

11 action items to help you get started on your retirement journey

1. [Register](#) and regularly [log in](#) to your account(s) in the State of Michigan 401(k) and 457 Plans (the Plans). Doing so keeps you engaged with your retirement information and makes your account more secure.
2. Make full use of the time ahead of you. You benefit most from tax-deferred compounding when you're young. Saving even a small amount each pay period now will help you better prepare for retirement.
3. Take advantage of your employer's matching contribution in the Plans, which is part of your retirement benefit. You were auto enrolled at a savings rate that maximizes your employer match. Don't leave money on the table.
4. Consider regularly increasing your savings using the annual Small Steps 1% increase or the Rate Escalator feature in your State of Michigan 457 Plan account.
5. Understand the difference between pretax contribution options offered through the Plans and Roth after-tax contributions you may make outside the Plans and what they mean in retirement. Decide what's right for you.
6. Designate and update [beneficiaries](#) for your account(s) in the Plans by logging in to your account and going to **My Profile > Personal Information > Beneficiary Information**.
7. If you are in the Pension Plus or Pension Plus 2 plan, update your pension beneficiary in [miAccount](#).
8. Take advantage of retirement education. Attend a [live webinar or one-on-one account review](#). You may watch the recorded [New Employee Orientation](#).
9. Take advantage of the Plans' educational resources and tools, including information about [financial wellness](#). Log in to your [account](#) to take the Financial Wellness Assessment and read the life stage guidance. Access investment advice services in your account by clicking **More Resources > Get Investment Advice** or contact the education team to schedule an account review.
10. Watch for and read the quarterly State of Michigan Plans' newsletters sent through email. You can also find the newsletters online:
 - [Defined Contribution](#).
 - [Pension Plus](#).
 - [Pension Plus 2](#).
11. Satisfy the requirements to become vested in your account(s) in the State of Michigan Plans. You are immediately vested in your own contributions and earnings on those contributions. Your employer's matching contributions are 100% vested after 4 years (1 year of service is defined as 1,020 hours). For more information, review the [e-book](#) for your Plan.

