



Empower retirement becomes new Plan 3 record keeper March 4

Beginning March 4, Empower Retirement will be the new record keeper for PERS, SERS and TRS Plan 3 accounts. Empower is already providing services to DRS customers as the record keeper for DCP accounts. The move to one record keeper will mark the start of a series of service and feature upgrades that will take place in the coming months and years.

From 1 pm Feb. 22 to 8 am March 4 (Pacific Time), a transition (or blackout) period will be in place as Plan 3 retirement balance and account information is transferred from ICMA-RC to Empower. During this time, access to Plan 3 accounts will be limited.

On March 4, you'll see a new Plan 3 and DCP website with a new user interface when you log in. The calculators and planning resources available to you will also be new. Many of the forms and publications will have a new look.

The upgrades are automatic. You do not need to do anything. However, if you haven't already, it is always a good time to sign up for online account access where you can follow all of your DRS-managed accounts in a single place.

Register for [online account access](http://www.drs.wa.gov/oa)
www.drs.wa.gov/oa

Visit the DRS [upgrade resource center](http://www.drs.wa.gov/upgrade)
www.drs.wa.gov/upgrade



DRS financial reports now available

The DRS 2015 **Summary Annual Financial Report** is now available. The SAFR provides a summary of DRS financial, membership and investment information. For a more in-depth look at DRS financial information, you can also access the 2015 **Comprehensive Annual Financial Report**.

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Annual statements for education employees are now available

If you work for an education employer, your 2014-2015 annual retirement statement is now available. You can access your statement by logging in to your **retirement account**. Statements are available for members who work for one of the following employers:

- Public school districts
- Higher education institutions
- Washington State Center for Childhood Deafness and School for the Blind

Your annual retirement statement provides a summary of your service credit and contributions to your retirement plan. It's important to remember that the statement reflects the latest information DRS has received from your employer and may not match the total retirement contribution you find on

your year-end pay slip. This may happen because contributions are posted to your account the month following payroll deduction.

If you are a Plan 3 member, you receive a separate statement each quarter which provides your contributions and account balance details. Because this information is already in your Plan 3 quarterly statement, your annual statement only shows your service credit totals.

Review your annual statement carefully. If you find any discrepancies or have questions, contact your payroll officer, or if you are no longer employed, call DRS.

2015 annual statements for all other members will be available this spring. Stay tuned to the DRS website for more on this.



DRS updates

- ✓ Retirement legislation
- ✓ Job opportunities
- ✓ Breaking news

Be among the first to know what is happening. Get **email updates** on the topics you choose. www.drs.wa.gov/updates



Consider attending a Retirement Planning Seminar in 2016

The beginning of a new year is a great time to think about your future. And there's no better way to prepare for your future retirement than by attending a DRS Retirement Planning Seminar. If you're within five years of retirement, consider making plans to attend one of the seminars in 2016.

The seminars are held on Fridays and Saturdays from 9 am to 2:30 pm at locations around the state. Below is a partial list of the 2016 seminar dates and locations. For a complete schedule, or to register for a seminar, visit the [Seminar Registration](#) page on the DRS website.

City	Date	Plans Covered
Centralia	4/9/2016	LEOFF 2, PERS 1, PERS 2, PERS 3, PSERS 2, SERS 2, SERS 3, TRS 1, TRS 2, TRS 3, WSPRS 2
Edmonds	7/9/2016	LEOFF 2, PERS 2, PERS 3, PSERS 2, SERS 2, SERS 3, TRS 2, TRS 3, WSPRS 2
Everett	3/12/2016	LEOFF 2, PERS 2, PERS 3, PSERS 2, SERS 2, SERS 3, TRS 2, TRS 3, WSPRS 2
King County	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
Kirkland	1/30/2016	LEOFF 2, PERS 1, PERS 2, PERS 3, PSERS 2, SERS 2, SERS 3, TRS 1, TRS 2, TRS 3, WSPRS 2
Longview	2/6/2016	LEOFF 2, PERS 2, PERS 3, PSERS 2, SERS 2, SERS 3, TRS 2, TRS 3, WSPRS 2
Mt Vernon	3/5/2016	LEOFF 2, PERS 2, PERS 3, PSERS 2, SERS 2, SERS 3, 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
Pt Orchard	4/2/2016	LEOFF 2, PERS 2, PERS 3, PSERS 2, SERS 2, SERS 3, TRS 2, TRS 3, WSPRS 2
Seattle	6/17/2016	LEOFF 2, PERS 2, PERS 3, PSERS 2, SERS 2, SERS 3, TRS 2, TRS 3, WSPRS 2
Seattle	6/18/2016	LEOFF 2, PERS 1, PERS 2, PERS 3, PSERS 2, SERS 2, SERS 3, TRS 1, TRS 2, TRS 3, WSPRS 2
Spokane	5/21/2016	LEOFF 2, PERS 1, PERS 2, PERS 3, PSERS 2, SERS 2, SERS 3, TRS 1, 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
Tacoma	4/30/2016	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
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
Yakima	5/7/2016	LEOFF 2, PERS 2, PERS 3, PSERS 2, SERS 2, SERS 3, TRS 2, TRS 3, WSPRS 2

Do YOU DCP?



Does your employer participate in the state's Deferred Compensation Program (DCP)? If so, DCP is a great way for you to save for your retirement. Contributions you make to DCP are not taxed until you withdraw your funds, so you can reduce your federal income taxes by contributing. But beyond the tax savings, DCP is a terrific source of extra income once you do retire. You can contribute as little as \$30 per month. It's never too late to start saving through DCP. Even a small amount contributed today can make a big difference once you retire. To learn more, check out the [DCP website](#) or [contact DRS](#).

Retire online

Are you ready to retire? If so, it's never been easier. You can retire from the comfort of your home with the DRS Online Retirement Application. To access the application, log in to your [retirement account](#).



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

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