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Important note: the information in this document forms part of the Product Information Booklet (PIB) for West State Super, dated 27 September 2023. You should read the important information in this document as part of the PIB before making a decision. West State Super is part of the Government Employees Superannuation Fund (GES Fund).

Consumer advisory warning

Did you know?

Small differences in both investment performance and fees and costs can have a substantial impact on your long-term returns.

For example, total annual fees and costs of 2% of your account balance rather than 1% could reduce your final return by up to 20% over a 30-year period (for example, reduce it from \$100,000 to \$80,000).

You should consider whether features such as superior investment performance or the provision of better member services justify higher fees and costs.

You or your employer, as applicable, may be able to negotiate to pay lower fees. Ask your fund or your financial adviser¹.

To find out more

If you would like to find out more or see the impact of the fees based on your own circumstances, the Australian Securities and Investments Commission (ASIC) Moneysmart website, moneysmart.gov.au, has a superannuation fee calculator to help you check out different fee options.

Fees and other costs for West State Super

This document shows fees and other costs you may be charged. These fees and other costs may be deducted from your money, from the returns on your investment or from the assets of the superannuation entity as a whole.

Other fees, such as activity fees, advice fees for personal advice and insurance fees, may also be charged, but these will depend on the nature of the activity, advice or insurance chosen by you. Entry and exit fees will not be charged.

Taxes, insurance fees and other costs relating to insurance are set out in another part of this document.

You should read all the information about fees and other costs because it is important to understand their impact on your investment.

The fees and other costs for each West State Super investment option we offer are set out overpage and in the 'Cost of product information' section on page 3.

¹ The above wording is required by law. However, the statement concerning the possibility to negotiate fees and discuss the negotiated fees with your financial adviser is not applicable to our West State Super scheme. For more information, call your Member Services Centre on 13 43 72.

Fees and costs summary

You can use the calculator on ASIC's website at moneysmart.gov.au, or on our website at gesb.wa.gov.au/calculators to help you calculate the effect of fees and costs on your West State Super account.

Type of fee or cost	Amount	How and when paid
Ongoing annual fees and costs²		
Administration fees and costs The fee for managing your account	\$66 p.a. (\$5.50 per month) as an account keeping fee + 0.04% p.a. of your monthly account balance	Deducted each month from your account.
Investment fees and costs³	Estimated to be between 0.06% p.a. and 0.41% p.a. of the value of your investment, depending on which investment plan you choose.	Fees and costs that relate to the investment of assets that are not charged directly to your account as an administration fee or other fee. These costs are deducted from the fund assets, before the unit price is calculated on a daily basis.
Transaction costs	Estimated to be between 0% p.a. and 0.14% p.a. of the value of your investment, depending on which investment plan you choose.	Transaction costs are costs incurred when assets are bought and sold. Transaction costs are incurred over the course of the year and disclosed as a percentage of the average assets of the relevant investment option. ⁴
Member activity-related fees and costs		
Buy-sell spread	Nil	Not applicable
Switching fee The fee for changing your investment option	Nil	Not applicable
Other fees and costs	Nil	Other fees and costs such as activity fees, advice fees or insurance fees may apply. Please refer to the 'Additional explanation of fees and costs' section on page 4.

² If your account balance is less than \$6,000 at the end of the financial year, certain fees and costs charged to you in relation to administration and investment are capped at 3% of the account balance. Any amount charged in excess of that cap must be refunded.

³ Investment fees and costs includes an amount of 0% to 0.05% p.a. for performance fees. The calculation basis for this amount is set out under 'Additional explanation of fees and costs.' It is an annual percentage fee which covers the cost of managing the fund's investments including a proportion allocated to risk reserves.

⁴ Transaction costs include items such as brokerage fees, buy-sell spread and settlement costs.

Example of annual fees and costs – My West State Super plan

This table gives an example of how the ongoing annual fees and costs for the My West State Super plan can affect your superannuation investment over a one-year period. You should use this table to compare West State Super with other super products.

Example – My West State Super	Amount	Balance of \$50,000
Administration fees and costs	\$66 p.a. (\$5.50 per month) + 0.04% p.a. of your account balance	For every \$50,000 you have in the My West State Super plan, you will be charged or have deducted from your investment \$86 in administration fees and costs
Plus Investment fees and costs	0.34% p.a.	and , you will be charged or have deducted from your investment \$170 in investment fees and costs
Plus Transaction costs	0.07% p.a.	and , you will be charged or have deducted from your investment \$35 in transaction costs
Equals Cost of My West State Super plan		If your balance was \$50,000 at the beginning of the year, then for that year you will be charged fees and costs of \$291 for the My West State Super plan

Note: additional fees may apply.

Cost of product information

The cost of managing different investments varies, so the total fee will differ for each investment plan. For example, investment costs for the Cash plan or Conservative plan will be lower than those for the Growth plan because growth assets are typically more complex and expensive to manage.

The following table contains our estimate of the cost for managing your investment for each of the West State Super investment plans. These estimates are based on indirect costs for the 2022/23 financial year and may change from year to year.

Investment plan	Cost for managing your investment (% p.a.)	Transaction costs (% p.a.)	Performance fee ⁵ (% p.a.) included in the estimated cost for managing your investment	Total fee (% p.a.) for managing your investment
Readymade plans				
Growth	0.39	0.08	0.05	0.47
Sustainable Balanced	0.41	0.14	0	0.55
My West State Super	0.34	0.07	0.05	0.41
Conservative	0.26	0.04	0.02	0.30
Cash	0.06	0	0	0.06
Mix Your plan				
Australian Shares	0.27	0.08	0.01	0.35
International Shares	0.20	0.06	0	0.26
Property	0.35	0.03	0	0.38
Fixed Interest	0.18	0.02	0	0.20
Cash	0.06	0	0	0.06

Note: transaction costs are included in the estimated total fee figures but are separate to the investment fees and costs, as shown in the table on the previous page.

⁵ The estimated performance fees shown are calculated by combining the estimated performance fees charged by the underlying investment managers for each of the investment options listed.

Additional explanation of fees and costs

Performance fees

Performance fees may be paid to some of our external investment managers if the investment return on the assets they manage exceeds their agreed performance targets. Performance fees have an impact on the amount of investment management fees paid, which is reflected within the investment fees and costs.

Performance fees are typically calculated as a percentage of the amount by which the investment manager exceeds the performance targets and are deducted from investment plan returns before the unit price is calculated on a daily basis. The latest performance fees paid range from 0.00% p.a. to 0.05% p.a. as a percentage of the total value of the West State Super scheme, depending on the individual investment plan. The investment fees and costs and performance fees may change periodically.

Tax

The 'untaxed' nature of the West State Super scheme means that, unlike most other Australian super funds, West State Super does not pay income tax on any contributions or the investment earnings that your super account receives while it accumulates. Instead, tax is payable on your benefit when paid to you. The tax treatment will depend on whether you choose to receive a lump-sum payment or roll over your benefit to a complying taxed fund or income stream.

Please refer to our 'Tax and super' brochure available at gesb.wa.gov.au/brochures for more information on how your super is taxed in your West State Super scheme.

Insurance fees

A fee is an insurance fee if:

- a) The fee relates directly to either or both of the following:
 - (i) Insurance premiums paid by us in relation to a member or members of West State Super
 - (ii) Costs incurred by us in relation to the provision of insurance for a member or members of West State Super
- b) The fee does not relate to any part of a premium paid, or cost incurred, in relation to a life policy or a contract of insurance that relates to a benefit to the member that is based on the performance of an investment rather than the realisation of a risk
- c) The premiums and costs to which the fee relates are not otherwise charged as administration fees and costs, investment fees and costs, transaction costs, a switching fee, an activity fee or an advice fee

Insurance fees apply.

For more information, see section 8 of our 'West State Super Product Information Booklet' available at gesb.wa.gov.au/brochures.

Advice fees - Retirement Options Service

This is a fee of \$350, which is to be paid before your Retirement Options Service appointment.

Payment options are:

- Authorise GESB to deduct the fee directly from your eligible super or retirement income account, by completing an 'Authority to deduct' form
- Pay the fee directly from your nominated cheque or savings account, or by credit or debit card

If you have a joint appointment with another GESB member (e.g. your partner), where both accounts will be discussed, you will be given a double appointment (120 minutes) and each member will be charged an individual fee (the total fee amount can't be paid out of one member's account).

If you have an appointment and bring someone with you who is not a GESB member (e.g. your partner), only a single session will be arranged and one fee charged, as this service is not available to non-members.

Transaction costs

Transaction costs are costs incurred when we or our investment managers buy or sell investments, including such costs incurred in or by an interposed vehicle. They may include costs such as brokerage, settlement costs (including settlement related custody costs), bid-ask spreads, stamp duty on investment transaction costs and clearing costs, and buy-sell costs for our underlying investments (where applicable). Transaction costs do not include borrowing costs or property operating costs.

The buy-sell costs of our underlying investments are not passed on to you as a fee to be paid to us or an external manager, as no buy-sell spread is currently applied directly to your West State Super account. However, buy-sell costs will reduce the returns on your selected investments.

Where the amount needed to buy an investment exceeds the price that it would be disposed of at that time, the difference is the bid-ask spread. The bid-ask spread is an implicit transactional and operational cost.

All explicit transaction costs are included in the 'Transaction costs' for each investment plan. Transaction costs are an additional cost to you and are deducted from the fund's underlying assets before the daily unit price is calculated. The latest estimated explicit transactional and operational costs range from 0.00% p.a. to 0.14% p.a. of the value of your investment, depending on the individual investment plan and are based on the actual information available and/or reasonable estimates. Transaction costs may vary from year to year.

Buy-sell spreads

A buy-sell spread is a fee to recover costs incurred by GESB in relation to the sale and purchase of assets of a superannuation entity.

No buy-sell spread currently applies to your West State Super account.

We may make changes to the fees we charge

We reserve the right to review and change the fees in this section without your consent to ensure the structure and level of fees is appropriate, including any additional costs resulting from any government taxes or statutory charges. We will always inform you of any changes through our website at gesb.wa.gov.au or through your member statement. If the change is an increase in fees or charges, we will give you at least 30 days' notice where required by law.

For more information, please call your Member Services Centre on 13 43 72.

Defined fees

Activity fees

A fee is an activity fee if:

- a) The fee relates to costs incurred by GESB that are directly related to an activity of GESB:
 - (i) That is engaged in at the request, or with the consent, of a member, or
 - (ii) That relates to a member and is required by law; and
- b) Those costs are not otherwise charged as administration fees and costs, investment fees and costs, transaction costs, a buy-sell spread, a switching fee, an advice fee or an insurance fee

Administration fees and costs

Administration fees and costs are fees and costs that relate to the administration or operation of West State Super and includes costs incurred by GESB that:

- a) Relate to the administration or operation of the entity; and
- b) Are not otherwise charged as an investment fee, a buy-sell spread, a switching fee, an activity fee, an advice fee or an insurance fee.

Your West State Super administration fee is the sum of:

- \$66 per annum, and
- 0.04% per annum of your monthly account balance

This fee is deducted from your account monthly.

Advice fees

A fee is an advice fee if:

- (a) The fee relates directly to costs incurred by GESB because of the provision of financial product advice to a member by:
 - (i) GESB, or
 - (ii) Another person acting as an employee of, or under an arrangement with, GESB; and
- (b) Those costs are not otherwise charged as administration fees and costs, investment fees and costs, transaction costs, a switching fee, an activity fee or an insurance fee

Buy-sell spread

A buy-sell spread is a fee to recover transaction costs incurred by GESB in relation to the sale and purchase of assets of the entity.

Exit fees

An exit fee is a fee, other than a buy-sell spread, that relates to the disposal of all or part of a member's interests in a superannuation entity.

No exit fees apply to your West State Super account.

Investment fees and costs

Investment fees and costs are fees and costs that relate to the investment of the assets of West State Super and includes:

- a) Fees in payment for the exercise of care and expertise in the investment of those assets (including performance fees); and
- b) Costs incurred by GESB that:
 - (i) Relate to the investment of assets of the entity; and
 - (ii) Are not otherwise charged as an administration fee, a buy-sell spread, a switching fee, an activity fee, an advice fee or an insurance fee.

A fee is applied that would ordinarily be regarded as an investment fee under the above description, which varies depending on the investment plan that is applicable to your account. However, this fee is deducted from the relevant investment plan's assets before the daily unit price is calculated. The fee is therefore not a separate investment fee charged to members and is captured within the investment fees and costs.

Switching fees

A switching fee is a fee to recover the costs of switching all or part of a member's interest in a superannuation entity from one class of beneficial interest in a superannuation entity to another.

We do not charge switching fees for your West State Super account.

Disclaimer: the information contained in this brochure is of a general nature, and does not constitute legal, taxation or personal financial advice. In providing this information, we have not considered your personal circumstances including your investment objectives, financial situation or needs. We are not licensed to provide financial product advice. Before acting or relying on any of the information in this brochure, you should review your personal circumstances, and assess whether the information is appropriate for you. You should read this brochure in conjunction with the relevant Product Information Booklet and disclosure documents at gesb.wa.gov.au/brochures. You may also wish to seek advice specific to your personal circumstances from a suitably qualified adviser.

How to contact us

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