

# The benefit of paying lower fees in your group retirement plan

There are many advantages to investing in your Group Retirement Plan. One significant advantage is paying lower Fund Management Fees (FMFs). Paying lower fees can help your savings grow faster and last longer in retirement.

## What is a Fund Management Fee?

Fund Management Fees (FMFs) are the built-in cost of investing in the funds in your Group Retirement Plan, comparable to Management Expense Ratios (MERs) you would pay for a mutual fund in an individual plan at a bank or another financial institution.

Many investors may not realize that each individual holding market-based funds (similar to mutual funds) pays these fees. The fees cover the fund managers' operating costs and reduce your rate of return. They are deducted automatically from the investments you hold.

## How does the FMF impact your rate of return?

Because the FMF reduces your gross rate of return, it is to your advantage to pay a lower FMF, so that more of your savings are left in the plan to grow for retirement. The return that is reported to you after the FMF has been deducted is called your personal net rate of return.

## Why is a Group Plan FMF often lower?

The FMF is calculated on the total assets of all members in your Group Retirement Plan, and this total is greater than the assets typically held in an individual plan at a bank or other financial institution.

When you have the purchasing power of the group working for you, with a higher total balance than an individual plan, lower fees can result.

## Where can you find information on your plan's FMFs and MERs?

You can see the FMFs you are charged, the performance of your investments and personal net rate of return for your Group Retirement Plan on the secure member website and your member statement.

To learn the MER you pay within the fund on an individual plan, consult your bank or mutual fund company.

## Reuter Benefits Support

Reuter Benefits is available to assist you to review the FMFs you pay in your Group Retirement Plan, as well as to review your personal net rate of return.

For questions about your investments or for more information about your group plan, contact Reuter Benefits toll-free at 1-800-666-0142 or by email at [retire@reuterbenefits.com](mailto:retire@reuterbenefits.com).

