

# Purchasing Service Credit–Lesson Plan

**Introduction**

This interactive lesson plan uses the *Purchase Service Credit Now* fact sheet to help the presenter explain that CalSTRS members may be eligible to purchase certain types of service credit to increase their retirement benefit.

**Objective**

New and potential educators will expand their knowledge by learning:

- The benefit of purchasing service credit.
- Where to find the *Purchasing Service Credit* video and other resources.

**Activity 1**

**Tools**

Computer, laptop or smartphone

*Purchasing Service Credit* video

**Instructions**

- ▶ Explain there are short educational videos at [CalSTRS.com/videos](http://CalSTRS.com/videos).
- ▶ Play the *Purchasing Service Credit* video for the educator.
- ▶ Answer questions.

**Time**

6 minutes

## Activity 2

### Tools

*Purchase Service Credit Now* fact sheet

### Instructions

- ▶ Introduce the *Purchase Service Credit Now* fact sheet.
- ▶ Review and explain these three sections:
  - Here’s How It Works
    - Educators can earn up to one year of service credit per school year.
    - Purchasing service credit allows educators to buy time, in the form of service credit, for eligible service in which they were not contributing to CalSTRS.
    - The longer an educator waits to purchase service credit, the more expensive it will likely be.
  - Types of Service Credit
    - Redeposit
      - ❖ Educators may be eligible to buy back service credit forfeited when they refunded their CalSTRS contributions.
    - Permissive
      - ❖ Educators may be eligible to purchase certain types of service credit for employer-approved leaves or service not previously credited to their account.
      - ❖ Review five examples.
  - CalSTRS Resources
    - The educator can contact CalSTRS in many ways.

### Time

4 minutes

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### **Additional Resources**

- ▶ *CalSTRS Member Handbook*
- ▶ *Purchase Additional Service Credit* booklet
- ▶ Calculators at [calstrs.com/calculators](http://calstrs.com/calculators)

### **Action Item**

- ▶ Encourage the educator to research whether they have service credit they are eligible to purchase by filling out the appropriate form at **CalSTRS.com/forms**. By receiving a billing statement, the educator is not obligated to make a purchase.