Department of Employee Trust Funds (ETF)
Online Wisconsin Retirement System (WRS) Presentations

To access these presentations go to ETF's website (etf.wi.gov) and click on the Video Library button.

TITLE AND DESCRIPTION	LENGTH
Additional Contributions (Supplementing Your WRS Benefit) This presentation provides information about how easy it is to supplement your WRS retirement benefit by making voluntary additional contributions. Topics covered include the types of contributions, how to make them, investment earnings, distribution options and requirements.	37 min
Annual Retirement Annuity Adjustments This program answers frequently-asked questions about WRS annual annuity adjustments and the interest and annual adjustment process. It also covers general information about the State of Wisconsin Investment Board and its role in managing the WRS Trust Funds.	37 min
Benefit Basics — Your WRS Benefit Handbook Geared toward new public employees eligible under the WRS, this presentation summarizes provisions of each benefit program, all of which are administered by ETF. These include the retirement program; health, life, and disability insurance programs; a supplemental retirement savings plan; a medical and childcare expense reimbursement program; and the Accumulated Sick Leave Conversion Credit Program.	1 hr 15 min
Buying WRS Creditable Service This presentation explains the types of service that can be purchased and the advantage of doing so, eligibility criteria, how to purchase service and calculate the cost and payment options.	50 min
Calculating Your Retirement Benefits Online This program provides step-by-step instructions on how to use the Departments online retirement calculator to calculate an unofficial projection of WRS retirement benefits under both the formula and money purchase methods. Have your most recent *Statement of Benefits* from ETF in hand while viewing this program.	1 hr 20 min
Divorce and Your WRS Benefits (For Non-Annuitants) This presentation explains how divorce or legal separation can affect your WRS retirement benefits. It specifically addresses participants (non-annuitants) who have not yet taken a retirement benefit. It provides information about the correct Qualified Domestic Relations Order (QDRO) form to submit to the WRS, and the required WRS QDRO language. Processing time and the effects of divorce on participant accounts are also covered.	38 min
Divorce and Your WRS Benefits (For Annuitants) This presentation explains how divorce or legal separation can affect your WRS retirement benefits. It specifically addresses annuitants--those participants that are already retired (or will be) as of the date of divorce. It provides information about the correct Qualified Domestic Relations Order (QDRO) form to submit to the WRS, and the required WRS QDRO language. Processing time and the effects on annuity payments are also covered.	37 min
Employee Reimbursement Accounts Program (ERA) This presentation explains what the ERA program is and how it works to save you money by increasing your tax savings! It gives details on eligible medical and dependant care expenses you may be eligible to pay for with pre-tax dollars. Advantages of paying premiums for other employer benefits (life and health insurance) is also covered, as well as enrollment and reimbursement procedures.	29 min
How to Complete a Retirement Application *(Available in Closed Captioning)* This presentation covers step-by-step instructions for completing a WRS retirement application. It assumes the viewer has knowledge of WRS retirement benefits and payment options.	37 min
Now That You're Retired - What You Need To Know This program provides the answers to frequently-asked questions from WRS participants as they move into retirement. Some of the topics covered include: direct deposit, taxes, life and health insurance premiums, death benefits and beneficiaries, and return to work provisions.	1 hr 6 min

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Planning for the Inevitable (Death Benefits and Beneficiaries) This program explains WRS survivor (death) benefits payable upon your death, whether you die before or after retirement. It explains in detail how to designate beneficiaries, who you can name as beneficiaries on your retirement account and life insurance, and how your dependents can continue health insurance after death.	40 min
Returning to Work After Retirement The WRS requires a Good-Faith termination of employment before a participant is eligible for a retirement benefit. This presentation details the importance of a Good-Faith termination and the required break-in-service before returning to WRS employment. It also explains the effects of re-employment as an annuitant vs. an active WRS employee. Information about the impact on health and life insurance benefits is also covered.	28 min
Social Security Benefits This overview of the Federal Social Security (SS) Retirement and Survivor Benefits Program explains who is eligible for benefits, when they're eligible, and for which SS benefits they may be eligible. It also provides information on how benefits are calculated, when and how to apply, as well as basic information on disability and Medicare.	27 min
Wisconsin Deferred Compensation The Wisconsin Deferred Compensation (WDC) Program is a supplemental retirement savings program that allows members to make tax deferred retirement contributions to enhance their Wisconsin Retirement System (WRS) benefit. The plan is available to all active state and university employees and some local government and school district employees if their employer elected to participate in this optional program. This presentation reviews the WDC plan, offers pre-retirement strategies and provides information about the simple tools available to members plan ahead.	13 min
WRS Payment Options This presentation contains information about retirement benefit payment option selection, and describes in-depth the details of each of the WRS payments options available. Other topics covered include changing options, spousal consent, minimum distribution requirements and more. This video assumes that the viewer has already requested and received a retirement application packet.	42 min
WRS Trust Funds—Core and Variable What are the differences between the Core and the Variable Trust Funds? Is Variable Fund participation still a good choice for members – how does it affect retirement benefits? This video provides the answers to these and other frequently-asked questions about the WRS Trust Funds. The program also provides information about the State of Wisconsin Investment Board’s management of Trust Fund investments, how effective rates and annuity adjustment are calculated, what it means to have a Variable “excess” or “deficiency”, and how to cancel and/or elect Variable participation.	48 min
Your Annual Statement of Benefits This presentation is a review of information provided on the annual *Statement of Benefits*, including explanations on creditable service, the money purchase value of accounts, employer and employee contributions, beneficiaries, and making additional contributions. Have your own statement in hand for reference.	45 min
Your WRS Benefits This program is a review of WRS benefits administered by ETF. Topics discussed include retirement, separation and survivor benefits, and life and health insurance. The presentation features sample retirement calculations and an explanation of annuity options. Service purchases, military service credit, and additional WRS contributions are also covered.	1 hr 55 min