

Orientation to

Total Rewards at Washtenaw Community College



2025

For OPT Staff

Washtenaw Community College provides comprehensive, market-competitive benefits that meet the needs of our employees and their families. This brochure provides a summary of the benefits available to you.



Health & Wellness Benefits

Supporting proper care of our minds and bodies for optimal health and functioning.

Who can be covered on my plan?

Spouses and Children: Your legally married spouse and your eligible children up to age 26 (through end of calendar year). Eligible children include: your natural children, foster children, stepchildren, adopted children, or any child for whom you are the legal guardian.

Proof of Dependency: Official birth certificate (dependents) and/or marriage license (spouse) should be uploaded as part of your benefits enrollment via Bswift (our enrollment software).



When is my coverage effective?

On the 1st day of the month following your date of hire. For example, if hired on June 15, coverage begins on July 1. The benefits you elect now are effective through the end of the calendar year (December 31).

When can I make changes to my benefits?

- **Annual Open Enrollment:** This occurs every Autumn (around November 1). Any changes made during Open Enrollment will be effective January 1 of the following year.
- **Life Events:** Such as: marriage, divorce, birth or adoption, death of a spouse or dependent, the start or termination of your spouse's employment, their annual enrollment period, or if a dependent becomes or ceases to be eligible. If you have one of these events mid-year, you can make changes to your benefits within 30 days of the event date by adding a Life Event Enrollment to your Employee File in the Bswift Benefits system (via Intranet).

What if I already have healthcare coverage?

If you choose to maintain other coverage outside of WCC, you can “waive” our healthcare and/or dental plans and receive a rebate of \$1,500- \$1,650/year (divided into 24 installments annually).

Important Deadline to Enroll or Waive Benefits



You must make your health benefits elections **within 30 days from your date of hire**. If you do not, you will default into the BCBS Simply Blue single coverage plan with unfunded HSA. (\$2,831.28/year)

SPECIAL NOTICE for Medicare Eligible Employees and Dependents

WCC's health plans include prescription drug coverage which exceeds the coverage provided under Medicare Part D. Therefore, WCC's prescription drug coverage is considered 'creditable coverage' per Medicare Part D criteria.

HSA Accounts: To be eligible to contribute to a health savings account you can't be covered by any other medical plan including Medicare Parts A and/or B, you can't be claimed as a dependent on someone else's tax return, and you can't be covered by a spouse's flexible spending account.

[Review Medicare FAQs](#)



Health & Wellness Benefits

Supporting proper care of our minds and bodies for optimal health and functioning.

Our Medical and Prescription Drug Plans

WCC offers High Deductible Health Plans (HDHP):

- You play an active role in managing your healthcare expenses. Just as you shop around for the most competitive rates/cost when getting a mortgage or buying a car, you should do the same when seeking healthcare.
- You pay 100% of costs up to the plan deductible amount. The plan deductible and out of pocket costs vary among plans.
- Can be combined with a Health Savings Account (HSA). If you choose a plan with a Funded HSA Account, the College will fund up to 100% of your deductible to help with those costs.

What plan is best for me?

HMO or PPO? Both plans provide excellent medical coverage, behavioral healthcare, and use a network of physicians, hospitals and other professionals to give you the highest quality care. The difference between them is the way you interact with those networks, described below.

- **Blue Care Network HMO:** is a managed care plan which requires a Primary Care Physician (PCP); nearly all providers in southeastern Michigan participate in the plan. Getting a referral to see a specialist is easy and often managed virtually, without the need for an appointment. You continue to pay 20% of medical services and prescription copays after meeting the plan deductible, but services and prescription copays are offered at a discounted rate until you reach the annual maximum out of pocket amount. If you are traveling out of state/country, or have children attending college out of state, urgent/emergency services are covered.
- **Simply Blue PPO** provides more flexibility with providers and specialists; this often means fewer referrals. In-network medical services are covered 100% after you meet the plan deductible and prescription copays are offered at a discounted rate. If you spend a considerable portion of time out side of Michigan, or have a child attending college out of state, this plan provides a national network of participating providers.



[Review a Cost Comparison Scenario](#)



Should I take the self-funded, 50% funded, or 100% funded plan?

This depends on how much you and/or your family expect to utilize the plan benefits. If you are pretty healthy and rarely seek medical care, then you are likely to save money by choosing one of the lower cost plans (HMO unfunded or 50% funded)—you probably won't use the HSA funds the college offers. On the other hand, if you regularly seek care or have a growing family, it may be in your best interest to take one of the funded options and use the HSA funding to cover the costs towards your deductible. With all of the plan options, you have the ability to add additional funds to your HSA account up to the federally allowed limits via payroll deduction.



2025 Healthcare Cost Overview and Coverage

HMO Cost Overview							
Plan	Your Coverage Level	Your Cost Per Pay*	Your Annual Cost	Your Plan Deductible	WCC's Deposit into Your HSA	Co-Insurance 20% after deductible	Max Out of Pocket Cost**
BCN No HSA College Funding	Single	\$13.50	\$324	\$1,650	\$0.00	\$650	\$2,300
	Double	\$25.00	\$600	\$3,300	\$0.00	\$1,300	\$4,600
	Family	\$35.00	\$840	\$3,300	\$0.00	\$1,300	\$4,600
BCN 50% HSA College Funding	Single	\$33.00	\$792	\$1,650	\$825	\$650	\$2,300
	Double	\$83.00	\$1,992	\$3,300	\$1,650	\$1,300	\$4,600
	Family	\$93.00	\$2,232	\$3,300	\$1,650	\$1,300	\$4,600
BCN 100% HSA College Funding	Single	\$103.00	\$2,472	\$1,650	\$1,650	\$650	\$2,300
	Double	\$233.00	\$5,592	\$3,300	\$3,300	\$1,300	\$4,600
	Family	\$243.00	\$5,832	\$3,300	\$3,300	\$1,300	\$4,600

***Cost per pay:** deductions for benefits are only deducted from 24 pays per year. On occasions when there are 3 pay periods within a month, deductions will not be made from that 3rd pay (*exception January 2025 benefits deductions will occur on the 2nd and 3rd pays*).

****Max out of pocket:** this is the amount you have to reach before 100% of eligible costs are covered; however, after meeting the deductible your costs are reduced to a 20% co-insurance up to the max out of pocket (medical and RX). This amount is for **in-network expenses only**, please consult the [summary plan document on the](#)

Co-Insurance: Employees can contribute to an HSA via payroll deduction to cover any remaining responsibility for deductibles or co-insurance. The maximum contribution for 2025 (including any college contribution) is as follows: Single = \$4,300, Double/Family= \$8,550.

HMO Coverage Overview - In -Network	
100% Covered	Preventative Care: services like annual exams, vaccinations, pre-natal care, and recommended screenings
20% co-insurance applies once deductible is met. 100% Covered once deductible and max out of pocket are met.	Office visits, Substance Abuse Inpatient/Outpatient, Chiropractic Care (30 visits/year), Rehabilitation Services (Physical, speech, occupational - limited to 60 consecutive days), Emergency Care, Hospital Care, Surgical Services, Diagnostic Services, Mental Health Inpatient/Outpatient
\$65 Co-pay before deductible is met	Alternative Options for Care: 24 Hour Nurse Line (\$0) Online Visits: Medical or Behavioral Therapy (\$65+)
Prescription co-pays apply after plan deductible is met	\$4 preferred generic \$15 non-preferred generic \$40 preferred brand \$80 non-preferred brand 20% specialty



2025 Healthcare Cost Overview and Coverage

PPO Cost Overview							
Plan	Your Coverage Level	Your Cost Per Pay*	Your Annual Cost	Your Plan Deductible	WCC's Deposit into Your HSA	RX Copay (after deductible)	Max Out of Pocket Cost**
BCBS No HSA College Funding	Single	\$121.07	\$2,905.68	\$1,650	\$0.00	\$600	\$2,250
	Double	\$352.52	\$8,460.48	\$3,300	\$0.00	\$1,200	\$4,500
	Family	\$444.00	\$10,656.00	\$3,300	\$0.00	\$1,200	\$4,500
BCBS 50% HSA College Funding	Single	\$134.14	\$3,219.36	\$2,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$3,000
	Double	\$355.80	\$8,539.20	\$4,000	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$6,000
	Family	\$466.26	\$11,190.24	\$4,000	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$6,000
BCBS 100% HSA College Funding	Single	\$187.82	\$4,507.68	\$1,650	\$1,650	\$600	\$2,250
	Double	\$483.59	\$11,606.16	\$3,300	\$3,300	\$1,200	\$4,500
	Family	\$582.39	\$13,977.36	\$3,300	\$3,300	\$1,200	\$4,500

***Cost per pay:** deductions for benefits are only deducted from 24 pays per year. On occasions when there are 3 pay periods within a month, deductions will not be made from that 3rd pay (*exception January 2025 benefits deductions will occur on the 2nd and 3rd pays*).

****Max out of pocket:** this is the amount you have to reach before 100% of eligible costs are covered; however, Prescription coverage continues on a copay basis up to the Max out of pocket. **This amount is for in-network ex-penses only**, please consult the [summary plan document on the Intranet](#) or your [BCBSM online](#) account to view costs related to using out of network providers.

Co-Insurance: Employees can contribute to an HSA via payroll deduction to cover any remaining responsibility for deductibles or co-insurance. The maximum contribution for 2025 (including any college contribution) is as follows: Single = \$4,300, Double/Family= \$8,550.

PPO Coverage Overview - In -Network	
100% Covered	Preventative Care: services like annual exams, vaccinations, pre-natal care, and recommended screenings
100% Covered after in-network deductible is met.	Office visits, Substance Abuse Inpatient/Outpatient, Chiropractic Care (12 visits/year), Rehabilitation Services (Physical, speech, occupational - 30 visits/year), Emergency Care, Hospital Care, Surgical Services, Diagnostic Services, Mental Health Inpatient/Outpatient
\$65 Co-pay before deductible is met	Alternative Options for Care: 24 Hour Nurse Line (\$0) Online Visits: Medical or Behavioral Therapy (\$65+)
Prescription co-pays apply after plan deductible is met	\$5 generic \$25 brand \$50 non-formulary

Health & Wellness Benefits

Supporting proper care of our minds and bodies for optimal health and functioning.

How will I pay for costs related to Healthcare?

If you are enrolled in one of WCC's group healthcare plans (BCN HMO or Simply Blue PPO), you can use a Health Savings Account (HSA) to save tax-free dollars and to pay for expenses related to healthcare, prescription medications, dental care, vision and even some over the counter products. [Here is a full list of eligible expenses.](#) **Just remember** that even though you can use these funds for other health and wellness related expenses, only the costs billed to the insurance company count toward your annual plan deductible.

How can I contribute to a Health Savings Account?

When you first enroll in a medical plan with WCC, you can elect an amount to contribute to your HSA account in addition to what WCC contributes (amount depends on the plan option you choose - 0%, 50% or 100% of your plan deductible). You can contribute up to the IRS annual limits as shown in the chart below and the amount will be deducted from your payroll deposit each pay period. If at anytime you wish to change this amount, you can fill out a change form found on our the WCC Intranet (Human Resources--> HR/Payroll Forms).

[Learn more about the advantages of contributing to an HSA.](#)



The 2025 tax year IRS limits for HSA are \$4,300 for single and \$8,550 for Double/Family (including the college contribution). If you are age 55 or older at any time during the tax year, you can add \$1,000 to the numbers above. Your annual goal amount will default to the maximum allowed IRS limits unless you specify differently below.

Healthcare Plans & HSA Contributions								
	BCN HMO or Simply Blue PPO 100% Funded		BCN HMO or Simply Blue PPO Unfunded		Simply Blue PPO 2K/4K 50% Funded		BCN HMO 50% Funded	
	Single	Dbl/Fam	Single	Dbl/Fam	Single	Dbl/Fam	Single	Dbl/Fam
College Contribution	\$1,650	\$3,300	\$0	\$0	\$1,000	\$2,000	\$825	\$1,650
Employee Contribution Limit	\$2,650	\$5,250	\$4,300	\$8,550	\$3,300	\$6,550	\$3,475	\$6,900
IRS Limit	\$4,300	\$8,550	\$4,300	\$8,550	\$4,300	\$8,550	\$4,300	\$8,550

How can I save money on prescription drugs and medical procedures?

- **For prescription drugs:** Use apps and websites like GoodRX, WellRX, and Pharmacy Checker to save up to 80%.
- **For common medical procedures:** use the "Find a Doctor" feature on the BCBSM website, search for your procedure and compare costs for more than 400 health care services. You can save hundreds of dollars using this feature.
- **Options for care:** on the BCBSM website click the link that says "Find Care". Discover free and low-cost alternatives to Urgent and Emergency Care such as: 24/7 Nurse Hotline, Online Visits (Telemedicine), and Retail Health Clinics.

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Dental Insurance

Our dental plan is provided by Blue Cross Blue Shield (BCBS) of Michigan.

There is no cost to enroll in our dental plan; the college covers the cost of this benefit for you and your dependents. Employees may “opt out of coverage” and receive \$150 annually. The Plan is 80%/20% cost share = College pays 80% of claim, employee pays 20%. View the Plan document under the Human Resources Tab on [the Intranet](#) for more information.



Vision Insurance Overview



- Eye Exam Copay \$10. Every 12 months.
- Lenses Copay \$25. Clear glass or plastic lenses in any bifocal, trifocal or lenticular prescription. Every 12 months.
- Frames Copay \$0 (Davis Vision Collection \$160) or frame allowance \$150 plus 20% off balance. Every 24 months.
- Contact Lens Exam, fitting and follow-up Copay \$25. Davis Vision Collection or standard soft contacts covered in full. Specialty contacts \$150 allowance less copay plus 15% off balance. Every 12 months. Contact Lenses in lieu of eyeglasses Copay \$0.

Vision (Versant Health)	Per Pay
Single	\$ 3.37
Double (employee + 1)	\$ 6.06
Family (employee + 2 or more)	\$ 9.43

More information at <https://davisvision.com/>

Health & Wellness Rebate

WCC will reimburse employees each year for his/her personal dental, vision, or health/wellness membership fees. This includes home gym equipment, health and wellness related apps and subscriptions. All wearables such as smart watches and clothing are excluded.

\$100 Annually (fiscal year)



Employee Assistance Program (EAP)

Free resources, referral services and confidential counseling services available to employees and eligible dependents

- Emotional Health and Family Support: Use the Online chat feature, Call an EAP counselor, or schedule an in-person visit
- Request referrals: child care, eldercare, adoption, and more
- Financial and Legal Assistance, plus Job and Career Support
- [Connect with a Virtual Counselor](#)



Financial Benefits

Supporting financial stability now and in the future.

What other ways can I save for Health or Daycare expenses?*

- **Medical Flex Spending:** Also known as a Flexible Spending Account (FSA) allows you to set aside money from your paycheck pretax to pay for out-of-pocket health care expenses, such as copayments and coinsurance. When you pay less in taxes, you have more money in your pocket. *You can only have this type of account if you do not have an HSA.*
- **Limited Flex Spending:** Only a Limited Flex Account can be used in conjunction with an HSA account. If you have dental and vision expenses not covered by WCC's Health Plans (i.e., deductibles, co-payments, etc.), this reimbursement account could be for you.
- **A Dependent Care FSA (DCFSA)** is a pre-tax benefit account used to pay for eligible dependent care services, such as preschool, summer day camp, before or after school programs, and child or adult daycare. It's a smart, simple way to save money while taking care of your loved ones so that you can continue to work.

Important Notes: Limited and Medical Flex = \$3,050 max/yr. and Dependent Care Flex = \$5,000 max/yr. You must use all of the funds within the calendar year, or else you will lose them.

Income Replacement Benefits

Providing income during life's most unexpected times.

Employer-Provided Benefits

- **Term Life Insurance:** Provided by NY Life at 1x your annual salary
- **Accidental Death & Dismemberment (AD&D):** Provided by NY Life at 1x your annual salary
- **Short-Term Disability:** 100% of base pay and benefits up to 90 continuous days of disability (WCC paid sick bank)
- **Long-Term Disability:** 66 2/3% of base pay following 90 continuous days of disability, provided by NY Life
- **Worker's Compensation:** 100% of base pay and benefits

Supplemental Benefits (additional cost)

- **Term Life and AD&D Insurance:** Provided by NY Life at an additional 1x or 2x your annual salary (rates calculated in enrollment system)
- **TransElite Life & Long-Term Care Plan*:** Get guaranteed issue life and Long-Term Care coverage for your most precious asset, you.
- **Dependent/Spousal Life:** \$10,000 spouse/\$5,000 child (up to age 26), provided by NY Life

** TransElite Life & LTC is provided through a third-party. You can review plan brochures and rates on the Benefits Enrollment site. You must set up an appointment with The Schreck Team to complete the enrollment process.*

How do I elect my Beneficiaries for these employer-provided benefits?

When you enroll or waive benefits using our Benefits Enrollment site, you can add Beneficiaries who are your dependents or you can designate others, your estate, or a trust. To do this, go to your Profile --> Beneficiaries --> Add Beneficiary. You may also remove or update your beneficiaries as necessary.

Please note that the beneficiaries you list or update here are only tied to your life insurance policies and may be different than those you've elected for other accounts such as your HSA or retirement accounts.



Lifestyle Benefits

Supporting an enjoyable, engaged, and meaningful life.



LegalShield Personal Protection Plan: Advice, representation, document review, and estate planning benefits for you and eligible dependents. [Learn more.](#) Rates can be found on the enrollment site.

IDShield: This plan helps protect you and eligible family members against identity theft, fraud, and any future issues that may arise. **Add ID Shield** to your plan: rates available on the enrollment site. [Learn more.](#)

What about Tuition Benefits?

- **Tuition-free credit and non-credit courses:** Employees and eligible dependents* can register for unlimited classes at WCC. **Students must supply their SSN on their student application for the waiver to be applied.*

What about holidays and leave time?

- Twelve (12) paid **Holidays** (as determined by the college)
- **Planned Time Off (PTO):** Per the collective bargaining agreement, the amount of PTO is determined by the number of full years of continuous service completed by an Association member in the OPT classification as of July 1st of the fiscal year.
- At completion of your probationary period, you will receive **88 hours**. You will receive additional PTO based on the collective bargaining agreement PTO eligibility schedule.

Professional Development:

- **The Teaching and Learning Center:** Offers daily opportunities to enhance or update your skills in a variety of areas. Watch for the weekly email announcements every Monday or check out the calendar by visiting the Kalpa website.
- **LinkedIn Learning:** allows you free access to over 16,000 courses on just about every subject you could dream of – students also get unlimited, free access.
- You are responsible for completing 16 hours of Professional Development each fiscal year. Please work with your supervisor to establish a plan and timetable to complete the required hours.

How do I report Time Off?

Most employee use Ultratime to report absences, or to log their time worked. Training available.

What additional incentives or discounts are available?

As a WCC employee, you will have access to a multitude of additional incentives and discounts through our partner businesses including: discounts at Barnes & Noble, on Microsoft Office Software for home, Health & Fitness Center discount, and many more. [Review all perks and discounts here.](#)

How can I open an additional retirement savings account?

Pre-tax payroll deduction for 403b and 457b accounts are available. You must open an account and complete the Salary Reduction Form (on the Intranet). Contact Representatives to enroll*.

TIAA—Micah White 734- 332-3513- [Can self-enroll*](#)

Valic—Paul Downs—734-800-9783

Lincoln Financial - Kirsten Burchill 1-888-824-1330



Benefits Enrollment Instructions:

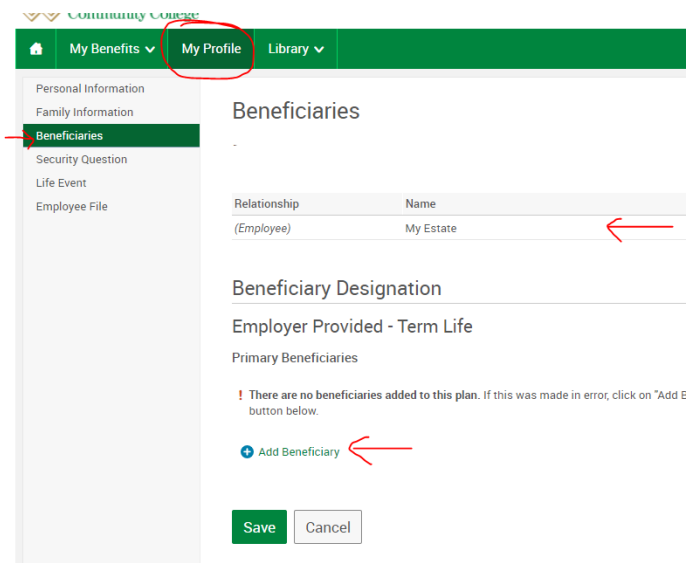
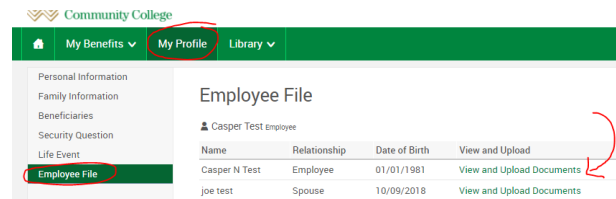
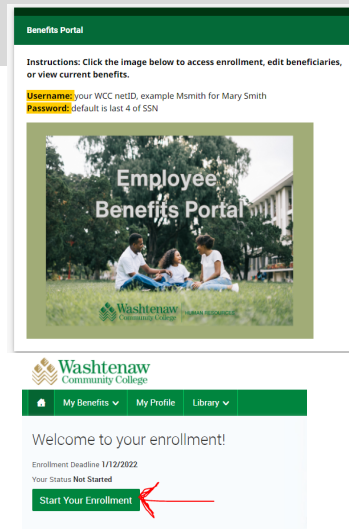
1. Go to Intranet /Human Resources/Benefits at WCC to access the enrollment site. (image of family)
2. Log in: Username = your NetID (email name), Password = Last 4 digits of SSN
3. Click "Start Your Enrollment"
4. Review Personal information (edit if needed)
5. Family Information: add spouse and/or dependents
6. Selecting your benefits – all eligible plans/benefits will be displayed
 - View Plan Options to make elections or choose to Waive Benefits
 - Choose who (dependents) will be covered by the plan
7. Review elections and edit selections if necessary
8. Check the box to Agree and Finish Enrollment
9. View, Print or Email your confirmation statement
10. **Upload all proof of dependency documents** (birth certificates, marriage licenses, etc.) via the My Profile -->Employee File Menu Option.
 - View and Upload
 - File Upload and Save
11. **Review your Beneficiaries;** add others if needed. You can add beneficiaries who are not your dependents. These are the beneficiaries for all of your employer-provided benefits such as Life Insurance and AD&D.

Benefits Contacts:

General inquiries: benefits@wccnet.edu

Andrea Mendrick: ahemphill@wccnet.edu

Benefits FAQ's





What do I need to do now?

Review our Intranet(snip below) pages for more information on specific health plans and other voluntary benefits.

☐ Within 30 days of hire. Enroll or Waive all Health & Wellness and Lifestyle Benefits. Instructions on next page.

☐ Within 75 days of hire. Elect your Retirement Plan.

Within 30 days, Review all [Federally Mandated and Other Compliance](#)

☐ [Notices](#)



Faculty Resources Student Resources COVID-19 **Human Resources** Financial & Purchasing Student SOQs Online Faculty

Start at WCC **Benefits at WCC** Succeed & Engage at WCC Offboard & Retire at WCC Wellness & Safety at WCC Manager Toolkit **HR/Payroll Forms**

Module Add

HUMAN RESOURCES Benefits at WCC

Drop by: Business Education Building, BE120 | Call: 734-973-3497 | E-mail: askhr@wccnet.edu | Fax: 734-677-5415

Your Benefits

READY, SET, ENROLL!

Leaves of Absence

The following reasons for leave may qualify as job protection under the Family Medical Leave Act (FMLA) and/or the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Employees are encouraged to contact Human Resources to fully review all available leave options as this is not an

Additional Benefits at WCC

Flexible Spending Accounts (FSA)
[Flexible Spending Eligible Expenses](#)
[Medical Flexible Spending Account-General Information](#)
[Dependent Care Reimbursement Info](#)
[FSA Reimbursement Request Form](#)

Tuition Assistance
[General Information on WCC Tuition Grants](#)
[Tuition Reimbursement for Independent Staff and OPT](#)

Aflac
Contact the Schreck Team at carol_schreck@us.aflac.com

What happens after I complete my enrollment?

1. Your Health Benefits will become effective the first day of the month following your start date.
2. You should receive notification and/or benefit cards in the mail in about 14 days (after the 1st of the month).
3. If you have elected to enroll in an HSA or FSA account, Legal or Identity Protection Plan, or Vision, you will get confirmation of enrollment and an email with further instructions in about 7-10 days. **Look for an Email from PNC Bank email to verify and activate your account.**
4. Payroll deductions and HSA contributions will begin on your first pay of the month when benefits are effective; if premiums or other deductions were missed during the 30-day enrollment window, a “catch-up” deduction will be made on the second payroll.



**MICHIGAN OFFICE OF
RETIREMENT SERVICES**
Big Plans. Small Steps.



Check out the decision guide video

Retirement Plan Election Guide

The Choice Is Yours

Your retirement journey with the Michigan Office of Retirement Services (ORS) begins with an important first step—electing your retirement plan. You have two options: the **Pension Plus 2** plan or the **Defined Contribution** plan.

Visit PickMiPlan.org to learn more about the plans. Then go to miAccount and make your election at Michigan.gov/ORSmiAccount.



Pension Plus 2 Plan

- This pairs pension and savings components.
- Your savings component enrolls you in the State of Michigan 401(k) and 457 plans.
- Your pension component guarantees you a monthly benefit for life after you meet age and service requirements.
- Pension payments are not affected by market fluctuations.
- ORS manages your pension component; you manage your savings component.

This plan may be best for you if:

- You plan on working for 10 years or longer for a Michigan public school to receive a guaranteed benefit.
- You want a guaranteed monthly benefit for life in retirement paired with distributions from your savings component determined by your employee and employer contributions and investment returns.

Defined Contribution Plan

- This is a savings plan only.
- This plan enrolls you in the State of Michigan 401(k) and 457 plans.
- Retirement income will depend on contributions to your savings plan and investment performance. Investment returns aren't guaranteed.
- Retirement income ends when your accounts are depleted. Your total retirement income could be more or less than what the Pension Plus 2 plan provides.
- You manage your savings plan.

This plan may be best for you if:

- You plan on working less than 10 years for a Michigan public school and want your retirement savings to go with you.
- You're comfortable with your retirement income being determined by contributions and investment returns.

Personal Healthcare Fund

With either plan, you're also placed in a Personal Healthcare Fund (PHF). Contributions from you and your employer are deposited into your savings plan. This can be used to pay for health insurance or other expenses when you retire.

REMEMBER YOU HAVE:



COMPARE YOUR OPTIONS

	Pension Plus 2 Plan			Defined Contribution Plan		
Plan overview	Pension Component with a Savings Component: You get a pension and retirement savings in the State of Michigan 401(k) and 457 Plans.			Savings: You save for retirement in the State of Michigan 401(k) and 457 Plans. You do not get a pension.		
How long you have to work to qualify for the benefit	Pension Component: You're vested after 10 years of full-time public school employment. If you never vest, you'll receive your contributions toward your pension back, with interest. Savings Component: You always keep 100% of your contributions. After two years, you keep 50% of your employer's contributions; after three years, 75%; and after four years, 100%.			Savings: You always keep 100% of your contributions. After two years, you keep 50% of your employer's contributions; after three years, 75%; and after four years, 100%.		
Income when you retire	Pension Component: To calculate your annual pension amount, ORS multiplies the average of your five highest consecutive years of earnings by your years of service, times 1.5%. PLUS Savings Component: Retirement income is based on your contributions, your employer's contributions, and investment performance in the State of Michigan 401(k) and 457 Plans.			Savings: Retirement income is based on your contributions, your employer's contributions, and investment performance in the State of Michigan 401(k) and 457 Plans.		
The money you and your employer contribute						
		You	Employer		You	Employer
	SAVINGS	2%	1% match	SAVINGS	3%	3% match 4% mandatory
	PHF	2%	2% match	PHF	2%	2% match
	PENSION	6.2%*	6.2%*	PENSION	N/A**	N/A**
<p>*This rate could change each year. You will contribute half of the cost of the plan.</p> <p>For example, Bobby makes \$25,000 per year and works 30 years for a public school. He contributes 6.2% toward his pension and 4% to his savings account. His employer contributes 6.2% toward his pension and 3% toward his savings. His pension income will be \$937.50 per month or \$11,250 per year. Plus, his potential retirement income from his savings will be \$332 per month or \$142,302 total in his savings account.***</p>				<p>**You do not get a pension.</p> <p>For example, Susan makes \$25,000 per year and works 30 years for a public school. She contributes 5% and her employer contributes 9% to her savings account. Her potential retirement income from her savings account will be \$665 per month or \$284,065 total in her savings account.***</p>		
<p>***These are hypothetical examples for illustrative purposes only and do not represent the performance of an actual investment. It assumes an annual salary of \$25,000, pre-tax contributions, contributing regularly at age 30 until retiring at age 60, 26 pay periods per year, a 6% annual rate of return and reinvestment of earnings. Investments are subject to investment risk including the possible loss of principal. The investment return and principal value of the security will fluctuate so that when redeemed, it may be worth more or less than the original investment. In addition, these figures do not reflect any adjustment for pay raises, inflation, taxes or any fees, expenses or charges of any investment product. Taxes are generally due upon withdrawal of tax-deferred assets.</p>						

Need more information? Visit **PickMiPlan.org** or call **800-748-6128**.

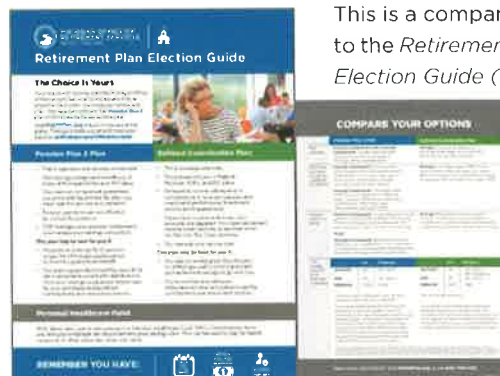


Retirement Plan Decision Guide

Welcome to the Michigan Public Schools Retirement System. You may be thinking it's too soon to be talking about retirement, but taking the time now to learn about your options can make a big difference when you're retired.

You have the choice between two options: the **Pension Plus 2** plan or the **Defined Contribution** plan. Which retirement plan should you choose? There's no right or wrong answer. Everyone's situation is different.

What is important is that you understand your options and make a choice. Once you decide, wait for your welcome letter with your member ID, then log in to miAccount and make your election.



This is a companion sheet to the *Retirement Plan Election Guide (R0606C)*.

Which Retirement Plan Is Best For You?

In the table below, check the box to the left of the statement(s) in each row that applies to you.

Pension Plus 2 Plan		Defined Contribution Plan	
<input type="checkbox"/>	I plan on working for a Michigan public school employer at least 10 years during my lifetime.	<input type="checkbox"/>	I plan on working for a Michigan public school employer less than 10 years during my lifetime.
<input type="checkbox"/>	I want a guaranteed monthly benefit for life plus the opportunity to potentially build additional retirement income from my savings component.	<input type="checkbox"/>	I want the opportunity to potentially build the value of my savings plan, which could be more or less than what the Pension Plus 2 plan provides.
<input type="checkbox"/>	I'm comfortable with managing my retirement savings component and having ORS manage my pension component.	<input type="checkbox"/>	I'm comfortable managing my retirement savings plan.
<input type="checkbox"/>	I want ORS to manage my monthly pension benefit. Plus, I want to decide how much and when I withdraw money from my savings component when I'm retired, following IRS rules.	<input type="checkbox"/>	I want to decide how much and when I withdraw money from my savings plan when I'm retired, following IRS rules.
<input type="checkbox"/>	I would rather have a guaranteed monthly benefit for life in retirement than full control over what my contributions will be during my working career.	<input type="checkbox"/>	I would rather have full control over what my contributions will be during my working career than have a guaranteed monthly benefit for life in retirement.
<input type="checkbox"/>	If you have more selections in this column, then you might consider the Pension Plus 2 plan which pairs a pension component with a savings component.	<input type="checkbox"/>	If you have more selections in this column, then you might consider the Defined Contribution plan which is a savings plan only.

What To Expect Next

First Week of Work

Receive retirement information from your employer.

10-15 Days After First Paycheck

Receive your welcome letter from ORS with your member ID that you'll use to register for miAccount.

Log in to miAccount and make your retirement election.



Make Your Election

You can make your election as soon as you receive your welcome letter with your miAccount member ID.

Although you have 75 days to make your retirement plan election, it's important to make your choice as early as possible so you don't run out of time.

Your 75-day countdown begins when you receive your first paycheck.

25-50 Days After First Paycheck

If you make your election: Receive your plan confirmation letter from ORS.

Process Completed

If you don't make your election: You're running out of time to make your election, so don't delay.

Process Continues

75 Days After First Paycheck

If you didn't make your election by the deadline:

You'll be automatically enrolled in the Defined Contribution plan and receive a confirmation letter from ORS.

This is considered your choice and can't be changed.

Process Completed

Need more information? Visit **PickMiPlan.org** or call **800-748-6128**.