



Optional Retirement Plan for Higher Education

Choose the Plan and Provider That's Right for You

As a new college or university president, chancellor or faculty member engaged in teaching, administration or research, you have a choice in retirement plans. Depending on your membership date, you are eligible for a Virginia Retirement System (VRS) defined benefit plan or the Hybrid Retirement Plan. Or, you may elect a VRS Optional Retirement Plan for Higher Education (ORPHE) defined contribution plan.

You have a 60-day window to elect your plan, beginning on your hire or rehire date. No matter which plan you choose, be sure to register for or log into your myVRS account to compare plans and use the plan comparison calculator. You will elect your plan using the online election process in myVRS.

Compare and Select Plans in **myVRS**

You can compare and contrast your retirement plan options in myVRS. Log into or register for your myVRS account at myvrs.varetire.org. Once logged in, you will see a message indicating how much time you have remaining to select a retirement plan. Your plan election is irrevocable. If you do not make your plan election within 60 days, you automatically will be covered under the applicable VRS defined benefit plan or Hybrid Retirement Plan, based on your hire date.



Evaluate key plan features: Evaluate features of the VRS and ORPHE plans based on answers to key questions, including:

- What are your options if you leave employment but do not retire?
- How much control will you have over your plan?
- What's your comfort level with investment risk?

View projected retirement income: Use the plan comparison calculator to view your projected retirement income under VRS and ORPHE plans. View the projection in today's dollars or future dollars, monthly or annually. See how your projected income changes after adjusting certain assumptions, such as your salary or rate of return.



Other Benefits to Consider When Choosing Your Plan



Your benefits will vary depending on the plan you select. For a detailed comparison of the benefits offered by the ORPHE and other VRS plans that may be available to you, view the online plan comparison guide that matches your membership date. A few key factors to consider:

- Employer contribution amounts
- How long you plan to work for a VRS-participating employer
- Portability
- The amount of your estimated defined benefit
- Cost-of-Living Adjustments (COLAs)
- Retirement eligibility age
- Life insurance and disability offerings

Choose an Investment Provider

If you elect ORPHE, you will choose one of two investment providers. You can compare providers as part of the plan-election process in myVRS. You also may view a provider comparison guide at www.orphe.varetire.org.



	
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www.orphe.varetire.org/dcp 1-877-327-5261, option 1 1-800-669-7471 (TDD)	www.tiaa.org/vrs 1-800-842-2252

Need Additional Information?

Check with your employer’s human resource office, or contact VRS.



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