



THRIFT SAVINGS PLAN

HIGHLIGHTS

October 2017

4 Ways to Pump Up Your TSP Savings

Making consistent contributions to your TSP account is a smart way to steadily increase your savings. But there are other ways to boost your TSP savings too.

1. Combine and Save. Whether you're currently a civilian employee, a member of the uniformed services, or a separated participant, you can transfer or roll over other eligible retirement plans¹ into your TSP account. There are no limits on how much you can transfer or roll over into your account. This is something to consider since our low fees let you keep more of what you save, and our investment options are comprehensive and simple. Also, combining your retirement savings into one account is a convenient way to save for the future by making it easier to see if you're on track to meet your savings goals.

Here's How: Visit the Forms & Publications section of tsp.gov, print and fill out Form TSP-60, *Request for Transfer Into the TSP*, and send it to us. To transfer Roth money, fill out Form TSP-60-R, *Request for a Roth Transfer Into the TSP*. (Please note that you cannot transfer or roll over Roth IRAs into your TSP account.) You can also call the ThriftLine at 1-877-968-3778 and press option 3 to request

these forms from a Participant Service Representative.

To learn more about moving money into your TSP account, watch our video, "Combine and Save: Transfer Into the TSP," at youtube.com/tsp4gov.

2. Meet Your Match. If you're a FERS employee, one of the great benefits of saving with the TSP is that you receive free money in your TSP account if you contribute a certain amount. On top of your salary, your agency will also contribute up to 5% of your pay with each paycheck. But you only get the full amount if you contribute at least 5% every pay period as well. If you haven't checked your contribution amount lately, make sure you're contributing enough to get the full match.

Here's How: To see how much you're contributing, or to increase your contributions, log in to your electronic payroll system (Employee Express, myPay, LiteBlue, EBIS, NFC EPP) at any time.

3. Make Incremental Increases. Each time you get a raise or cost of living increase, consider increasing your TSP contributions. Small, steady increases over time are a painless yet effective way to add money to your TSP account. Depending on your



investment earnings, raising your savings rate by as little as 1% of your pay could mean tens of thousands of dollars over time in your TSP account.

Here's How: Log into your electronic payroll system (Employee Express, myPay, LiteBlue, EBIS, NFC EPP) to increase your contributions.

Visit the Planning & Tools section of tsp.gov for more examples of how small contributions can add up to big savings over time. And if you're a member of the uniformed services, check our video, "Three Ways to Add \$100,000 to Your TSP Account," at youtube.com/tsp4gov.

4. Consider Catch-Up Contributions. Starting in the year you turn 50, you may be eligible to make payroll deductions *in addition* to regular employee contributions by making catch-up contributions. Catch-up contributions can be either traditional (pre-tax) or Roth (after-tax). To be

TSP Website: tsp.gov
ThriftLine: 1-877-968-3778
Outside the U.S. and Canada: 404-233-4400
TDD: 1-877-847-4385

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¹ These are plans qualified under IRC § 401(a) (including a § 401(k) plan, profit-sharing plan, defined benefit plan, stock bonus plan, and money purchase plan); an IRC § 403(a) annuity plan; an IRC § 403(b) tax-sheltered annuity; or an IRC § 457(b) plan maintained by a governmental employer.

eligible to make catch-up contributions, you must already be contributing an amount that will reach the IRC elective deferral limit by the end of the year. In 2017, the limit is \$18,000. If you're contributing at a rate that will meet that limit, you can contribute an additional \$6,000 in catch-up contributions.

Here's How: Visit the Forms & Publications section of tsp.gov, print and fill out Form TSP-1-C, *Catch-Up Contribution Election*, and send it to

your agency. If you're a member of the uniformed services,² fill out Form TSP-U-1-C and send it to your service. You can also call the ThriftLine at 1-877-968-3778 and press option 3 to request these forms from a Participant Service Representative.

To learn more about catch-up contributions, read our fact sheet *Catch-Up Contributions* on the Forms & Publications section of tsp.gov.

It all adds up! Taking one or more of these actions could boost your TSP savings, resulting in a more comfortable retirement for you.

² You can't make catch-up contributions from incentive pay, special pay, or bonus pay. Your traditional catch-up contributions will stop if you are receiving tax-exempt pay in a combat zone. Only Roth catch-up contributions are allowed from tax-exempt pay.

Rates of Return and Expenses

	L 2050	L 2040	L 2030	L 2020	L Income	G Fund	F Fund	C Fund	S Fund	I Fund
Rates of Return as of July 31, 2017										
Year-to-Date	10.91%	9.78%	8.53%	5.96%	3.69%	1.36%	2.92%	11.59%	8.61%	17.39%
1-Year	14.24	12.68	11.05	7.79	4.81	2.12	-0.24	16.06	16.72	18.13
3-Year	7.40	6.91	6.25	4.89	3.56	2.06	3.08	10.93	9.20	3.12
5-Year	11.78	10.72	9.54	7.64	4.36	2.00	2.41	14.83	14.85	9.53
2016 Administrative Expenses										
Gross	.052%	.052%	.052%	.052%	.052%	.052%	.052%	.052%	.051%	.053%
Net¹	.038%	.038%	.038%	.038%	.038%	.038%	.038%	.038%	.038%	.039%
Other Expenses²										
	.012%	.011%	.009%	.007%	.003%	.000%	.017%	.004%	.041%	.014%

The returns for the TSP funds represent net earnings after the deduction of administrative expenses and, in the cases of the F, C, S, I, and L Funds, after deduction of trading costs and investment management fees as of July 31, 2017. (For more recent returns, visit "Fund Performance" at tsp.gov.) Additional information about the TSP funds; their related indexes; and their respective monthly, annual, and 10-year returns can be found in the TSP Fund Information sheets or by visiting "Fund Performance" at tsp.gov.

Additional information about the TSP core funds: The Government Securities Investment (G) Fund contains government securities; the Fixed Income Index Investment (F) Fund contains government, corporate, and asset-backed bonds; the Common Stock Index Investment (C) Fund contains stocks of large and medium-sized U.S. companies; the Small Capitalization Stock Index Investment (S) Fund contains stocks of small to medium-sized U.S. companies; and the International Stock Index Investment (I) Fund contains stocks from more than 20 developed countries.

¹ Net administrative expenses are the expenses charged to TSP participants per dollar invested in the respective funds after offsetting gross administrative expenses with account forfeitures and loan fees.

² Fees associated with securities lending are not included in 2016 administrative expenses. Consistent with standard practice in the industry, they are charged in addition to administrative expenses. The other expenses represent fees paid to the investment manager for administering securities lending programs. Income earned from these programs improved the returns of the funds.