



# Summer plans?

What will you do this summer? Take a road trip? Make some home improvements? Work a summer job while school is out?

## How about taking control of a savings goal?

While you may be looking forward to some summer fun, it's also important to keep an eye on your long-term retirement and savings strategy. There's no better time than today to make an impact on your future, while still having some fun in the sun!

### Get out and stay out of debt

Summer plans can get expensive, but you can have a great time without breaking the bank. Consider cost-free activities like hiking or going to a park. If spending money, creating and sticking to a budget for your summer vacation can help manage your spending to avoid debt. A budget will also make it easier to pay off existing debt once and for all.

### Don't get stuck in the rain

Many experts agree that it's smart to have enough money set aside in an emergency fund to cover at least three-to-six months' worth of your expenses. You never know when that rainy day will happen. While having that much saved may not seem possible, start by putting a few dollars aside each week in a savings account. You'll be surprised at how fast it adds up. Twenty dollars a week adds up to over \$1,000 in a year!

### Summer is the perfect time to think of back-to-school

Time has a way of flying by. Before you know it, you could be responsible for a hefty tuition bill. If you think it can wait because the kids are still young, just the opposite is true. The earlier you start, the better. A savings plan can help get a jump on the expenses to come.

### Find your sunshine

Not sure where to start? PSERS can help! Access your PSERS Defined Contribution (DC) account through the PSERS Member Self-Service Portal to take a financial wellness assessment. Just click *Financial Wellness* at the top of your DC account home page. The assessment focuses on the six pillars of financial wellness, and then provides you with a personalized summary that identifies areas of improvement and the next best steps for you to take meaningful action.

## With PSERS, you're on your way!

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