

**Judicial Retirement Account:** The Judicial Retirement Account (JRA) was established by the Legislature in 1988 to provide supplemental retirement benefits. It is a defined contribution plan administered by the state of Washington Administrative Office of the Courts, under the direction of the Board for Judicial Administration. Membership includes judges elected or appointed to the Supreme Court, Court of Appeals, and Superior Courts, and who are members of the PERS for their services as a judge. Vesting is full and immediate. At June 30, 2008, there were 34 active members and 184 inactive members in JRA. There are three participating employers in JRA.

Beginning January 1, 2007 through December 31, 2007 any judicial members of the Public Employees’ Retirement System (PERS) and the Teachers’ Retirement System (TRS) eligible to participate in JRA were able to make a one-time irrevocable election to discontinue future contributions to JRA, in lieu of prospective contributions to the Judicial Benefit Multiplier Program (JBM). Beginning January 1, 2007 any newly elected or appointed Supreme Court Justice, Court of Appeals Judge or Superior Court Judge can no longer participate in JRA and will be enrolled in the JBM Program enacted in 2006. As of June 30, 2008, 189 JRA member judges have elected to enroll in JBM.

JRA plan members are required to contribute 2.5 percent of covered salary. The state, as employer, contributes an equal amount on a monthly basis. The employer and employee obligations to contribute are established per RCW 2.14. Plan provisions and contribution requirements are established in state statute and may be amended only by the State Legislature.

A JRA member who separates from judicial service for any reason is entitled to receive a lump-sum distribution of the accumulated contributions. The administrator of JRA may adopt rules establishing other payment options. If a member dies, the amount of accumulated contributions standing to the member’s credit at the time of the member’s death is to be paid to the member’s estate, or such person or persons, trust or organization as the member has nominated by written designation.

The Administrator of JRA has entered into an agreement with DRS for accounting and reporting services, and the Washington State Investment Board (WSIB) for investment services. Under this agreement, DRS is responsible for all record keeping, accounting, and reporting of member accounts and the WSIB is granted the full power to establish investment policy, develop participant investment options and manage the investment funds from the JRA plan, consistent with the provisions of RCW 2.14.080 and RCW 43.84.150. As of April 2006, DRS also became responsible for the collection of all JRA contributions.

**F. Employer Contributions Required and Paid**

The following table presents DRS’ required contributions to cost-sharing plans in accordance with the funding policy. All contributions required by the funding method were paid.

	2008	2007	2006
(amounts expressed in thousands)			
PERS Plan 1	\$82.5	\$ 60.4	\$ 35.0
PERS Plan 2/3	717.2	487.9	250.0
TRS Plan 1	-	-	1.0
<b>Total</b>	<u>\$799.7</u>	<u>\$ 548.3</u>	<u>\$ 286.0</u>

**G. Deferred Compensation Plan**

The state of Washington offers its employees and employees of those political subdivisions that elect to participate, a deferred compensation plan pursuant to RCW 41.50.770, in accordance with Internal Revenue Code Section 457. Under the plan, eligible employees elect to defer a portion of their salary until future time periods. The deferred compensation is not available to employees until termination, retirement, disability, death or unforeseeable financial emergency. This deferred compensation plan is administered by DRS.

All amounts of compensation deferred under the plan, all property and rights purchased with those amounts, and all income attributable to those amounts, are held in trust by the Washington State Investment Board (WSIB), as set forth under RCW 43.33A.030, for the exclusive benefit of the state deferred compensation plan’s participants and their beneficiaries. Neither the participant, nor the participant’s benefi-