



# OHIO DEFERRED COMPENSATION

OHIO PUBLIC EMPLOYEES DEFERRED COMPENSATION PROGRAM

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## Be Aware of Threats Posed by Cyber Criminals

Cyber security is a term many of us hear about on a near daily basis. We often participate in cyber security training at work and (hopefully) use unique passwords at home. Keeping our digital lives and financial records safe should be an essential part of everyone's financial plan, but that's not always the case. Some people may be unaware of the threats posed by cyber criminals, while others may feel intimidated by some of the technologies or methods used to protect financial data or personally identifiable information (PII).

One example of a way people leave their information open to attack is by not setting up an online account when enrolling in a new financial plan or service. Some people believe not setting up an online account helps keep their account and information secure, but that may not necessarily be the case. According to Charlie Nelson, CEO of Voya Retirement, [during an interview with PLANSPONSOR in May](#), "Fraudsters will sometimes try to get access to an unregistered account so they can set the original data points, such as a phone number or other piece of information." This means that for some people who are trying to be extra cautious about their account and information, they may have inadvertently left themselves open to a data breach.

One of the best methods for people to keep their PII and financial assets secure is to make sure they know where that information is kept and to be vigilant in terms of keeping track of it. This often means setting up an online account and taking the first step of creating a strong password. They should also be sure to keep their anti-virus software up-to-date and install software patches whenever they're provided by software manufacturers.

You no doubt already use a variety of methods to help keep your personal and financial information safe, but sometimes a quick reminder or a simple tip in a newsletter article can help you keep your data a little more secure.

Ohio DC is here to help guide you along the path to a secure retirement and sometimes that starts with providing educational information about how to develop and maintain secure online habits. If you would like more information about how Ohio DC can help, call our Service Center at 877-644-6457 or visit [Ohio457.org](http://Ohio457.org) to learn more about Ohio DC.

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