



# COLA Increases for Dollar Limitations on Benefits and Contributions

The tax law places limits on the dollar amount of contributions to retirement plans and IRAs and the amount of benefits under a pension plan. IRC Section 415 requires the limits to be adjusted annually for cost-of-living increases.

- [Limits by plan type](#) (IRA, 401(k), SEP, SIMPLE IRA, 403(b), 457(b), defined benefit)
- [2018 cost-of-living adjustments](#) for pension plans and retirement-related items (IR-2017-177)
- [COLA Table](#) for prior years' dollar limitations and Internal Revenue Code references.

## Topics for Retirement Plans

- Individual Retirement Arrangements IRAs
- Types of Retirement Plans
- Retirement Topics Required Minimum Distributions RMDs
- Retirement Plans Frequently Asked Questions FAQs
- Retirement Plan Forms and Publications
- Correcting Plan Errors
- Retirement Topics
- Tax Exempt Government Entities Division At a Glance
- Retirement Plans

	2018	2017	2016
<b>IRAs</b>			
IRA Contribution Limit	\$5,500	\$5,500	\$5,500
IRA Catch-Up Contributions	1,000	1,000	1,000
<b>IRA AGI Deduction Phase-out Starting at</b>			
Joint Return	101,000	99,000	98,000
Single or Head of Household	63,000	62,000	61,000
<b>SEP</b>			
SEP Minimum Compensation	600	600	600
SEP Maximum Contribution	55,000	54,000	53,000

	<b>2018</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2016</b>
SEP Maximum Compensation	275,000	270,000	265,000
<b><i>SIMPLE Plans</i></b>			
SIMPLE Maximum Contributions	12,500	12,500	12,500
Catch-up Contributions	3,000	3,000	3,000
<b><i>401(k), 403(b), Profit-Sharing Plans, etc.</i></b>			
Annual Compensation	275,000	270,000	265,000
Elective Deferrals	18,500	18,000	18,000
Catch-up Contributions	6,000	6,000	6,000
Defined Contribution Limits	55,000	54,000	53,000
ESOP Limits	1,105,000	1,080,000	1,070,000
	220,000	215,000	210,000
<b><i>Other</i></b>			
HCE Threshold	120,000	120,000	120,000
Defined Benefit Limits	220,000	215,000	210,000
Key Employee	175,000	175,000	170,000
457 Elective Deferrals	18,500	18,000	18,000
Control Employee (board member or officer)	110,000	105,000	105,000
Control Employee (compensation-based)	220,000	215,000	215,000
Taxable Wage Base	128,400	127,200	118,500