



# Bring your dreams to life

with your group retirement savings program



 **Desjardins**  
Insurance  
Life • Health • Retirement

# You have dreams for the future. We'll help make them come true.

Your employer\* has chosen Desjardins Insurance to provide a group savings program focused on supporting your financial wellness. Participating in this program is one of the best decisions you can make—it's designed to financially empower you to reach your goals.

This guide lets you discover Desjardins Insurance's tools and services and gives you quick tips on how to get the most from your workplace savings program.\*\*

\* The terms employer and employee may also include an association or a union and its members.

\*\* We recommend that you assess with a qualified advisor how this program complements your overall financial strategy.

Here are some of the many advantages you just can't get on your own:

- Expert guidance and support
- A wide selection of closely monitored investment funds
- Hassle-free investment options
- Lower investment fees<sup>1</sup>, thanks to group buying power
- The benefits of payroll deductions:
  - Immediate tax savings, for most plans
  - Disciplined investing, that helps make the most of market swings<sup>2</sup>
- The opportunity to top up your savings with employer matching contributions, if available

<sup>1</sup> Fees are lower than those typically charged outside of a group plan.

<sup>2</sup> By investing equal amounts at regular intervals, you're smoothing out market fluctuations.

## Grow your savings faster— Thanks to lower fees, and the power of compounding

To take full advantage of the lower investment fees negotiated on your behalf, consider transferring your personal savings into the group program (subject to plan rules). It's a great way to get **all** your savings working harder for you!

### A winning strategy

By saving on a regular basis, even modest contributions can make a big difference over time—thanks to payroll deductions, compounding (earnings on your earnings), and lower fees.



### Illustration<sup>3</sup> of how a 1.5% fee difference impacts a \$50,000 investment over 20 years.



<sup>3</sup> Hypothetical illustration that neither reflects any given investment fund, nor promises any guarantees or rights to the benefits. Investment growth is tax-deferred. The extra earnings represent how much is saved in fees and the compounding growth of those savings.

<sup>4</sup> Assumes a gross rate of return of 6% and investment management fees of 2% (based on Morningstar's August 31, 2020 assessment of average fees on individual-level Canadian neutral balanced mutual funds, of 2.09%—not subject to front- or back-end loads).

<sup>5</sup> Assumes a gross rate of return of 6% and investment fees of 0.5% (corresponding to the average investment fees of the Desjardins Insurance Group retirement savings pooled funds identified by Morningstar as *Canadian neutral balanced*).

# Start with a plan

Whether saving for retirement, or a short- to medium-term goal—such as building an emergency fund, returning to school or purchasing a home—you'll need to plan.

A financial plan is the best way to make your dreams a reality. If you already have one, now is a good time to look at it again. Priorities can change and your plan should too.

|  | My goals | Amount needed to achieve them |
|--|----------|-------------------------------|
| <p><b>1</b></p> <p>Take some time to think about your goals and the amount you'll need to achieve them.</p>    |          |                               |
| <p><b>2</b></p> <p>Next, write down your goals. Doing so is a great first step towards making them happen.</p> |          |                               |
| <p><b>3</b></p>  |          |                               |

## Think about how much you'll need for retirement

Public pension plans are designed to replace only about 40% of the average Canadian income. A common rule of thumb is that you'll need approximately 70% of your final annual income to maintain your standard of living during retirement.

Source: Fraser Institute. 2014. *The Reality of Retirement Income in Canada*.

To determine the amount you need to save, ask yourself two questions: *How many years until my retirement?* and *What other sources of income can I count on?*

Here are a few examples<sup>6</sup> that show how much personal savings is required to meet various annual retirement income goals.



Joanne



Nick and Karen



Stephen

|                                | Joanne                       | Nick and Karen               | Stephen                        |
|--------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Annual retirement income goal  | \$30,000                     | \$50,000                     | \$70,000                       |
| <b>Personal savings needed</b> | <b>\$300,000<sup>7</sup></b> | <b>\$550,000<sup>8</sup></b> | <b>\$1,050,000<sup>7</sup></b> |

Use the online **On Target Retirement<sup>®</sup>** goal tracker to determine how much you need to save to reach your target income.

<sup>6</sup> Examples presented in the table are for illustrative purposes only. They're based on the following assumptions: a retirement in 2020 at age 65, an interest rate of 1.88%, entitlement to government pension benefits (CPP/QPP and OAS) and pension amounts indexed to inflation at 2%.

<sup>7</sup> Assumes a single life only annuity, guaranteed 10 years.

<sup>8</sup> Assumes a joint life 60% survivor annuity, guaranteed 10 years.

# Step 1 | Create and access your account

Before getting started, **make sure you have your group and plan member (or employee) numbers handy**. Your group number is identified in the *Summary of your Group retirement savings program* or is provided by your employer, along with your plan member (or employee) number.

## Two ways to do so:

**Go to** → [dfs.ca/grouplanmember](https://dfs.ca/grouplanmember)

Below the image, a tutorial is there to guide you. Or, just follow these steps:

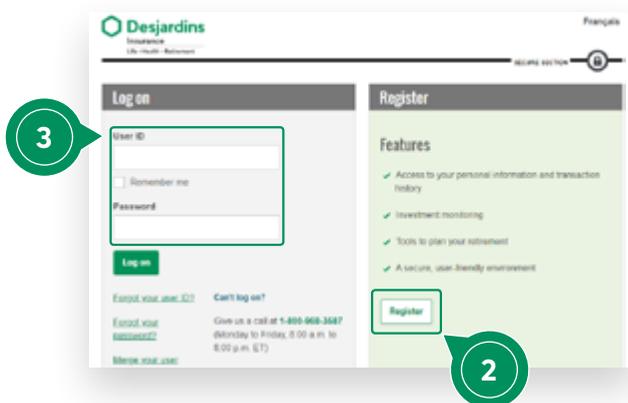
- 1 In the image, click the green **Go** button, located under *Log on to your account*.



On the Log on/Register page shown below:

- 2 Click the **Register** button in the right-hand section.

Create your user ID and password by entering and validating your identification information (including your group number and plan member or employee number).



- 3 **Access your account** by entering your newly-created user ID and password in the left-hand section. Click **Log on** and you're in!

**Download** → **Omni, our mobile app**



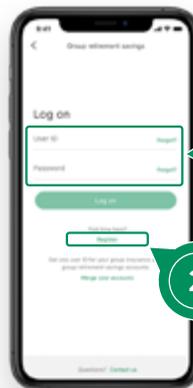
Click through the welcome screens to discover what the app has to offer.

- 1 On the Omni home screen, select **Group retirement savings**.



On the Log on screen shown below:

- 2 Click the **Register** link, located under the *Log on* button.



Create your user ID and password by entering and validating your identification information (including your group number and plan member or employee number).

- 3 **Access your account** by entering your newly-created user ID and password in the top section. Click **Log on** and you're in!



**Learn more about Omni**

Visit [desjardinslifeinsurance.com/omni](https://desjardinslifeinsurance.com/omni)

# Step 2 | Set off on the right track

Now that you've created your account, discover the Group retirement savings home page—it gives you access to your savings and everything you need to make them grow.

## Getting to know you

You're unique and so are your goals, your financial situation and your comfort with market swings. The savings decisions you make should reflect this. Here's how to get started:

### 1 Your investor profile

Determine your investor type by completing the short questionnaire, under *My account > Investor profile*.

### 2 Your retirement goals

Use the **On Target Retirement**<sup>®</sup> goal tracker, available on the home page or under *My account*.

Complete the details about your current savings situation and tell us when you want to retire and the income you're targeting. Try out various scenarios—different retirement ages, target retirement incomes and savings—and see how these changes could impact your future.

### 3 Your investment instructions

Verify how your savings are invested. The goal tracker helps determine if your instructions match your investor profile. To review and make a change, click **Provide investment instructions**, under *My transactions*.

Consult your investment options document for details.

### 4 Your savings amount

Try to save as much as you can.<sup>9</sup> Even a small increase can make a big difference in the long run. And if your employer is offering a matching contribution, don't miss out!

Want to make a change? Go to **Contribute**, under *My transactions*.

If payroll deduction changes can't be submitted online, contact your employer.

<sup>9</sup> Contribution amounts may be subject to plan rules and government limits. For your plan rules, refer to the *Summary of your Group retirement savings program*. For contribution limits, visit the Canada Revenue Agency website or consult your last Notice of Assessment.

## Is all your information up to date?

### Your profile

Make sure your information is accurate and complete (including your email) so we can stay in touch and keep you informed. In the top right-hand corner, click:



### Your beneficiaries

Review and update, if needed, the named beneficiaries for each of your plans. In the top menu, click *My account > Beneficiaries*.

## To keep in mind

While choosing the right investments is important, don't overlook how much you're saving—it's generally the most important factor in reaching your goals.

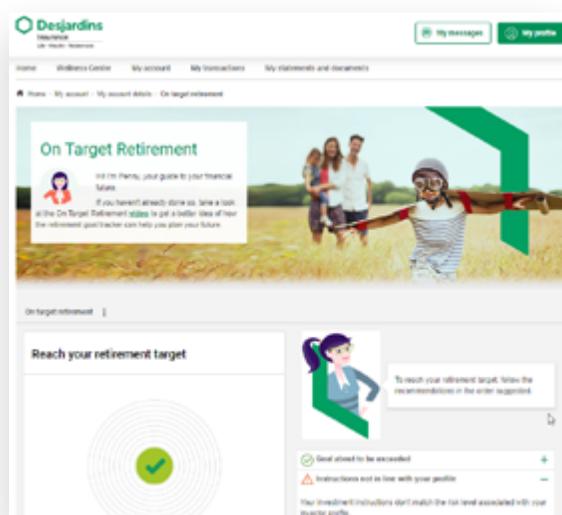


# Step 3 | Take full advantage of your program

You can count on Penny, your virtual guide, to show you how.

## On Target Retirement®

Make the most of the goal tracker. In addition to exploring how different choices will move you closer to your financial goal, pay attention to Penny's ongoing recommendations. She'll let you know where you stand and how to get where you want to go!



**Are videos more your style?** Straight off your Home page, there's a personalized video ready to guide you as well as other snappy videos to help clarify savings concepts.

## Keep checking back to stay on track

Available at any time—on your smartphone, laptop or tablet—your online financial planning tools and group savings statements will help you keep an eye on your savings, and track your progress towards reaching your goals.

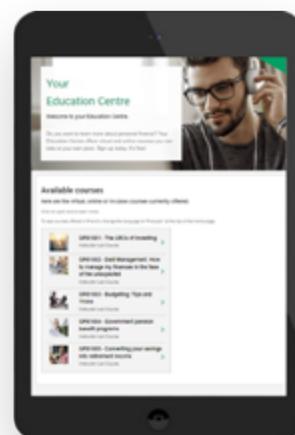
## Another savings goal in mind?

Participating in another plan, if you're eligible, might help you reach it. The *Summary of your Group retirement savings program* provides all the details. If you're ready to sign up, click **Enrol**, under *My transactions*.

## Other money matters on your mind?

Click **Wellness Centre** for practical resources that will help you build healthy financial habits and achieve peace of mind.

Under the **Education Centre**, benefit from interactive online classes addressing various personal finance topics. Sign up—according to your schedule, and sign in—with your preferred device.



## With you, for life

Your group savings program is designed to follow you. So no matter where life takes you, you get to keep many of the exclusive benefits you've grown accustomed to—including our support.

# What does financial wellness mean to me?

*It's the peace of mind in knowing I'm ready to cope with life's surprises and able to enjoy an enriching life.*



## Bring your dreams to life

### Make the most of your program and share your email

so we can stay in touch and keep you informed.

### Download Omni, our mobile app

so you can stay on top of your savings.

Designed for life—it's your mobile one-stop-shop, empowering you to achieve financial wellness.



### Questions?

Our Group retirement savings team is here to help.

**1-800-968-3587**

Monday to Friday, 8 am to 8 pm (ET)

Or log on to your account via [dfs.ca/grouplanmember](https://dfs.ca/grouplanmember) and click *Contact us*.



# An approach to financial wellness that's in your best interests

**Desjardins Insurance offers a wide range of flexible life insurance, health insurance and retirement savings products and services.**

For more than a century, we've been bringing innovative services to individuals, groups and businesses. Desjardins Insurance provides for the financial security of over five million Canadians from offices across the country. We're one of the top five life insurance companies in Canada and a member of Desjardins Group, the leading cooperative financial group in Canada.



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