-serve waiting list.</i>
Kirkland	9/24/2016	LEOFF 2, PERS 1, PERS 2, PERS 3, PSERS 2, SERS 2, SERS 3, TRS 1, TRS 2, TRS 3, WSPRS 2
Pasco	7/23/2016	LEOFF 2, PERS 2, PERS 3, PSERS 2, SERS 2, SERS 3, TRS 2, TRS 3, WSPRS 2
Spokane	9/17/2016	LEOFF 2, PERS 1, PERS 2, PERS 3, PSERS 2, SERS 2, SERS 3, TRS 1, TRS 2, TRS 3, WSPRS 2
Tumwater	6/24/2016	LEOFF 2, PERS 2, PERS 3, PSERS 2, SERS 2, SERS 3, TRS 2, TRS 3, WSPRS 2 <i>This seminar is full. Enrolling at this time will place you on a first-come, first-serve waiting list</i>
Tumwater	6/25/2016	LEOFF 2, PERS 1, PERS 2, PERS 3, PSERS 2, SERS 2, SERS 3, TRS 1, TRS 2, TRS 3, WSPRS 2
Vancouver	8/27/2016	LEOFF 2, PERS 2, PERS 3, PSERS 2, SERS 2, SERS 3, TRS 2, TRS 3, WSPRS 2
Wenatchee	8/13/2016	LEOFF 2, PERS 1, PERS 2, PERS 3, PSERS 2, SERS 2, SERS 3, TRS 1, TRS 2, TRS 3, WSPRS 2

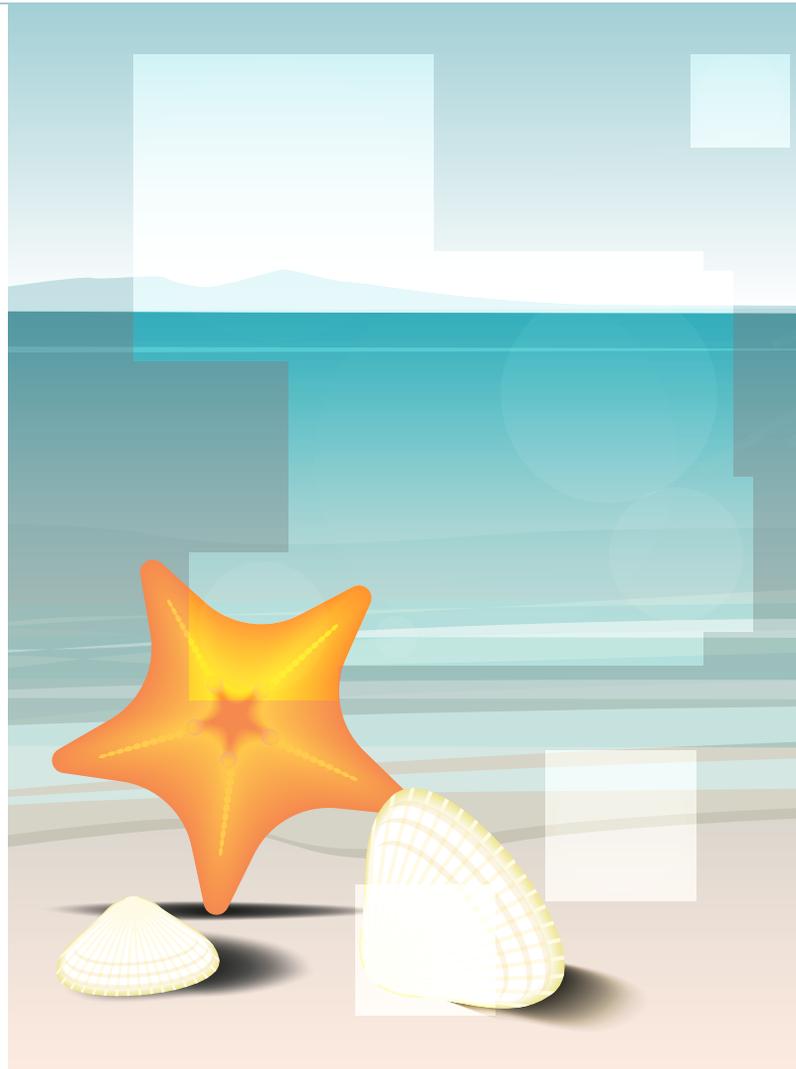
Retiring online: quick, convenient

Ready to retire? Ah, the good life. Green fairways, beaches, more time with family...

Or, maybe your vision of retirement includes more employment opportunities,* civic or charitable efforts, or that most wonderful activity of all: absolutely nothing. Regardless of how busy or how relaxing you plan to make your post-retirement life, there's no reason you can't start the journey the easiest and most convenient way possible: the DRS online retirement application.

With the online retirement application you can complete the retirement process from the comfort of home (or anywhere you have a secure internet connection). Access the online application through your online retirement account on the [DRS website](#). From there, you can request an estimate and then complete the process online. The application tool will guide you every step of the way, and keep you notified of where you are in the process.

*If you work for a DRS-covered employer after retirement, your pension benefit may be impacted. Contact DRS to learn more.



Email updates let you know "what's going on"

The most convenient way to stay on top of "What's going on?" related to your pension plan is to sign up for email updates. Signing up is easy and you can pick the topics for which you would like to receive updates.

[Sign up. www.drs.wa.gov/updates](http://www.drs.wa.gov/updates)



The Washington State Department of Retirement Systems publishes *Retirement Outlook* for active members twice a year.

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