

# Guide to Using Your *Annual Statement of Benefits Data* in the Retirement Benefit Calculator

**When Entering Data** keep in mind the calculator is only as good as the information entered.

**Use this document to guide how you enter data from your most recent *Annual Statement of Benefits*.**

The calculator is set up to calculate your estimated WRS retirement benefits under *both* the formula and money purchase methods. Be sure to enter all the necessary data.

## Table of Contents

- **General Information** →
  - Survivor Information
  - Accelerated Payment Options (if applicable)
- **Creditable Service**
  - Calendar Year Employees →
  - Fiscal Year Employees →
- **Three-High Year Earnings and Related Service** →
- **Variable Excess/Deficiency** (if applicable) →
- **Money Purchase Benefits**
  - Projecting Future Contributions and Interest →
- **Additional Contributions** (if applicable) →



# General Information – Survivor and Accelerated Payment Options

The effective date is generally the day after your termination date of employment or your last day on the payroll.

Please read the [disclaimer page](#) before using the calculator. Your most recent Statement of Benefits contains current data that may be helpful to you as you use the calculator.

Name (optional)

Your birthdate:  (mm/dd/ccyy)

Benefit Effective Date:  (mm/dd/ccyy)

Note: This is the date your benefit is effective for calculation purposes, not the date you will receive your payment. For active members, this is generally the day after your termination date.

If you want [Joint and Survivor Annuity Options](#), enter your named survivor's birthdate:  (mm/dd/ccyy)

Is the named survivor specified your spouse?  Yes  No

If you will be under age 62 at retirement and want [Accelerated Payment Options](#), either:

1) enter your projected age 62 monthly Social Security benefit amount; or

2) leave it blank and complete the three highest years of earnings and related service fields below, and we will use a projected age-62 Social Security benefit amount from our WRS actuary.

\$

Contact the [Social Security Administration](#) for a benefit projection.

## Guide to entering your Annual Statement of Benefits data in the calculator

Enter the date of birth of the *one* person you would choose to receive a *lifetime benefit* upon your death (if you were to choose a *Joint and Survivor Payment Option* when you retire).

- If not your spouse, this person cannot be more than 19 years younger than you.

If you want to use an estimate based on your actual “stop working” age, you will need to contact Social Security or visit their website.

# Entering Creditable Service - Calendar Year Employees

From **Section 2** of your Statement

- Enter all the “Before 2000” service. Be sure to enter this data into the correct employment category(ies).
- The “After 1999” service on your statement is as of the first of the year on your statement. You will likely need to **estimate the service you will earn after that date until you retire.**

**Partial Year Example:** A general employee planning to work through **July** (Month 7) of the year on their statement, would add **.58** to the “After 1999” Service.

**See chart below**

**Full Year Example:** For each additional *full* year you plan to work after the date on your statement, add 1.00 to your “After 1999” service.

Convert Months to Decimals Calendar Year Employees Only					
Month	Decimal	Month	Decimal	Month	Decimal
½	.04	4 ½	.38	8 ½	.71
1	.08	5	.42	9	.75
1 ½	.13	5 ½	.46	9 ½	.79
2	.17	6	.50	10	.83
2 ½	.21	6 ½	.54	10 ½	.88
3	.25	7	.58	11	.92
3 ½	.29	7 ½	.63	11 ½	.96
4	.33	8	.67	12	1.00

Section 2 - Years of Creditable Service as of January 1, 2017				
Years of service for teachers, judges and educational support personnel are based on fiscal years. This statement shows both fiscal and calendar year service.				
Category	Before 2000	After 1999	After Act 10	Total Service
General	.57	14.86	.00	15.43
Protective w/ Social Sec	7.02	1.14	.00	8.16

**14.86**  
**Example + .58**  
**15.44**

For **Formula** benefits enter the following:

1. Years of **creditable service** you expect to have at retirement by employment category:

Employment Category	Years of Service	
	Before 2000	After 1999
General/Teacher/Educational Support OR Elected Official/Exec. Retirement Plan Participant/Judges (start date after 12/31/2016)	<input type="text" value=".57"/>	<input type="text" value="15.44"/>
Protective with Social Security	<input type="text" value="7.02"/>	<input type="text" value="1.14"/>
Protective without Social Security	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Elected Official/Executive Retirement Plan	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
		(Before Act 10) <input type="text"/> (After Act 10) <input type="text"/>

Executive employees and elected official in a new term of office after June 29, 2011 should add future service in the “After Act 10” section

# Entering Creditable Service – Fiscal Year Employees

## Section 1 - 2016 Earnings and Service

The earnings and service below were reported by your WRS employer for calendar year 2016. Earnings and service for teachers, judges and educational support personnel are also shown for the first-half of the current fiscal year.

Category	Year	Earnings	Years of Service
Teacher	2015-16	\$69,990.97	1.00
Teacher	7/1 TO 12/31/16	\$26,043.33	.49

## Section 2 - Years of Creditable Service as of January 1, 2017

Years of service for teachers, judges and educational support personnel are based on fiscal years. This statement shows both fiscal and calendar year service.

Category	Before 2000	After 1999	After Act 10	Total Service
Teacher	12.10	14.31	.00	26.41

**Section 1** of your statement shows the *first half* of the current **fiscal** year (7/1 to 12/31)

**Fiscal** year employees planning to work full time through the end of the current fiscal/school year will need to *add* service for the *second half* of the fiscal year to the “After 1999” service in **Section 2** on the statement in order to equal one full year.

### Example:

.49 (7/1 to 12/31) - first half of fiscal year  
**+ .51** (1/1 to 6/30) - second half of fiscal year  
 1.00 full fiscal year

1. Years of creditable service you expect to have at retirement by employment category:

Employment Category	Years of Service		
	Before 2000	After 1999	
General/Teacher/Educational Support OR Elected Official/Exec. Retirement Plan Participant/Judges (start date after 12/31/2016)	12.10	14.82	(00.00)
Protective with Social Security			(00.00)
Protective without Social Security			(00.00)
Elected Official/Executive Retirement Plan			(00.00)

**Example**  
 14.31  
 + .51  
 14.82

Judges in a new term of office after June 29, 2011 (00.00)  
 (00.00)  
 (00.00)  
 (00.00)

Add the .51 to the “After 1999” service in **Section 2** of statement, then enter in calculator here

**Full Year Example:** For each additional *full* fiscal year you plan to work after the date on your statement, add 1.00 to your “After 1999” service.

**Part-time teachers:** Divide anticipated *hours* by 1,320 to determine how much service to add in the calculator.

**Example:** Anticipated part-time hours in second half of fiscal year = 400  
 $400 \div 1320 \text{ hours} = .30$  years of service

**All other Fiscal Year Part-Time employees:** Divide anticipated hours by 1,904

# Entering 3 High Year Earnings and Related Service

**Section 8** of your Statement shows your currently reported three high calendar **or** fiscal year earnings *and* the related service.

If you anticipate higher earnings *after* the date on your statement and *prior* to your retirement date, enter those estimated earnings and the related service in the calculator.

If you expect your earnings to remain the same, enter them directly from your statement into the calculator.

Section 8 - Formula Benefit Data			Variable Excess/Deficiency	
Three Highest Years of Earnings as of January 1, 2017				
Year	Earnings	Service	Employee	Employer
2015	\$50,866.05	1.00	\$33,861.19	\$33,861.19
2014	\$49,943.04	1.00		
2013	\$49,943.04	1.00		
\$4,187 Final Average Monthly Earnings			Total	\$67,722.38

2. Did you terminate employment before 2000?  Yes  No

3. Your three highest years of earnings and related service:  
 If you worked less than full-time, enter decimal equivalent of a year in related service. See how to calculate [part-time service](#).

	Highest Earnings	Related Service
Year 1:	\$ <input type="text"/>	<input type="text" value="1.00"/>
Year 2:	\$ <input type="text"/>	<input type="text" value="1.00"/>
Year 3:	\$ <input type="text"/>	<input type="text" value="1.00"/>

# Variable Excess/Deficiency – If applicable

## Section 8 - Formula Benefit Data

### Three Highest Years of Earnings as of January 1, 2017

<u>Year</u>	<u>Earnings</u>	<u>Service</u>
2013-14	\$30,198.25	.86
2011-12	\$29,217.73	.99
2010-11	\$28,587.31	.97

\$2,600 Final Average Monthly Earnings

### Variable Excess/Deficiency

Employee	\$1,631.51
Employer	\$1,631.51
Total	<u>\$3,263.02</u>

**Section 8** - If you have **ever** participated in the Variable Trust Fund, your statement also shows a *Variable Excess or Deficiency* amount (as of January 1). This amount will *increase* or *decrease* your formula benefit.

If you plan to work beyond the year on your statement, ETF recommends you use the *Variable Excess/Deficiency Calculator* to *project* your *future* excess/deficiency balance.

- If your variable balance is now "0" (in **Section 9** of your statement), click [here](#) for the calculator.
- If you still have a variable balance (in **Section 9**), click [here](#) for that calculator.
  - *Note:* this only calculates one year at a time, so use it again for each year until your retirement date.

4. If you participate in the [variable program](#), enter your total (employer and employee) variable excess/deficiency amount: \$

Excess  Deficiency

# Money Purchase Balance – Projecting Future Contributions and Interest

Your money purchase balance is found in Section 9 of your statement. For more accurate estimate results, ETF encourages you to update this balance with estimated *future contributions* and *projected interest* for each year until your retirement date.

**Note:** If you choose *not* to add projected contributions and interest, your money purchase benefit will be understated.

## 1. Projecting Future Contributions: (calculate for each full year until your retirement date)

- Contributions are based on a percentage of your annual earnings and are subject to change each year. The 2017 contribution rate is **13.6%**.

<b>Example</b>	\$43,700	<b>Annual Earnings</b>
	X 13.6%	<b>Contribution Rate</b>
	\$5,943.20	<b>Contribution</b>

## 2. Projecting Interest On Your Money Purchase Balance

- To estimate **future** interest for each **full year** after your latest Statement date to your retirement date, first determine the *full years until your retirement*. Then click [here](#) to use the “*Compounded Interest Factors*” (Table 1) on Page 19 of the *Calculating Your Retirement Benefits (ET-4107)* brochure. Multiply the applicable rate you assume to be earned (5, 7, 9 or 10%) by your money purchase balance to get your updated money purchase balance.
- To add **partial year** interest for the year in which your annuity begins use the chart below. Multiply the rate by your updated money purchase balance if you added future interest (2,A) **or** by your money purchase balance from Section 9 of your statement. **Example:** If retirement benefit begins *any* day in September, interest is credited at 3.333%.

Prorated 5% Interest Rate											
Jan	Feb	Mar	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
0	0.417	0.833	1.250	1.667	2.083	2.500	2.917	3.333	3.750	4.167	4.583

## 3. Enter your New Balance

- If retiring in a *future* year: Add your projected contributions from 1 above to your *updated money purchase balance* from 2,A and *interest* from 2, B.
- If retiring in the *current* year, add your projected contributions from 1 above and *interest* from 2, B to your money purchase balance (from **Section 9**).

For [Money Purchase](#) benefits, enter your total core and variable money purchase balance projected to your retirement date (include future contributions and interest):

\$

# Additional Contributions – If applicable

If you made employee additional contributions or your employer made additional contributions (if applicable) they will show in **Section 4** of your statement.

Before entering your *additional contributions balance* into the calculator, ETF encourages you to add any anticipated future contributions and projected interest for the period *after* your statement date *until* your anticipated retirement date.

*Note:* Add interest to *both* Core and Variable Fund balances (if applicable) and enter as one total.

**See the previous page on how to calculate interest.**

Section 4 - Additional Contributions					
Employee Additional		Tax-Deferred		Employer Additional/LTDI	
Core	Variable	Core	Variable	Core	Variable
\$8,420.76					
\$ .00					
\$ .00					
\$ .00					
\$8,420.76					
Total portion of employee contributions (investment in contract):				\$7,100.00	

Optional (complete only if any pertain to your account):

If you have [employee additional](#) and/or [tax-deferred additional contributions](#), enter your total employee additional and/or tax-deferred additional contribution account balance projected to your retirement date (include future contributions and interest):

\$

If your employer has made [employer additional contributions](#) to your account, enter your total employer additional contribution account balance projected to your retirement date:

\$