



# THRIFT SAVINGS PLAN ELECTION FORM

## TSP-U-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 the office of your service that is responsible for enrolling members in the TSP.** That office 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. \_\_\_\_\_  
Mailing Address (may be APO or FPO) City State Zip Code
3. \_\_\_\_\_  
Social Security Number
4. (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_  
Daytime Phone (Area Code and Number)
5. \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_  
Date of Birth (mm/dd/yyyy)
6. \_\_\_\_\_  
Office Identification (Service and Organization)

### II. CHOOSE THE AMOUNT OF YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS

Your choice will cancel  
all previous elections.

To start or change the amount of your contributions, enter in Items 7–10 the percentage of your pay each pay period that you want as traditional (pre-tax) contributions. Enter in Items 11–14 the percentage of your pay each pay period that you want as Roth (after-tax) contributions. You **must** elect to contribute at least 1% of basic pay (or its equivalent) to be eligible to contribute from your other types of pay (see instructions). **Remember:** A blank line next to a type of contribution equals 0% contributed. **For those turning 50 or older who want to make catch-up contributions:** If you meet the IRS elective deferral limit, your contributions will automatically start counting toward the IRS catch-up limit. Separate catch-up elections are no longer required. (See instructions.)

#### Traditional (Pre-Tax) Contributions All Services

- Basic Pay 7. \_\_\_\_\_ .0%
- Incentive Pay 8. \_\_\_\_\_ .0%
- Special Pay 9. \_\_\_\_\_ .0%
- Bonus Pay 10. \_\_\_\_\_ .0%

#### Roth (After-Tax) Contributions All Services

11. \_\_\_\_\_ .0%
12. \_\_\_\_\_ .0%
13. \_\_\_\_\_ .0%
14. \_\_\_\_\_ .0%

### III. STOP YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS

When you stop your  
contributions from  
basic pay, contributions  
from incentive, special,  
and bonus pay will  
also stop.

To stop all contributions to the TSP, check Item 15 or 19 (or both, as applicable). If you want to stop only your contributions from incentive pay, special pay, or bonus pay, check the appropriate box(es). Your contributions will stop no later than the first full pay period after your service receives this form. See the instructions for this section for information about stopping automatic contributions.

#### Stop My Traditional Contributions

15. ☐ From **basic pay**
16. ☐ From **incentive pay**
17. ☐ From **special pay**
18. ☐ From **bonus pay**

#### Stop My Roth Contributions

19. ☐ From **basic pay**
20. ☐ From **incentive pay**
21. ☐ From **special pay**
22. ☐ From **bonus pay**

### IV. SIGNATURE

23. \_\_\_\_\_  
Participant's Signature
24. \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_  
Date Signed (mm/dd/yyyy)

### V. FOR SERVICE USE ONLY

25. \_\_\_\_\_  
Payroll Office Number
26. \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_  
Receipt Date (mm/dd/yyyy)
27. \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_  
Effective Date (mm/dd/yyyy)
28. \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Service Official

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

## TSP-U-1, 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 separate from the uniformed services.

**Basic pay** for active duty is defined in 37 U.S.C. section 204; pay for the Ready Reserve (e.g., inactive duty for training (IDT) pay) is defined in 37 U.S.C. section 206. **Incentive pay** (e.g., flight pay, submarine pay, hazardous duty pay); **special pay** (e.g., medical and dental officer pay, hardship duty pay, career sea pay); and **bonus pay** (e.g., enlistment and reenlistment bonuses) are defined in 37 U.S.C. chapter 5. (Although bonus pay is a form of special pay, it is treated separately from special pay for TSP purposes.)

**Important note for new TSP participants:** If you are covered by the Blended Retirement System (BRS) and do not have a contribution allocation on file, all new contributions to your account will be invested in the Lifecycle (L) Fund most appropriate for your age unless you direct us to allocate your contributions differently. If you are not covered by BRS, all contributions to your account will be invested in the Government Securities Investment (G) Fund until you direct us to allocate your contributions differently. For more information about your fund options, review the *TSP Fund Information Sheets* available under "Forms & Publications" on tsp.gov.

**To choose your investment fund(s),** log into your account on tsp.gov or call the ThriftLine at 1-877-968-3778. Outside the U.S. and Canada, call 404-233-4400. On tsp.gov, you will need your TSP account number and web password. Using the ThriftLine, you will need your TSP account number and your 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 service's personnel or benefits office that is responsible for your TSP enrollment so that your service can correct your records for your TSP account.

### SECTION I

Complete all items in this section. In Item 4, provide your daytime telephone number.

### SECTION II

*Your choice will cancel and replace all previous elections.*

#### Example

*Previous Election:*

Traditional	<b>5%</b>
Roth	<b>2%</b>

*New Election:*

Traditional	<b>5%</b>
Roth	<b>10%</b>

Complete this section to start or change the amount of your contributions. Whatever you enter in this section will cancel all previous elections; therefore, be sure to indicate exactly what percentages 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** taxes are calculated; you pay taxes on these contributions and their earnings when you withdraw them. (If the contributions were from tax-exempt pay, you will owe taxes only on the earnings at withdrawal.) **Roth contributions** are made with after-tax or tax-exempt money, 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.

**Your contribution election.** You must elect a percentage of your basic pay in Items 7 and/or 11 in order to be eligible to elect to contribute from incentive, special, and bonus pay (Items 8–10 and Items 12–14). You can then contribute from 1% to 100% of these other types of pay, even if you are not currently receiving them; your election will cover future payments to which you become entitled.

**Tax-exempt contributions.** Your pay earned while serving in a combat zone is tax-exempt. If you elect to make Roth contributions from this type of basic pay (Item 11), the earnings on your contributions will also be tax-free when you withdraw them (if you qualify). If you elect to make traditional contributions from your basic pay (Item 7), you will have to pay taxes on the earnings when you withdraw them.

**Contribution limits.** The Internal Revenue Code (IRC) limits contributions to your TSP account:

- The **402(g) annual elective deferral limit** is the maximum amount of pay you can contribute in a single year if you are younger than 50. It does not apply to traditional contributions from tax-exempt pay earned in a combat zone.
- The **415(c) annual additions limit** is the maximum amount per employer that can be contributed on your behalf in a single year, including all of your contributions from taxable and tax-exempt pay, as well as any contributions from your employer. (For 415(c) purposes, working for multiple federal agencies or services is considered having one employer.)
- Those turning 50 or older can make additional contributions up to the **414(v) catch-up limit**. This happens automatically once you exceed the elective deferral or annual addition limit. If you enter a combat zone and receive tax-exempt pay, only Roth contributions toward the catch-up limit are allowed. The TSP cannot accept traditional tax-exempt contributions toward the catch-up limit.

**Note:** The 402(g) limit **does** apply to Roth contributions from tax-exempt pay; when you reach that limit these contributions will stop if you are younger than 50. (If you are 50 or older, your contributions will automatically start counting toward the catch-up limit.) In such cases, if you want to continue contributing tax-exempt pay up to the 415(c) limit, you will need to submit a new Form TSP-U-1 electing traditional contributions. IRC limits may be adjusted annually. For the current limits, visit "Contribution Limits" on tsp.gov.

## TSP-U-1, INFORMATION AND INSTRUCTIONS

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### SECTION III

*Do **not** complete this section if you completed Section II.*

Complete this section to stop your contributions. If you do not make contributions from basic pay (see Items 15 and 19), your service will automatically stop your contributions from incentive pay and special pay, including bonus pay. However, you may stop contributing from incentive pay, special pay (except bonus pay), or bonus pay and still continue your contributions from basic pay. You may restart your contributions at any time.

**Note for members who receive automatic and matching contributions:** Your Service Automatic (1%) Contributions will continue after you stop your member contributions, but you will no longer receive valuable Service Matching Contributions. (If you restart your member contributions, the matching contributions will resume.)

**Important information for those who joined the uniformed services on or after October 1, 2020:** Your service automatically deducts 5% of your pay, tax-deferred, and deposits the money in your TSP account for your retirement savings. Please note that if you are not making TSP contributions in the final pay period of a given year, you will be automatically reenrolled at the beginning of the following year at the 5% contribution rate. 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 member contributions before they start by submitting this form to your service, subject to your service's processing deadlines. If automatic deductions have already begun, 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 automatic contribution. You may not request a refund of contributions resulting from automatic reenrollment, which happens if you are not contributing to your TSP account at the end of a given year. See Form TSP-25 for other important limitations on your ability to receive a refund.

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### SECTION IV

You must complete this section.

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### SECTION V

*(To be completed by service official)*

The Receipt Date (Item 26) is the date that a **properly completed** form is received by the office responsible for TSP enrollment.

The Effective Date (Item 27) 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 election for his or her records.

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**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 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.