



Traditional Catch-Up Contribution Guide

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The Traditional Catch-Up provision in the Savings Plus 457(b) Deferred Compensation Plan (457(b) Plan) allows you to catch up on underutilized contributions from prior years. This guide describes the provision requirements and application process. **YOU MUST APPLY and be approved to increase your contributions to include 457(b) Traditional Catch-Up contributions.**

1. Program Requirements and Information

Traditional Catch-Up is an irrevocable, one-time election. Once your application is submitted, the election cannot be reversed or changed. Before applying, use this guide to help you determine if Traditional Catch-Up is a good option for you right now, and if so, how many years (maximum of three) you want to participate. You do not have to make use of all the years you elect but you cannot change your election to add a year or two later. If you are approved for Traditional Catch-Up and do not use it, you cannot apply to do it again later.

If you were eligible to contribute to the Savings Plus 457(b) Plan and did not contribute the maximum amount in prior years, you may be eligible to participate in Traditional Catch-Up during the last three years prior to your Normal Retirement Age. Your Normal Retirement Age is the age you elect between the ages 50 (age 55 for PEPPRA members) and 70½. If no age is elected, your Normal Retirement Age will be age 70½. The earliest the Traditional Catch-Up option may be available is the year in which you turn 47.

You must be an employee or officer on the payroll of the State of California who is eligible to participate in California Public Employees' Retirement System (CalPERS), the Legislators' Retirement System (LRS), the Judges' Retirement System (JRS), California State Teachers' Retirement System (CalSTRS), or be a Part-time, Seasonal, or Temporary (PST) Program participant.

You can elect to make up to twice the annual contribution limit for up to three consecutive calendar years prior to your Normal Retirement Age, based on the total of your underutilized contributions from prior years. The amount of underutilized contributions is the annual contribution limit for that year minus what you contributed in that year.

NOTE: PST eligible participants cannot use underutilized contributions prior to January 2021.

For example, if you made contributions of \$12,000 for the 2016 tax year, you would have underutilized contributions of \$6,000 (\$18,000 - \$12,000). The underutilized amount available for Traditional Catch-Up contributions is the total of all underutilized contributions from each year you were an active employee as described above.

If you are participating in Traditional Catch-Up contributions and are called to active duty in the United States military you may extend the three-calendar-year period by the lesser of the period of qualified military service times three, or five years by completing the Military Leave Form.

Lump Sum Separation Pay

If you separate from state employment while participating in Traditional Catch-Up, your Lump Sum Separation Pay may be deferred as a Traditional Catch-Up contribution. To qualify, complete a **Lump Sum Separation Pay Contribution Election Form** located in the **Forms, Publications, Governing Documents & Reports** at savingsplusnow.com and submit it to your payroll office with your Traditional Catch-Up Approval letter at least 30 days prior to your separation date.

The following chart shows the current 457(b) annual contribution limit by year using the Traditional Catch-Up provision:

Tax Year(s)	457(b) Annual Limit	Traditional Catch-Up Limit	457(b) Annual Total Limit with Traditional Catch-Up
2024	\$23,000	\$23,000	\$46,000
2023	\$22,500	\$22,500	\$45,000

2. Age-based Catch-Up Contributions

Employees age 50 years and older can contribute up to \$7,500 over the annual contribution limit for each tax year. You are not permitted to make Age-based Catch-Up contributions and Traditional Catch-Up contributions to your 457(b) Plan in the same year. Visit savingsplusnow.com for information on increased limits for employees age 50 years and older.

3. Historical Contribution Limits

The maximum contribution for 2004 through the current year is the lesser of 100% of your compensation for that year or:

2023	\$22,500	2019	\$19,000	2015	\$18,000	2011	\$16,500	2007	\$15,500
2022	\$20,500	2018	\$18,500	2014	\$17,500	2010	\$16,500	2006	\$15,000
2021	\$19,500	2017	\$18,000	2013	\$17,500	2009	\$16,500	2005	\$14,000
2020	\$19,500	2016	\$18,000	2012	\$17,000	2008	\$15,500	2004	\$13,000

NOTE: For the contribution limit for years prior to 2004, contact the Savings Plus Solutions Center.

4. Application Process - NOTE: Approval required to begin contributions

- Request a **457(b) Traditional Catch-Up Application** by visiting savingsplusnow.com or by contacting the Savings Plus Solutions Center.
- Complete the **457(b) Traditional Catch-Up Application**.
- Return the completed application with W-2s that show your contribution amount in prior years; only the years in which your W-2s are submitted will be considered in calculating your total underutilized contribution amount.
- If your application is approved, we will send you an Approval Letter. You can also access a copy of the approval letter on savingsplusnow.com. If you are deferring Lump Sum Separation Pay this Approval Letter must be submitted along with your **Lump Sum Separation Pay Contribution Election Form**

5. Contact Information

Voice Response System: (855) 616-4776, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week

Savings Plus Solutions Center: (855) 616-4776, 5 a.m. – 8 p.m. (PT), Monday–Friday
To speak with a Customer Service Representative, press *0

Walk-In Center: Open 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. (PT), Monday–Friday
1810 16th Street
North Building
Sacramento, CA 95811-6606

To chat with us via TTY: (800) 848-0833

Website: savingsplusnow.com