

## Elective Deferral, Section 415(c), and Catch-Up Contribution Limits for 1987–2009

| Tax Year | Elective Deferral Limit | Section 415(c) Limit | Catch-Up Contribution Limit |
|----------|-------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1987     | \$7,000                 |                      |                             |
| 1988     | \$7,313                 |                      |                             |
| 1989     | \$7,627                 |                      |                             |
| 1990     | \$7,979                 |                      |                             |
| 1991     | \$8,475                 |                      |                             |
| 1992     | \$8,728                 |                      |                             |
| 1993     | \$8,994                 |                      |                             |
| 1994     | \$9,240                 |                      |                             |
| 1995     | \$9,240                 |                      |                             |
| 1996     | \$9,500                 |                      |                             |
| 1997     | \$9,500                 |                      |                             |
| 1998     | \$10,000                |                      |                             |
| 1999     | \$10,000                |                      |                             |
| 2000     | \$10,500                |                      |                             |
| 2001     | \$10,500                |                      |                             |
| 2002     | \$11,000                | \$40,000             |                             |
| 2003     | \$12,000                | \$40,000             | \$2,000                     |
| 2004     | \$13,000                | \$41,000             | \$3,000                     |
| 2005     | \$14,000                | \$42,000             | \$4,000                     |
| 2006     | \$15,000                | \$44,000             | \$5,000                     |
| 2007     | \$15,500                | \$45,000             | \$5,000                     |
| 2008     | \$15,500                | \$46,000             | \$5,000                     |
| 2009     | \$16,500                | \$49,000             | \$5,500                     |

**The IRS elective deferral limit, I.R.C. section 402(g),** is a limit placed on regular employee contributions. The elective deferral limit applies only to regular employee contributions that are made before-tax (i.e., tax-deferred) dollars. For members of the uniformed services, this includes all tax-deferred contributions from taxable basic pay, incentive pay, special pay, and bonus pay.

**The I.R.C. section 415(c) limit** is an additional limit that the IRS imposes on the total amount of contributions made to an eligible retirement plan in a year. “All contributions” include employee contributions (both tax-deferred and tax-exempt) and Agency Automatic (1%) and Matching Contributions. The 415(c) limit, however, is applied separately to each employer plan in which you contribute. Participants with both uniformed service and civilian TSP accounts are considered to have one employer plan even though they have separate accounts.

**The IRS catch-up contribution limit, I.R.C. section 414(v),** is the maximum amount of catch-up contributions that can be contributed in a given year by participants who are or will turn age 50 in the calendar year. This limit is separate from the elective deferral limit imposed on regular employee contributions and the 415(c) additional limit.