



What happens when you join the Investment Builder?

Video transcript

The Investment Builder is the defined contribution part of USS. It works alongside the Retirement Income Builder, the defined benefit part, to give you a flexible way to save more for your future.

How it works

While the Retirement Income Builder gives you a guaranteed income when you retire, the Investment Builder works more like a flexible savings pot to give you the best of both worlds.

You'll start saving into it if your salary goes above the salary threshold.

You'll still pay in the same contributions and will continue building benefits in the Retirement Income Builder on your salary up to the salary threshold. But for anything you earn above the salary threshold, your contributions on that amount will go towards the Investment Builder.

This means you'll have both a retirement income when you retire and a separate savings pot for your future.

Having Investment Builder savings gives you flexibility – like options around how your money is invested, and when and how you take your savings.

Choosing how your money is invested



The first thing you need to do is head to My USS and choose how you want your investments to be managed. You can let our team of investment experts manage them with the Do It For Me Option, or you can choose to manage them yourself with the Let Me Do It Option. Both options give you the choice to invest ethically too.

It's important to tell us when you plan to retire

Even if it's a long way off, make sure you set your Target Retirement Age in My USS – it lets us know when you want to take your savings. It's really important if we're managing your investments for you so we put your savings in the right place at the right time.

Accessing your savings

Once you reach the minimum pension age, you can start taking your Investment Builder savings in a way that suits you. And you don't have to retire either, you can take them earlier or later than your Retirement Income Builder benefits. You could even use them to pay off your mortgage, or give yourself a well-earned treat.

There's lots of choice and flexibility with DC savings which is why we have plenty of information and guidance services on our website.

Don't forget, My USS lets you view your Retirement Income Builder benefits and Investment Builder savings side by side – so keeping on top of both parts of your USS benefits is easy. **Log in or register for My USS today to keep your savings on track.**