

2026 RETIREMENT PLAN CONTRIBUTION LIMITS

The IRS has announced the updated limits for retirement plans, effective January 1, 2026.

Elective Deferrals 403(b), 457(b) Plans

Eligible Employees	Annual Elective Deferral Contribution Limit
403b Plan	\$24,500
457b Plan	\$24,500

Catch-up Contributions – 403(b) only (age 50 and older)

NOTE: Catch-up contribution limits have increased if you are age 60-63 before the end of the 2026 taxable year. That means you can take advantage of increasing how much you're saving over and above the additional amounts you already can contribute.

Based on IRS rules, Chapman University already allows eligible employees who are age 50 or older to increase their annual employee retirement plan contributions beyond standard IRS annual limits (known as "age-based catch-up contributions"). As of January 1, 2026, active employees age 60-63 can increase those contributions even more.¹

Here is what the new rule can mean to employees ages 60-63:

Eligible Employees 403(b) Plan Only	Annual Catch-Up Contribution Limit
Age 50-59	\$8,000
Age 60-63	\$11,250
Age 64 or older	\$8,000

To increase your contribution percentage, complete the [Salary Deferral Election](#) form and email to benefits@chapman.edu. The effective date is the first of the month following receipt of the signed form. For more information visit the [Chapman University Retirement Plan](#) site.

Making decisions about your retirement accounts can be challenging. We encourage you to consult with your tax professional to understand what is appropriate for you. TIAA and Fidelity financial consultants are here to help as well. Visit [TIAA](#) or [Fidelity](#) to set up a one-on-one meeting with a representative.

¹ If you will attain age 64 anytime in 2026, you will **NOT** be eligible for the new increased catch-up limits for ages 60-63.