

Schwab Personal Choice Retirement Account® (PCRA)

OPERS Fact Sheet

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Schwab Personal Choice Retirement Account is a self-directed brokerage account designed to complement your Ohio Public Employees Retirement System (OPERS) retirement plan core investments. PCRA gives you greater access to thousands of additional investment choices.

Who should choose to invest through PCRA?

Schwab PCRA is for *knowledgeable* investors who understand the risks associated with many of the investment choices available through PCRA and who are committed to staying invested for the long-term. PCRA is designed for individuals who seek more flexibility, increased diversification and a greater role in managing their retirement savings.

How does PCRA differ from a typical brokerage account?

PCRA is different than a typical retail brokerage account because it is part of your retirement plan. Because your assets are part of a retirement plan, your investments are tax-deferred. You can only fund your PCRA through transfers from your OPERS retirement plan core investments.

A significant difference is that your PCRA can only be used to invest in mutual funds and Exchange-Traded Funds (ETFs) offered at Schwab, based on the provisions of your plan. If you have any other accounts with Schwab, such as an Individual Retirement Account (IRA), you cannot transfer assets between such accounts and PCRA. All restrictions imposed through your OPERS retirement plan apply to the money transferred to PCRA.

What investments are available through PCRA?

Through PCRA, you may access more than 8,700 mutual funds from over 600 well-known fund families, including over 2,700 funds typically available only to institutional clients. Over 3,800 mutual funds are available with no-loads and no-transaction fees¹. Other eligible investments include Exchange-Traded Funds (ETFs)². All ETFs listed on the U.S. or Canadian exchanges are commission-free across all mobile, automated phone and web trading channels⁵.

Ineligible investments include: stocks, bonds, leveraged ETFs, currencies, short sales, private placements, commodities, precious metals, real estate, futures, margin accounts, collectibles, and options.

Note: Investors should carefully consider information contained in the prospectus, including investment objectives, risks, trading policies, charges and expenses. You can request a prospectus by calling Schwab's dedicated PCRA Call Center at 1-888-393-PCRA (7272). You may also request a prospectus online at www.schwab.com/prospectus. Please read the prospectus carefully before investing.

How do I open my PCRA?

1. Log in to your OPERS online account and click "View your Member-Directed Account" or "View the Defined Contribution portion of your account."
2. Go to the **Self-Directed Brokerage Account** page under "Investments & Research."
3. Click on the "**Open an Account**" link.
4. Follow the steps to complete your online application, also known as a Limited Power of Attorney (LPOA) Form for a Participant, and click "Submit."
5. You will be automatically prompted to set up a "First Time Users" identity for the Schwab site. You'll need to input your SSN, new PCRA number, date of birth and phone number for this step.
6. Your PCRA is now ready to be funded, and you can begin researching investment opportunities.
7. You will receive welcome materials from Schwab in a few days.

How do I transfer money into my PCRA?

Once your Schwab PCRA is established, you fund your PCRA by transferring money through your OPERS employer-sponsored plan in a two-step process:

- Decide on the amount to transfer, but not greater than 90% of your OPERS core fund balance.
- Initiate the transfer through your OPERS online account or with assistance from a helpline counselor at 1-866-673-7748.

How do I place trades and manage my PCRA balance?

- Place trades and manage your account through Schwab's electronic channels, such as Schwab.com, mobile applications, and automated phone services.³
- For Schwab.com, log in and select your PCRA number to manage your account. Select "Research" to narrow down your choices, then click on "Trade" to place trade orders.
- For phone services, call 1-888-393-PCRA (7272) to speak to a dedicated PCRA Call Center representative, to access TeleBroker® touch tone service, or to use Schwab by Phone™ voice recognition service or to enroll in voice ID. PCRA Registered Representatives are available Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. (ET). Outside of these hours, Schwab Investor Service Center representatives are available 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

What does it cost?

- Transaction fees and trading commissions are outlined in the *Charles Schwab Pricing Guide for Retirement Plan Accounts* provided in the welcome materials you receive from Schwab after opening your account.
- Please note that there is no charge from Schwab to open or maintain a PCRA. However, your Retirement Plan Provider may charge an annual fee.

What information is available to help me learn about and select investments?

- Powerful proprietary research tools on Schwab.com, such as the *Schwab Mutual Fund OneSource Select List®*⁷, as well as mutual fund commentary and insight.
- Access to mutual fund screener tools to help you choose your investments.
- Knowledgeable PCRA Call Center representatives who can help with investing information.
- Online or in-person investing workshops led by Schwab investment professionals covering timely topics.
- Find information about PCRA at www.schwab.com/pcra.
- Once logged into your PCRA on Schwab.com, view the PCRA "how-to" video (schwab.com/pcrahowto), as well as other helpful information contained in the "PCRA Resources" section.
- Over 365 Schwab branch offices nationwide to help with your other investing needs.

How do I invest the money in my PCRA?

Assets transferred from your OPERS employer-sponsored plan into your PCRA will be automatically allocated into the cash sweep feature⁴ in your PCRA within approximately two business days. Use these assets to purchase the securities you have selected.

Can I make direct payroll contributions to my PCRA?

No. Money can only be transferred from the OPERS core investment options into your PCRA.

What cash options are available in PCRA?

Your cash balances are swept into a multiple-bank cash feature product providing up to \$500,000 FDIC insurance to your cash balance⁴. The cash feature is not intended to be a long-term investment. If you desire to maintain cash balances for other than a short-term period and/or are seeking the highest yields currently available in the market, you can use Schwab purchased money market funds. This option is available outside of the Cash Features Program to help maximize your return potential, consistent with your investment objectives and risk tolerance.

Please note: Charles Schwab & Co. Inc. is not an FDIC insured institution and deposit insurance cover the failure of an insured bank. Certain conditions must be satisfied for FDIC insurance coverage to apply. Bank Sweep deposits are held at one or more FDIC-insured Banks. Please see the [Cash Features Program Disclosure Statement](#) for a list of the banks. **Non-deposit products, including Schwab purchased money market funds, are not insured by the FDIC; are not deposits; and may lose value.**

How do I transfer money from my PCRA back to the other core investments in my retirement plan?	If required, visit Schwab.com or call the PCRA Call Center to liquidate securities to make cash available for transfer. As soon as settled cash is available in the cash sweep feature in your PCRA, you may transfer the assets back to your OPERS retirement plan core investments. Initiate the transfer through your OPERS online account or with assistance from a helpline counselor at 1-866-673-7748.
Who provides my PCRA statements?	Schwab will send you a PCRA statement each month regardless of activity. You can access your PCRA statement, see your balance, and view all transactions made within the last two years by logging into your PCRA on Schwab.com. You can enroll in Schwab's Paperless Service and electronically receive your statements, trade confirms, and other regulatory materials via email by going to www.schwab.com/paperless .
Is there a minimum transfer required?	No. There is no minimum transfer amount as long as requirements for establishing and maintaining an account are met.
Can I still participate in the PCRA when I terminate employment?	Yes. You can still participate in the PCRA as long as you have an OPERS Individual Account and meet the other requirements.
How are the funds invested in the PCRA affected when the OPERS rebalance feature is used?	Funds invested in the PCRA are not affected when using the rebalance feature associated with your OPERS retirement plan core investments. You will be responsible for adjusting those balances held in the PCRA mutual funds. Following a transfer of funds into the PCRA, you will need to reestablish the OPERS rebalance feature.
What do I need to do when I apply for retirement from or a refund of my Member-Directed or Combined Plan?	To speed up the processing of your retirement or refund, you will need to liquidate your mutual fund holdings in your PCRA and move those assets back to your OPERS core investments. Your retirement or refund will not be processed until you move the assets.

Investment and Insurance Products: Not a Deposit • Not FDIC Insured • Not Insured by any Federal Government Agency • No Bank Guarantee • May Lose Value

¹ For participants who utilize the Personal Choice Retirement Account (PCRA), the following fees and conditions may apply:

Trades in no-load mutual funds available through Mutual Funds OneSource service (including Schwab Funds) as well as certain other funds, are available without transaction fees when placed through schwab.com or our automated phone channels. Schwab reserves the right to change the funds we make available without transaction fees and to reinstate fees on any funds. Funds are also subject to management fees and expenses.

Charles Schwab & Co., Inc., member SIPC, receives remuneration from fund companies for record keeping, shareholder services and other administrative services for shares purchased through its Mutual Fund OneSource service. Schwab also may receive remuneration from transaction fee fund companies for certain administrative services.

² All ETFs are subject to management fees and expenses.

³ Requires a wireless signal or mobile connection. Access to Electronic Services may be limited or unavailable during periods of peak demand, market volatility, systems upgrade, maintenance, or for other reasons. **Functionality may vary by operating system and/or device. Mobile carrier data charges may apply.**

⁴ Funds deposited at Program Banks via the Bank Sweep for Benefit Plans feature are, subject to the satisfaction of certain conditions, eligible for FDIC insurance up to \$250,000 per Program Bank, per ownership category, and subject to the FDIC rules concerning aggregation. A list of the Program Banks can be found at www.schwab.com/legal/cash-features-disclosure-statement. You are responsible for monitoring the total amount of deposits you maintain directly with the Program Banks in an individual retirement account or self-directed employee benefit plan account. Because deposit insurance rules are complex, you may want to contact the FDIC or use the FDIC's online tool, Electronic Deposit Insurance Estimator (fdic.gov/edie), to estimate your total coverage.

⁵ The standard electronic \$0 commission does not apply to large block transactions requiring special handling, restricted stock transactions, trades placed directly on a foreign exchange, transaction-fee mutual funds, futures, or fixed income investments. Options trades will be subject to the standard \$.65 per-contract fee. Service charges apply for trades placed through a broker (\$25). Exchange process, ADR, foreign transaction fees for trades placed on the US OTC market, and Stock Borrow fees still apply. See the Pricing Guide for Retirement Plan and Health Savings Accounts for full fee and commission schedules.

Schwab Personal Choice Retirement Account® (PCRA) is offered through Charles Schwab & Co., Inc. (Member SIPC), a registered broker-dealer which also provides other brokerage and custody services to its customers.

The Charles Schwab Corporation provides services to retirement and other benefit plans and participants through its separate but affiliated companies and subsidiaries: Charles Schwab Trust Bank, Member FDIC; Charles Schwab & Co., Inc., Member SIPC; and Schwab Retirement Plan Services, Inc. Trust, custody, and deposit products and services are offered by Charles Schwab Trust Bank. Brokerage products, services are offered by Charles Schwab & Co., Inc. Schwab Retirement Plan Services, Inc. provides recordkeeping and related services with respect to retirement plans.

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