

# Preparing for a comfortable retirement

457(b) plan



## **Equitable is committed to helping employees in the public sector**

We know public service employees have unique needs.

You spend your time making our communities better every day. We want to help you make your retirement better, too. That's why we've designed a strategy that is tailor-made for public service professionals.

Employees in the public sector trust Equitable

Equitable is a U.S. financial services company that has been helping clients build fulfilling futures since 1869.¹ We apply our saving and investing knowledge to develop retirement strategies designed to meet the needs of educators across the country. That's why we are the first choice for K–12 educators and a top choice for many other public service employees.²

Pension and 457(b) plans work together

One of the advantages of working in the public sector is knowing you will have a pension, which can help cover basic retirement expenses like housing and healthcare. A 457(b) plan, which is similar to a 401(k), can supplement your pension and provide extra income to enjoy the kind of retirement you want and deserve.

How a 457(b) plan helps you save more

### It's automatic

Saving is easy because your retirement plan contributions are deducted right from your paycheck.

### You're in control

You can set your own goals and start saving an amount that works best for you. Increase your contributions up to the federal maximum at any time.

### **Taxes are deferred**

You won't pay taxes until you withdraw the money from your account, which is typically when you're retired and in a lower tax bracket. This means your original investment plus earnings stay invested, allowing your money to potentially grow faster than investments in taxable accounts.



### Start early

### More time means higher account balances

Retirement may seem like a long time from now, but it will be here before you know it. The sooner you start saving, the better.

Investing even small amounts now can really add up over time. That's because of the power of compounding. The longer you're invested, the more you can potentially benefit. Here's how it works:

### Account value when saving \$475 per month

Account value at age 67	
\$2,379,328	
\$1,594,751	
\$1,060,782	
\$697,371	
\$450,040	
\$281,710	
\$167,148	
\$89,179	

<sup>\*</sup>Hypothetical illustration assuming an average annualized return of 8%

As you can see, the cost of waiting just 5 years can be a steep price to pay later in life. Starting early gives your savings more time to grow. By the time you retire, you should have accumulated more savings that can help generate more income during retirement.

## Help from a financial professional

Working with a financial professional can make a difference.

They can assist you in creating a plan for saving and investing that meets your goals. According to a recent study, those who work with one are better off than those who don't.<sup>3</sup>



### **Higher savings balance**

23% higher savings balance for people who work with a financial professional versus those who didn't



### **Confidence meeting goals**

78% versus 60% feel confident about meeting their retirement goals (with a financial professional versus without a financial professional)



#### **Overall satisfaction**

84% versus 59% expressed a higher overall satisfaction with the performance of their retirement savings plan

### Support on your terms

You can connect with us in the way that works best for you:



Meet with a financial professional for personalized guidance.



Call us to get answers to questions or assistance with your account.



Log in to view your account balance, investment allocations, statements and more.

3 Equitable Value of the Advisor Study, 2022. Independent research conducted by Zeldis Research Associates, and commissioned by Equitable, highlights the financial benefits K-12 educators can gain by working with a financial professional with respect to their 403(b) account. These responses reflect anonymous individual opinions from the survey and are not intended as predictions of any product/investment performance, may not represent the experience of any other plan participant, and should not be relied upon as basis for any purchase decision. Equitable Financial Life Insurance Company (Equitable Financial) and its affiliates do not guarantee the accuracy or applicability of the information included in these responses. These responses were collected by Zeldis Research, a third-party vendor not affiliated with Equitable Financial or its affiliates.

## The more you save, the less you'll pay in taxes

When you make contributions directly into a retirement savings plan, those amounts don't get taxed. You'll see the difference in your paycheck.

For example, if your annual salary is \$50,000 before taxes and you contribute 5% or \$2,500 to your 457(b) plan, you will only pay taxes on \$47,500. As you increase your contributions, you'll reduce your tax bill even more.

\$50,000 annual pretax income				
If you contribute this much to your 457(b) pretax:	\$2,500 (5%)	\$5,000 (10%)	\$7,500 (15%)	
Your taxable income will be:	\$47,500	\$45,000	\$42,500	
And you will pay the following in income taxes:4	\$5,700	\$5,400 O more in your p	\$5,100 ocket	

Better yet, you won't pay taxes on earnings as you continue saving for retirement. This tax savings gives you more principal to invest, which means your money should grow faster.

Keep in mind you will have to pay taxes when you withdraw money from your account. However, you should be in a lower tax bracket after you retire or you can do some tax planning to minimize your tax liability.

Even if you save for retirement with a Roth 457(b) using after-tax contributions, you'll still achieve tax savings in the long-term because your investments grow tax-deferred. Roth accounts have the added benefit of tax-free withdrawals in retirement.

Start taking advantage of your 457(b) plan by enrolling today!

### Take an important step toward a comfortable retirement.

Start participating in your 457(b) retirement plan today. If you have any questions, please contact your financial professional.

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