Participants turning 50 or older will no longer need to make separate catch-up elections.

Here’s how it will work:

Next year, if you exceed the IRS elective deferral (or annual addition) limit, your contributions will automatically start counting toward the IRS catch-up limit.*

Your election will carry over each year unless you submit a new one using Form TSP-1, Election Form (or TSP-U-1 for uniformed services), or your agency’s or service’s electronic system.

If you’re eligible for an agency or service match, contributions toward the catch-up limit will qualify for the match** on up to 5% of your salary.*

* Only applies to participants turning age 50 or older in 2021. For 2020, participants turning age 50 or older should complete Form TSP-1-C (TSP-U-1-C for uniformed services members) or use your payroll system’s catch-up option. Also, 2020 catch-up contributions aren’t matched.

** For Blended Retirement System (BRS) participants: If you’ve reached the annual addition limit, your contributions toward catch-up will not be matched.