

Ohio457.org • 877-644-6457

Get motivated to invest in the new year

Investing in yourself and your financial future is a great way to begin the year. You can take steps toward your financial wellness by considering the following:

#### 1. Think about your reasons for saving

Knowing your goals can motivate you to set aside time and money to achieve them. Try writing your goals down and keeping your list somewhere you can see it.

#### 2. Create a budget

Having a budget is one of the best ways to track your finances. It can help you see where your money goes each month, so you can prioritize how to spend and invest it.

#### 3. Start investing early

The earlier you begin saving for a long-term goal, such as retirement, the better off you will be. That's because the sooner you start regularly adding to your account, the longer your money has to grow.

#### 4. Pay yourself first

Pay yourself first by contributing to retirement and other savings accounts before spending money on nonessentials. If you make saving automatic, you are less likely to miss the money that you don't see in your checking account first.

#### 5. Focus on debt

If you have multiple debts, aim toward paying one off. After each debt has been paid, consider using that monthly payment to pay off another debt. This can create a snowball effect that eventually eliminates your debts. You can then convert the money from your debt payments into savings.



Fourth Quarter 2023



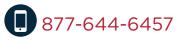
# We are here to help you invest in yourself.

One of the easiest ways to improve your financial wellness is by using Ohio DC's free planning tools. Enrich, our financial wellness program, contains a wide array of personalized tools and resources to assist you on your journey toward overall financial wellness.

Go to Ohio457.org to log in or sign up to use Enrich today.

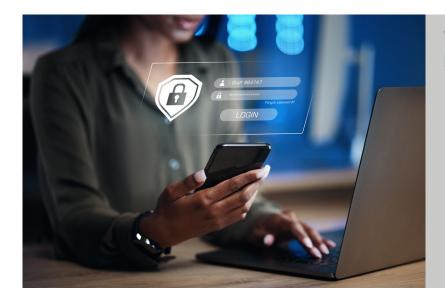


Ohio457@Nationwide.com



## Manage Withdrawals Online

With our online process, managing your Ohio DC withdrawals is easy! Once you have separated from employment and completed the necessary paperwork to receive an initial payment, you can manage future withdrawals by logging in to your account, then clicking **"Withdrawals."** 



# With the online withdrawal process you can:

- update your investment withdrawal options.
- update your bank information.
- select a different payment amount.
- request a new withdrawal for a different payment date.
- receive systematic or lump sum payments.

#### Things to know before starting the online process.

- Payments by check cannot be requested online.
- Submitting an online withdrawal request stops any existing withdrawal requests.
- The next available withdrawal date will be automatically chosen.
- Federal income tax withholding is required to be at the applicable default rates. The appropriate W-4 tax form needs to be submitted to customize your tax withholding.
- Ohio income tax withholding is required to be a percentage.

For more information about our online withdrawal process, go to Ohio457.org or call our Service Center at 877-644-6457.

## **Fidelity Share Class Change**

On December 8, 2023, investments in the Fidelity Contrafund and Fidelity Growth Company Commingled Pools were moved to Class S shares to take advantage of lower investment costs. Since Class S is a new share class, an investment profile is not currently available.

The annual expense ratio for the Fidelity Contrafund Commingled Pool decreased from 0.35% to 0.30%. The annual expense ratio for the Fidelity Growth Company Commingled Pool decreased from 0.35% to 0.32%.

With these changes, Ohio DC participants invested in Fidelity options will save a cumulative \$1,585,000 annually in investment fees.

Participants invested in any of the two Fidelity options received a notification from Ohio DC confirming this change.



# **Understanding Stable Value**

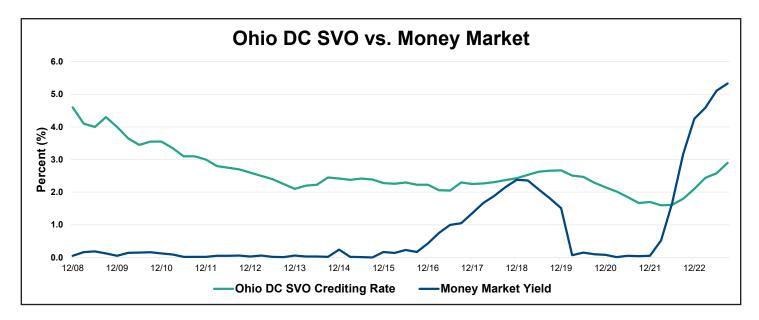
The Ohio DC Stable Value Option (SVO) seeks to provide principal preservation and a competitive level of interest income compared with short-term bonds without the same volatility, by investing in a diversified portfolio of stable value contracts and a variety of fixed-income instruments. The SVO may be an attractive investment opportunity for a portion of your retirement assets because historically it has:

- provided stable asset growth with minimal volatility.
- managed to outperform short-term investments like money market funds over the long run.
- not required assets to be invested for a specified period, making it a fully liquid investment.
- only been available within a retirement plan like Ohio DC and has generally not been available as an investment option in an IRA.

Changes to the SVO crediting rate generally respond slower or "lag" the overall changes in interest rates. Until more underlying investments within the SVO mature and are reinvested at current interest rates, the SVO rate generally reflects previous investment rates. That is why the SVO crediting rate may lag and earn less than current yields on short-term debt investments during periods of rapidly rising interest rates.

This lag has generally benefited the SVO crediting rate for the past 25 years as overall interest rates have mostly trended down. However, since March of 2022 when the Federal Reserve began implementing numerous rate increases, the lag has prevented the SVO crediting rate from moving up as quickly as money market rates. Once the Federal Reserve begins to reverse its rate hike cycle, we anticipate a reversion to a normal sloping yield curve, where stable value can provide additional yield associated with its ability to invest in longer-dated bonds (compared to money market funds) and bonds with a credit spread.

Ohio DC promotes long-term investment strategies and diversification. Most investment strategies will have short periods when they underperform their peers or benchmarks, which is the situation the SVO faces today. However, the SVO is designed to provide value over the long term.



Source: This chart was prepared by RVK, Inc. (RVK) and may include information and data from third-party sources. RVK has taken reasonable care to ensure the accuracy of the information or data, but makes no warranties and disclaims responsibility for the accuracy or completeness of information or data provided or methodologies employed by any external source. This information is provided for educational use only and does not constitute a recommendation by RVK. It is not intended to convey any guarantees as to the future performance of the investment products, asset classes, or capital markets. "Money Market Yield" is a simulation of the Yield to Maturity of the ICE BofA 3 Month U.S. Treasury Bill Index, which does not include any fees.

## Required Minimum Distributions

In 2024, if you are no longer working and will turn 73 or are already 73 or older, you will need to take a required minimum distribution (RMD) from your Ohio Deferred Compensation account. The RMD, mandated by the Internal Revenue Service, is determined at the beginning of the year and is required to be withdrawn by the end of the year. In 2024, Roth 457(b) accounts will no longer be subject to an RMD.

RMD information for 2024 will be provided in your fourth quarter 2023 statement.



### Tax Time

If you took a withdrawal or rollover from your account during 2023, Ohio DC will issue you a Form 1099-R in late January 2024. You can access your 1099-R by logging into your account.

Participants using eDelivery will be notified by email when a 1099-R is posted to their online account. If your eDelivery preference is to have a 1099-R mailed, your form is scheduled to be mailed the last week of January.

# Annual Contribution

The Internal Revenue Service (IRS) recently announced an increase to the annual contribution limits for 2024. Each year, the IRS sets limits on the amount of wages that you can contribute. These limits are tied to inflation statistics and are recalculated each fall for the following calendar year. Your combined pretax and Roth contributions cannot exceed your annual contribution limit.

#### 2024 Annual Contribution Limits

Regular	\$23,000
Age 50+ Catch-Up	\$30,500
Traditional Catch-Up	\$46,000



## **Annual Statements**

Your Annual Statement sent at the beginning of February, gives you an update on your progress toward meeting your retirement income goal. Review your Annual Statement and take action. You might increase your contributions, rebalance your investments, sign up for the SMarT Plan, update your beneficiaries, or change your contact information.



**Ohio Deferred Compensation Service Center** 257 East Town Street, Suite 457 Columbus, Ohio 43215-4626

#### 877-644-6457

8 a.m.-4:30 p.m., Monday-Friday



Ohio457@Nationwide.com



#### Holiday Schedule

The Service Center and exchange processing follows the New York Stock Exchange holiday schedule.

Visit Ohio457.org/Contact Us for the 2024 holiday schedule.

**The Ohio Public Employees Deferred Compensation Program** is a supplemental retirement benefit plan regulated by Section 457 of the Internal Revenue Code.

#### Ohio DC Board of Trustees

#### Elected

Julie Albers, Vice Chair County Employees

Randy Desposito Non-teaching College/ University Employees

Christopher Mabe State Employees Stewart Smith

Miscellaneous Employees Timothy Steitz

Retired Group

Ken Thomas, Chair Municipal Employees

**Steve Toth** Retired Group

Paul D. Miller Interim Executive Director

#### Statutory

Kathleen Madden Director, Department of Administrative Services

Richard Brown House of Representatives Louis W. Blessing, III Senate

#### Appointed

James E. Kunk Investment Expert

Scott Richter Investment Expert

James Tilling Investment Expert

#### Ohio Deferred Compensation Investment Performance Report—As of December 31, 2023

The results shown represent past performance and should not be considered a representation of future performance or experience. Past performance cannot guarantee future results. Current investment results may be lower or higher than quoted in this report. The principal value and investment return of an investment will fluctuate so that an investor's units/shares, when redeemed, may be worth more or less than their original cost. Performance data current to the most recent month-end may be obtained by visiting Ohio457.org. Although data is gathered from investment providers, Ohio DC cannot guarantee completeness and accuracy. Please see other important disclosures at the end of this report. **Consider the investment objectives, risks, charges, and expenses carefully before investing by consulting the prospectuses or profiles, which contain this and other information. Read the prospectuses or profiles carefully before investing. Prospectuses or profiles are available by calling 877-644-6457 or visiting Ohio457.org.** 

Fund Name (Manager or Ticker Symbol)	Inception Date	4th Quarter	Average Annual Returns				Expense
			1 Year	3 Year	5 Year	10 Year	Ratio <sup>(1)</sup>
LifePath Portfolios (BlackRock) <sup>(2)</sup>							
LifePath Retirement <sup>(3)</sup>	8/15/2017	8.31%	11.16%	0.51%	5.63%	4.52%	0.06%
LifePath 2025 <sup>(3)</sup>	8/15/2017	8.68%	12.02%	1.16%	6.62%	5.33%	0.06%
LifePath 2030 <sup>(3)</sup>	8/15/2017	9.46%	14.26%	2.29%	7.86%	6.07%	0.06%
LifePath 2035 <sup>(3)</sup>	8/15/2017	10.10%	16.31%	3.33%	9.02%	6.77%	0.06%
LifePath 2040 <sup>(3)</sup>	8/15/2017	10.72%	18.33%	4.30%	10.07%	7.38%	0.06%
LifePath 2045 <sup>(3)</sup>	8/15/2017	11.27%	20.16%	5.13%	10.96%	7.86%	0.06%
LifePath 2050 <sup>(3)</sup>	8/15/2017	11.51%	21.27%	5.60%	11.43%	8.10%	0.06%
LifePath 2055 <sup>(3)</sup>	8/15/2017	11.49%	21.58%	5.71%	11.53%	8.15%	0.06%
LifePath 2060 <sup>(3)</sup>	8/15/2017	11.50%	21.60%	5.70%	11.53%	8.21%(4)	0.06%
Non-US Stock							
Non-US Company Stock (Vanguard, Schroders, Arrowstreet) <sup>(2)</sup>	9/11/2020	8.60%	16.16%	1.10%	6.83%(4)	n/a	0.54%
Non-US Company Stock <u>Index</u> (State Street) <sup>(2) (5)</sup>	12/9/2022	9.79%	15.92%	1.81%	7.47%	4.20%	0.05%
Small Company/Mid Company Stock							
▲ US Small Growth Company Stock (Westfield, Fiera) <sup>(2)</sup>	6/2/2017	13.09%	22.45%	0.48%	14.94%	11.09%(4)	0.65%
US Small Value Company Stock (Westwood) <sup>(2)</sup>	6/2/2017	15.11%	17.71%	9.87%	11.55%	7.67%(4)	0.49%
<b>LANCE OF COMPANY Stock</b> Index (State Street) <sup>(2)</sup>	(5) 12/9/2022	14.83%	25.07%	1.67%	12.29%	8.84%	0.02%
Vanguard Capital Opportunity (VHCAX) <sup>(6)</sup>	11/12/2001	9.27%	25.61%	7.88%	14.45%	12.69%	0.36%
Large Company Stock							
Fidelity Growth Company Commingled Pool <sup>(2) (7)</sup>	9/7/2023	14.47%	46.36%	6.53%	23.23%	17.87%	0.32%
Fidelity Contrafund Commingled Pool <sup>(2) (7)</sup>	12/5/2023	11.37%	37.64%	7.79%	16.67%	13.12%(4)	0.30%
Lus Large Growth Company Stock (T. Rowe Price) <sup>(2)</sup>	8/1/2014	14.46%	47.15%	5.91%	16.48%	14.92%(4)	0.31%
▲ US Large Value Company Stock (Dodge & Cox) <sup>(2) (8)</sup>	12/9/2022	9.85%	17.60%	12.80%	13.93%	10.44%	0.41%
US Large Company Stock Index (State Street) <sup>(2) (5)</sup>	12/9/2022	11.68%	26.28%	9.99%	15.67%	12.02%	0.01%
Bonds							
US Bond (TCW) <sup>(2)</sup>	1/30/2015	7.59%	5.86%	-3.57%	1.38%	1.28%(4)	0.25%
<b>US Bond</b> Index (State Street) <sup>(2) (5)</sup>	12/9/2022	6.71%	5.61%	-3.36%	1.11%	1.82%	0.02%
Stable Value							
<b>Stable Value Option</b> (Multiple Managers) <sup>(2)</sup>	1/1/1994	0.72%	2.71%	2.07%	2.24%	2.23%	0.25%
	Annualized	d Crediting R	ates: 4 <sup>th</sup> Qu	uarter 2023-	-2.90% 1 <sup>st</sup> Q	uarter 2024 <sup>.</sup>	-2.95%

<sup>(1)</sup> Investment performance has been reduced for expense ratios. These expense ratios may vary from period to period. Expense ratios do not include administrative fees or service fees. See "Fees" for more information.

<sup>(2)</sup> These options are not publicly traded mutual funds and do not have a ticker symbol or prospectus. Additional information regarding the manager(s) and investment strategy is in the fund profile at Ohio457.org. The value of the securities held by the Stable Value Option (SVO) will fluctuate. The SVO focuses on principal preservation and a stable rate of return.

<sup>(3)</sup> Returns shown are of the respective LifePath Index N series. Returns for periods prior to the inception of the N series are those of the respective LifePath Index F series.
<sup>(4)</sup> Average annual return since inception date.

(5) Returns for Non-US Company Stock Index, US Small/Mid Company Stock Index, US Large Company Stock Index, and US Bond Index prior to inception are those for State Street Global All Cap Equity Ex-U.S. Index Securities Lending Series Fund Class II, State Street Russell Small/Mid Cap Index Securities Lending Series Fund Class II, State Street U.S. Bond Index Securities Lending Series Fund Class II, and State Street U.S. Bond Index Securities Lending Series Fund Class II, and State Street U.S. Bond Index Securities Lending Series Fund Class II, and State Street U.S. Bond Index Securities Lending Series Fund Class II, and State Street U.S. Bond Index Securities Lending Series Fund Class XIV, respectively.

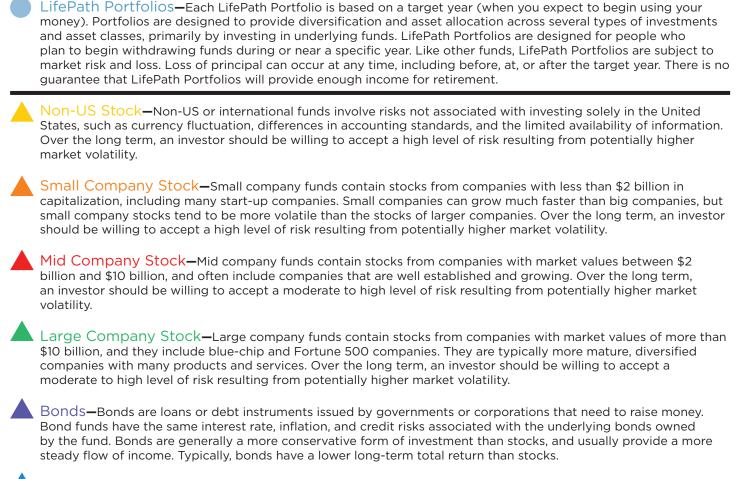
<sup>(6)</sup> This option is a publicly traded mutual fund, and it has a ticker symbol and prospectus.

<sup>(7)</sup> The inception date of the earliest share class of the Fidelity Growth Company Pool was 12/13/2013. The inception date for the earliest share class of the Contrafund Pool was 1/17/2014. Performance between inception dates of the earliest class of the Pools and the inception dates (see above) of Class S shares of the Pools was calculated by subtracting the respective Class's management fee for that period from the Pool's gross performance.

<sup>(8)</sup> Returns for the US Large Value Company Stock prior to inception are for the Dodge & Cox Stock Fund (DODGX).

Account Executives are registered representatives of Nationwide Investment Services Corporation, member FINRA.

#### **Investment Performance Report Notes**



Stable Value—These options own short to intermediate term, high-quality securities. Investors who seek safety of principal as well as a competitive rate of return compared to money market funds may invest in these options. The Stable Value Option returns are shown net of fees for investment management, custody, and principal protection.

#### **Investment Performance**

All reported returns assume reinvestment of capital gains and dividends and reflect the fund's expense ratio, but not the deduction of the administrative fees.

#### Fees

#### Administrative Fees

An annual administrative fee of 0.0014 or 0.14% is charged to each participant. Administrative fees will be charged each quarter and are based on the total of a participant's account balance(s). Administrative fees will be waived if the total of a participant's account balance(s) is below \$5,000. Administrative fees will be capped at \$55 per quarter, per participant.

Before investing in a fund, carefully consider its objectives, risks, charges, and expenses. This information and other important facts can be found in the prospectus or fund profile at Ohio457.org. Read them carefully before investing.