

Pension Plus and Pension Plus 2 Second Quarter Newsletter 2020

#### Michigan Public School Employees' Retirement System

## We could all use a little more **balance.**

Your State of Michigan 401(k) and 457 Plan (the Plan) accounts are no different.

As the markets change, the value of each investment option in your portfolio will increase or decrease at a different rate of return and change the overall weightings of your investments. This can result in asset allocations that may no longer match your risk tolerance or long-term goals. It may be time to rebalance your account. Periodic reviews and rebalancing of your investment portfolio can help keep your retirement strategy on track.

Rebalancing in your Plan account means adjusting the amount in your individual investment options—that is, reallocating or moving money between funds within the investment lineup—to help maintain your established asset allocation percentages and remain consistent. Finding that balance helps maintain your original allocation while keeping your tolerance for risk at its most comfortable level.

It's great when you see your investments gain value. Increases to your investments, however, can move your portfolio allocations away from your original strategy. You may find, for example, your portfolio is now weighted more heavily in stock-based funds, which may expose you to more risk than intended. One-time or regularly scheduled automatic rebalancing at a frequency you elect helps redistribute the weight and can keep your stock and bondbased funds allocated within your desired intentions.

Whether there is market volatility or not, it's a good idea to review your investments regularly and make any necessary adjustments. This will help you stay balanced and weather the changes that may occur on your journey to retirement. The State of Michigan Plans offer ways to automatically rebalance your account(s), either through setting automatic rebalancing parameters or by using a Target Date Fund, which could help provide a sense of well-being while investing. Target Date Funds automatically rebalance on their own to maintain each fund's stated asset allocation. Generally speaking, they target a certain date range for retirement, or the date an investor plans to start withdrawing money. They are designed to automatically rebalance to a more conservative approach as your retirement date nears.

Remember, asset allocation and rebalancing, including within a Target Date Fund, don't ensure a profit or protect against a loss in a declining market, but it will help you stick to a strategy that you believe is appropriate for you when markets shift or as your goals change as you age so you can retire well. **Log-in today** to review your account and investments.

#### **Quarterly calendar**

Transactions made on these dates when the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE) is closed will be processed the following business day that the NYSE is open:

• Monday, September 7, 2020 – Labor Day

## Protect yourself and the ones you love.

#### It matters.

Is your quality of life protected for your loved ones in case of a disability or death? Protection products like disability and life insurance can help supplement your finances if you're injured and provide peace of mind and security for your loved ones if the unexpected occurs. While everyone's needs and budgets are different, here are some reasons to consider protecting yourself and your income.

#### Starting out

As a single adult, life insurance is often overlooked. But if you have any debt with a co-signer, they'd be responsible to complete payments should you pass. If you are a single parent, disability insurance could help provide the funds needed to support yourself and your children.<sup>1,2</sup>

#### **Gaining momentum**

As a newly married couple, you may have added a new mortgage and little ones to the equation. Protecting your family means getting enough coverage to replace income, pay the mortgage, and cover future life expenses like tuition.<sup>1,2</sup>

#### Balancing

At this stage of life, you may find yourself both preparing to send your kids to college and caring for elders. To protect yourself, disability coverage helps cover the loss of income and life insurance with a cash value component may help you accumulate funds to help supplement additional expenses.<sup>1,2</sup>

#### Transitioning

Your kids are all moved out and life is a little quieter. At this stage you may own your home and still work, but you're also nearing your retirement goal. The need to protect your income with disability insurance is not as great in your final working years, though you still need to protect the well-being of your spouse and cover other life expenses. It's time to reassess your insurance needs and possibly work with a financial professional to adjust your protection plan. <sup>1,2</sup>

#### Retiring

So, you've finally retired. What a sweet relief! Being financially responsible, however, doesn't stop there. Your cash value life insurance policy may be used to help supplement your retirement income. That way, you can still protect the ones you love – for life.<sup>1</sup>

Sources:

<sup>1</sup> Life insurance at different stages, Voya Financial, https://www.voya. com/articles/life-insurance-different-life-stages

<sup>2</sup> Life insurance: a Swiss Army Knife in your portfolio, Voya Financial, https://www.voya.com/articles/life-insureance-swiss-army-knife-your-portfolio

#### We're here to help you



As recent events and market volatility have impacted us all, we want to assure you that support is available.

Visit **voya.com/marketvolatility** for education, tools and resources to help you navigate the uncertainty of today while staying on track for retirement.

#### Go green with e-Delivery!

Help care for and protect the Earth by pitching the paper!

Log-in to your account and click *My Profile > Communication Preferences* to provide an email address and update your account to paperless notifications.

Select e-delivery of your account statements, and you'll get an email when your quarterly statement is ready to view.

#### **Experience Financial Wellness**



Financial wellness can help lead to saving better today and living well in retirement. Start by learning more about the six pillars we believe are essential to successful financial outcomes.

**Log-in to your account** and click Financial Wellness to start with a financial wellness assessment.

## Why work with a financial professional?

#### We want you to retire well.

One way to do that is consider working with one of our local representatives to help you craft a retirement planning and saving strategy to get there. Professionals can review your personal situation and are invested in your future. Recent research from Voya Financial<sup>®</sup> focused on the benefits of working with a financial professional. **Did you know?** 

### Estimate retirement income





**50%** of those working with a financial professional plan to learn more about calculating expected monthly expenses 5+ years prior to their target retirement date.

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**19%** of those not working with a financial professional who plan on waiting until the year they retire to calculate monthly expenses.

# Leading up to retirement - percentage of those who plan to adjust their investment strategy



Consider working with the Plan's local professionals to help guide you to wiser, more-informed retirement planning and saving decisions. The journey to and through retirement involves various financial, emotional and social choices. They can help set you on the right path toward success, then help navigate pivotal decisions that help you stay on track for retirement. Visit **stateofmiplanseducation.com** to schedule a virtual appointment at a date and time that's convenient for you or call **517-284-4422**.

Source: Voya Financial 2018, http://corporate.voya.com/newsroom/news-releases/voya-financial-survey-results-highlight-power-financial-advice

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- (**II**) **Phone** Questions? Call 517-284-4422

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