



DIRECTOR – CIVILIAN BENEFITS CENTER

Date: 06 November 2018

To: All Civilian Employees

Subj: Thrift Savings Plan (TSP) Contribution Limits Increases to \$19,000 for 2019

1. The purpose of this message is to share the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) has announced the following pension plan contributions for 2019.

- The contribution limit for employees who participate in 401(k), 403(b), most 457 plans, and the federal government's TSP is increased from \$18,500 to \$19,000.
- The catch-up contribution limit for employees aged 50 and over who participate in 401(k), 403(b), most 457 plans, and the federal government's TSP remains unchanged at \$6,000.

2. There is no TSP Open Season – you can make your election at any time. Calendar year 2019 has 26 pay dates, so you would elect to contribute \$731 per pay period to reach the 2019 contribution limit of \$19,000. If you are eligible to make catch-up contributions, you would elect to contribute \$231 per pay period to reach the 2019 contribution limit of \$6,000.

3. To distribute your contributions equally over all 26 pay dates, make your election during the period 9 December – 22 December 2018 using the GRB Platform, formerly the Employee Benefits Information System (EBIS). Your election will be effective 23 December 2018 and will be withheld from your first paycheck in tax year 2019, which you will receive on 11 January 2019. Federal Employees Retirement System (FERS) employees are reminded you must make TSP contributions each pay period in order to receive Agency Matching Contributions.

4. Additional program information will be released the pay period prior to 9 December. If you have any questions, please call the Benefits Line at 888-320-2917 from 7:30 a.m. - 7:30 p.m., Eastern Time, Monday - Friday, except on Federal holidays. During the Federal Benefits Open Season, hours of operations are extended to 9:30 p.m. The TTY number is 866-359-5277. Since the Benefits Line typically experiences high call volume during the open season (12 November - 10 December 2018), you may experience a longer than normal call wait time.

Another way to reach the Benefits Line is to email your questions to navybenefits@navy.mil. You must include your full name, pay plan, grade, and contact telephone number. Please do not include Privacy Act or other Personally Identifiable Information such as date of birth or social security number in your email correspondence.

Thank you,

Mary E. Foley