



Thrift Savings Plan BULLETIN for Agency TSP Representatives

Subject: Revision of Form TSP-1, Thrift Savings Plan Election Form and Form TSP-1-C, Catch-up Contribution Election Form for Roth Implementation

Date: March 15, 2012

The Federal Retirement Thrift Investment Board (Board) has revised the Thrift Savings Plan (TSP) Election Form (TSP-1) and Catch-up Contribution Election Form (TSP-1-C) for elections submitted by TSP participants upon Roth implementation in the second quarter of 2012. Form TSP-1 includes the new Roth election option for regular contributions (subject to the elective deferral limit). Form TSP-1-C includes the Roth election options for catch-up contributions.

These revised forms include updated instructions and examples to assist participants and agency representatives responsible for processing both electronic and paper forms. The forms can be completed and submitted for agency processing more than one way to be valid. It is possible for a participant to submit a request with an election only in Section II, only in Section III, or in a combination of both sections. If a participant's intent is not clear the agency should contact the participant directly before rejecting the form. If the agency then requires a new form to be submitted for clarification then the agency should do so.

An advance copy of the TSP-1 and TSP-1-C are attached to this bulletin. Agencies and participants may obtain the revised version upon implementation of Roth TSP from the TSP website. Agencies may also use electronic or web-based methods to allow their participants to stop, start, or change a TSP election for regular and catch-up contributions.

(continued on next page)

Inquiries: Questions concerning this bulletin should be directed to the Federal Retirement Thrift Investment Board at **202-942-1450**.

Chapter: This bulletin may be filed in Chapter 2, General Information.

Agencies should note that upon implementation of Roth TSP all previous versions of Form TSP-1 and TSP-1-C will become obsolete. Agency Representatives will receive the final TSP-1 and TSP-1-C in a bulletin, along with additional information regarding Roth TSP-related materials prior to implementation of Roth TSP.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Gisile Goethe".

Gisile Goethe
Deputy Director, Education & Agency Liaison
Office of Communications and Education

Attachments: [Election Form \(TSP-1\)](#)
[Catch-Up Contribution Election Form \(TSP-1-C\)](#)



THRIFT SAVINGS PLAN ELECTION FORM

TSP-1

Use this form to start, stop, or change the amount of your contributions to the Thrift Savings Plan (TSP).

Before completing this form, please read the *Summary of the Thrift Savings Plan* and the instructions on the back of this form. Type or print all information. **Return the completed form to your agency personnel or benefits office.** Your agency should return a copy to you after completing Section V.

Note: To choose your investment funds, see the instructions in the General Information section on the back of this form.

I. INFORMATION ABOUT YOU

1. _____
Name (Last) (First) (Middle)
2. _____
Street Address City State Zip Code
3. _____ - _____ - _____
Social Security Number
4. (_____) _____ - _____
Daytime Phone (Area Code and Number)
5. _____
Office Identification (Agency and Organization)

II. CHOOSE THE AMOUNT OF YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS

Your choice will cancel all previous elections.

To start or change the amount of traditional (pre-tax) or Roth (after-tax) contributions to your TSP account, enter **either** a whole percentage of your basic pay per pay period **or** a whole dollar amount per pay period for each type of contribution you elect. (You may choose a percentage for one type of contribution and a dollar amount for the other type of contribution.) **Remember:** A blank line next to a type of contribution equals 0% or \$0 contributed.

6. Traditional (Pre-Tax) Contributions _____ .0% **OR** 7. \$ _____ .00
8. Roth (After-Tax) Contributions _____ .0% **OR** 9. \$ _____ .00

III. STOP SOME OR ALL OF YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS

To stop all or any portion of your contributions to the TSP, check the box in Item 10 that applies and complete Section IV. Your payroll contributions will stop no later than the first full pay period after your agency employing office receives this form. (If you are a Federal Employees' Retirement System (FERS) employee, and you stop your contributions, your Agency Matching Contributions will stop, but Agency Automatic (1%) Contributions will continue. Read the instructions on the back.)

10. I choose not to save for my retirement. Please stop all my payroll contributions to my TSP account.
- Stop only my traditional (pre-tax) payroll contributions to my TSP account.
- Stop only my Roth (after-tax) payroll contributions to my TSP account.

If you are a newly hired (or rehired) employee, you can generally stop your automatic employee contributions before they start if you submit this form to your agency before the end of your first full pay period. (See note on back.)

IV. SIGNATURE

11. _____
Participant's Signature
12. ____/____/____
Date Signed (mm/dd/yyyy)

V. FOR EMPLOYING OFFICE USE ONLY

13. _____
Payroll Office Number
14. ____/____/____
Receipt Date (mm/dd/yyyy)
15. ____/____/____
Effective Date (mm/dd/yyyy)
16. _____
Signature of Agency Official

PRIVACY ACT NOTICE. We are authorized to request the information you provide on this form under 5 U.S.C. chapter 84, Federal Employees' Retirement System. Your agency or service will use this information to identify your TSP account and to start, change, or stop your TSP contributions. In addition, this information may be shared with other Federal agencies for statistical, auditing, or archiving purposes. The information may also be shared with law enforcement agencies investigating a violation of civil or criminal law, or agencies implementing a statute, rule, or order.

It may be shared with congressional offices, private sector audit firms, spouses, former spouses, and beneficiaries, and their attorneys. Relevant portions of the information may also be disclosed to appropriate parties engaged in litigation and for other routine uses as specified in the Federal Register. You are not required by law to provide this information, but if you do not provide it, your agency or service will not be able to process your request.

ORIGINAL TO PERSONNEL FOLDER
Provide a copy to the employee and to the payroll office.

INFORMATION AND INSTRUCTIONS

GENERAL INFORMATION

You may start, stop, or change your contributions at any time. Your TSP election will stay in effect until you submit another election or until you leave Federal service. (This form only applies to regular contributions. If you are age 50 or older and want to make or change catch-up contributions, use Form TSP-1-C, Catch-Up Contribution Election.)

Important note for new TSP participants: All contributions to your account will be invested in the Government Securities Investment (G) Fund until you direct the TSP to allocate your contributions differently. The TSP publication *Summary of the Thrift Savings Plan* describes all of your investment choices and discusses their risks and advantages. For more information, you can also obtain a copy of the TSP Fund Information sheets. (The most current versions of TSP forms and publications are available on the TSP website at www.tsp.gov.)

To choose your investment fund(s), use the TSP website (www.tsp.gov) or the ThriftLine at 1-TSP-YOU-FRST (1-877-968-3778; outside the U.S. and Canada, call 404-233-4400). On the TSP website, you will need your TSP account number (or user ID) and 8-character Web password. If you use the ThriftLine, you will need your TSP account number and 4-digit ThriftLine Personal Identification Number (PIN). If you are a new participant, your TSP account number, ThriftLine PIN, and Web password will be mailed to you (separately) after your account has been established.

If you change your address, notify your **agency** immediately to correct your records for your TSP account.

SECTION I

Complete all items in this section.

SECTION II

Your choice will cancel all previous elections.

Example

Previous Election:

Traditional	5%
Roth	2%

New Election:

Traditional	5%
Roth	10%

Complete this section to start your TSP contributions or to change the amount and type of contributions. Because whatever you enter in this section will cancel all previous elections, be sure to indicate exactly what percentages/amounts you want to contribute, even if part of your election has not changed (see the example in the margin). You can elect to make traditional (pre-tax) and Roth (after-tax) contributions simultaneously. **Traditional contributions** come out of your pay **before** income taxes are calculated; you pay income taxes on these contributions and their earnings when you withdraw them. **Roth contributions** are made from your pay **after** taxes, and the earnings grow in your account tax-deferred. Withdrawals of Roth contributions are tax-free. The earnings associated with Roth contributions are also tax-free, but only if 5 years have passed since January 1 of the calendar year in which you made your first Roth contribution, **and** you have reached age 59½, have a permanent disability, or have died. **Note for FERS:** All agency contributions to your account are tax-deferred, even if they are matching your Roth contributions. Complete **either** Item 6 **or** Item 7 (not both) for traditional (pre-tax) contributions; **either** Item 8 **or** Item 9 (not both) for Roth contributions. You may choose a percentage of basic pay for one type of contribution and a dollar amount (as little as \$1) for the other type of contribution.

If you choose a percentage of basic pay, your contribution amount will automatically increase when you receive a pay raise.

If you choose a dollar amount per pay period, your contribution amount will not increase when you receive a pay raise; you must submit a new Form TSP-1 to change the amount.

Contribution limit. The **total** of your traditional and Roth contributions cannot exceed the Internal Revenue Code (IRC) annual elective deferral limit (\$17,000 in 2012). Since the elective deferral limit may be adjusted annually for inflation, check the TSP website, www.tsp.gov, to be sure that you have the most up-to-date limit amount (and the most recent version of this form).

SECTION III

Complete Item 10 to stop all (or just one type) of your contributions. You may restart your contributions at any time.

FERS employees: Your Agency Automatic (1%) Contributions will continue after you stop your employee contributions, but you will no longer receive valuable Agency Matching Contributions. (If you restart your contributions, the matching contributions will resume.)

Note for newly hired or rehired FERS or CSRS employees: As a new employee, your agency automatically deducts 3% of your pay, tax-deferred, and deposits the money in your TSP account for your retirement savings. If you want all or any portion of your automatic contributions to be after-tax Roth contributions, **you must complete Section II** and indicate what percentages or amounts you want as traditional (pre-tax) and Roth (after-tax) contributions. You can stop your automatic employee contributions before they start if you submit this form to your agency at the start of your first full pay period, subject to your agency's processing deadlines. If your agency has already begun to deduct your automatic employee contributions from your pay each pay period, you are entitled to request a refund of your initial contributions by submitting Form TSP-25, Automatic Enrollment Refund Request. The TSP must receive Form TSP-25 within 90 days of your first contribution.

SECTION IV

You must complete this section.

SECTION V

(To be completed by personnel or benefits office)

The Receipt Date (Item 14) is the date that a **properly completed** form is received by the agency personnel office. If the form has not been properly completed, it should be returned to the employee.

Requests must be processed immediately for new and rehired employees who want to stop automatic enrollment before it begins. This will help avoid a payroll deduction that may have to be refunded. The Effective Date (Item 15) must be no later than the first full pay period after receipt of a properly completed form.

You should provide the participant with a copy of this completed election form.



THRIFT SAVINGS PLAN CATCH-UP CONTRIBUTION ELECTION

TSP-1-C

Use this form to start, stop, or change your "catch-up" contribution election to your TSP account. You are eligible to make catch-up contributions **if you are age 50 or older** (or if you will become age 50 during the calendar year for which you are making this election), **and** you are already contributing a percentage or a dollar amount which will result in reaching the Internal Revenue Code (IRC) elective deferral limit by the end of the year. (See back of form.) Catch-up contributions will be taken from your basic pay each pay period and invested according to your most recent contribution allocation; they are in addition to your regular TSP contributions.

Before completing this form, read the information on the back. Type or print all information. **Return the completed form to your agency.**

I. INFORMATION ABOUT YOU

1. _____
Name (Last) (First) (Middle)
2. _____
Street Address City State Zip Code
3. _____ - _____ - _____
Social Security Number
4. (_____) _____ - _____
Daytime Phone (Area Code and Number)
5. _____
Office Identification (Agency and Organization)

II. CHOOSE THE AMOUNT OF YOUR CATCH-UP CONTRIBUTIONS

You must be in pay status. (See back of form.)

Your choice will cancel all previous elections.

To start or change your catch-up contributions, complete Items 6, 7, and 8. Use whole dollar amounts. (See additional instructions on the back of the form.) **Remember:** A blank line next to a type of contribution is equal to \$0 contributed.

6. I elect to contribute the following catch-up contributions per pay period:
- | | | |
|------------------------------------|---|---|
| \$ _____ .00 Traditional (Pre-Tax) | } | Total cannot exceed \$5,500
for the calendar year. |
| \$ _____ .00 Roth (After-Tax) | | |

I understand that my election will continue until:

- the end of the calendar year; or
- I reach the annual limit for catch-up contributions; or
- I submit a new election to stop or change these contributions.

I certify that I will make regular contributions to the TSP or an equivalent employer plan up to the maximum amount allowed by the IRS and TSP plan rules. I understand that my catch-up contributions are in addition to my regular TSP contributions.

7. _____
Participant's Signature
8. ____/____/____
Date Signed (mm/dd/yyyy)

III. STOP SOME OR ALL OF YOUR CATCH-UP CONTRIBUTIONS

I understand that I must make a new election to resume these contributions.

9. I want to stop the catch-up contributions indicated below:
- All catch-up contributions
 - Traditional (pre-tax) catch-up contributions only
 - Roth (after-tax) catch-up contributions only

10. _____
Participant's Signature
11. ____/____/____
Date Signed (mm/dd/yyyy)

IV. FOR EMPLOYING OFFICE USE ONLY

12. _____
Payroll Office Number
13. ____/____/____
Receipt Date (mm/dd/yyyy)
14. ____/____/____
Effective Date (mm/dd/yyyy)
15. _____
Signature of Agency Official

PRIVACY ACT NOTICE. We are authorized to request the information you provide on this form under 5 U.S.C. chapter 84, Federal Employees' Retirement System. Your agency will use this information to identify your TSP account and to start, change, or stop your TSP contributions. In addition, this information may be shared with other Federal agencies for statistical, auditing, or archiving purposes. The information may also be shared with law enforcement agencies investigating a violation of civil or criminal law, or agencies implementing a statute, rule, or order.

It may be shared with congressional offices, private sector audit firms, spouses, former spouses, and beneficiaries, and their attorneys. Relevant portions of the information may also be disclosed to appropriate parties engaged in litigation and for other routine uses as specified in the Federal Register. You are not required by law to provide this information, but if you do not provide it, your agency or service will not be able to process your request.

ORIGINAL TO PERSONNEL FOLDER
Provide a copy to the employee and to the payroll office.

Form TSP-1-C (5/2012)
PREVIOUS EDITIONS OBSOLETE

INFORMATION AND INSTRUCTIONS

GENERAL INFORMATION

Catch-up contributions are in addition to your regular TSP contributions. Therefore, if you are not already contributing the maximum amount allowed by the Internal Revenue Code (\$17,000 in 2012) through your regular TSP contributions or by contributing to an equivalent employer plan (e.g., a 401(k) plan), you must elect to contribute the maximum amount before you are eligible to make catch-up contributions. This catch-up election **will not** affect your regular TSP contributions.

You may start, stop, or change your catch-up contributions at any time. Your election will stay in effect subject to the conditions in Section II below. You must make a new election for each calendar year.

You do not receive matching contributions from your agency for any catch-up contributions.

Your catch-up contribution election will be effective no later than the first full pay period after your agency receives it. Contributions will be invested according to your most recent contribution allocation on file. If you wish to change your contribution allocation, you may do so on the TSP website at www.tsp.gov, or the ThriftLine at 1-TSP-YOU-FRST (1-877-968-3778; outside the U.S. and Canada, call 404-233-4400).

SECTION I

Complete all items in this section.

SECTION II

Your choice will cancel all previous elections.

Your contribution election. You can elect to make traditional (pre-tax) and Roth (after-tax) catch-up contributions simultaneously. Whatever you enter in this section will cancel all previous elections; therefore, be sure to indicate exactly what amounts you want to contribute, even if part of your election has not changed. **Traditional contributions** come out of your pay **before** income taxes are calculated; you pay income taxes on these contributions and their earnings when you withdraw them. **Roth contributions** are made from your pay **after** taxes. Withdrawals of Roth contributions are tax-free. The earnings associated with these contributions are also tax-free, but only if 5 years have passed since January 1 of the calendar year in which you made your first Roth contribution, **and** you have reached age 59½, have a permanent disability, or have died.

Contribution limits. The IRC limit for catch-up contributions is \$5,500 in 2012. The **total** of your traditional and Roth catch-up contributions cannot exceed this limit. IRC limits may be adjusted annually for inflation. Check the TSP website, www.tsp.gov, to be sure that you have the most up-to-date limit amount (and the most recent version of this form).

Deductions will be made from your basic pay in the dollar amount you indicate. However:

- (1) Catch-up contributions will stop when you have reached the maximum allowable dollar amount for the calendar year.
- (2) The catch-up contribution amount you specified cannot exceed the amount of your pay after all other required deductions have been made. (Required deductions include regular TSP contributions and TSP loan payments.)
- (3) Your catch-up contributions will **not** continue into the next calendar year.

You are not eligible to make catch-up contributions if you are in nonpay status or if you are ineligible to make TSP contributions because you have made a financial hardship in-service withdrawal within the last 6 months. If you have elected to make catch-up contributions and you subsequently enter a noncontribution period, deductions will stop. Contributions will **not** restart automatically. You must submit a new election when your noncontribution period ends.

You may stop your catch-up contributions at any time by submitting a new Form TSP-1-C to your agency indicating that you want your election to stop. (See Section III.)

You must sign this section. If you do not, your request to start or change your catch-up contributions will be rejected.

SECTION III

If you choose to stop all, or just one type, of your catch-up contributions, you must complete and sign this section. Your election should be effective the first pay period after your agency receives it. You can restart your catch-up contributions at any time, subject to the conditions above. Do **not** complete this section if you have completed Section II. Your election in Section II cancels your previous election.

SECTION IV

(To be completed by personnel or benefits office)

The Receipt Date (Item 13) is the date that a **properly completed** form is received by the agency personnel office. If the form has not been properly completed, it should be returned to the employee.

The Effective Date (Item 14) must be no later than the first full pay period after receipt of a properly completed form.

You should provide the participant with a copy of this completed election form.