

# 2010 Cost of Living Adjustments Announced

On October 15, 2009, the Internal Revenue Service released Information Release 2009-94, announcing that there would be no cost-of-living adjustments in 2010 to dollar limits for retirement plans.

The 2010 dollar limits are as follows:

<b><u>Limit</u></b>	<b><u>2009</u></b>	<b><u>2010</u></b>
<b>Defined Benefit Plans</b>		
The maximum dollar limitation for annual benefits under defined benefit plans under Internal Revenue Code (IRC) Section 415(b)(1)(A). EGTRRA amended this limitation for annual benefits to the lesser of \$160,000 (as adjusted for inflation) or 100% of the participant's average compensation for his high 3 years.	\$195,000	\$195,000
<b>Defined Contribution Plan 415 dollar limit</b>		
The dollar limitation for annual additions under defined contribution plans under IRC Section 415(c)(1)(A). EGTRRA amended this limitation on annual additions, which is the lesser of \$40,000 (as adjusted for inflation) or 100% of compensation.	\$49,000	\$49,000
<b>401(k)/403(b)/Existing SARSEP Elective deferral limit</b>		
The limitation on cumulative elective deferrals to a 401(k), 403(b) tax deferred annuity, simplified employee pension, and SIMPLE retirement plan in a tax year, as coordinated under IRC Section 402(g)(1).	\$16,500	\$16,500
<b>457 Deferral Limits</b>		
The limitation on deferrals to 457 plans under IRC Section 457(e)(15). EGTRRA amended this contributions limitation under an eligible 457 deferred compensation plan to be the lesser of 100 % of includible compensation or the year's applicable dollar limit.	\$16,500	\$16,500
<b>403(b) Catch-up limit</b>		
The special catch-up election for employees participating in a 403(b) tax deferred annuity who have had at least 15 years of service with an educational organization, hospital, home health agency, health and welfare service agency, church or convention or association of churches. <i>Note: This additional 403(b) catch-up of up to \$3,000 per year cannot exceed cumulatively \$15,000 over the lifetime of the 403(b) participant.</i>	\$19,500	\$19,500

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<b><u>Limit</u></b>	<b><u>2009</u></b>	<b><u>2010</u></b>
<b>457 Catch-up limit</b>		
The special catch-up election for employees participating in an eligible 457 deferred compensation who have elected the special catch-up available in the three years prior to the year of normal retirement age.	\$33,000	\$33,000
<i>Note: The participant in a governmental 457(b) plan may make catch-up contributions in a year equal to the greater of (a) the amount permitted under the age 50+ catch-up rule and (b) the amount permitted under the normal retirement age catch-up rule.</i>		
<b>Age 50+ Catch-up Limits</b>		
The special catch-up available under Internal Revenue Code (IRC) Section 414(v) for individuals at least 50 years old in 2010 and make eligible pre-tax contributions to 401(k), 403(b), and governmental 457 plans.	\$5,500	\$5,500
The special catch-up is available for individuals who are at least 50 years old in 2010 and make eligible pre-tax contributions to a SIMPLE plan.	\$2,500	\$2,500
<b>Definition of Key Employee</b>		
The compensation threshold used for determining key employees under IRS Section 416(i)(1)(A)(i).	\$160,000	\$160,000
<b>Definition of Highly Compensated Employees</b>		
The compensation threshold used for determining highly compensated employees under IRC Section 414(q)(1)(B).	\$110,000	\$110,000
<b>Compensation Limit</b>		
The annual limit of compensation that may be taken into account for contribution purposes in accordance with IRC Section 401(a)(17) (nongovernmental plan sponsors).	\$245,000	\$245,000
The annual limit of compensation that may be taken into account for contribution purposes in accordance with IRC Section 401(a)(17) (governmental plan sponsors).	\$360,000	\$360,000

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**Limit****2009****2010****Adjusted Gross Income Limit for Saver's Credit**

The highest adjusted gross income (based on federal income tax filing status) taken into account for eligibility for the Saver's Credit.

\$55,500 (joint)	\$55,500 (joint)
\$27,750 (single)	\$27,750 (single)
\$41,625 (head of household)	\$41,625 (head of household)

**SIMPLE Retirement Accounts**

Compensation taken into account that an employee may elect to defer under a SIMPLE retirement plan described in IRC Section 408(p)(2).

\$11,500	\$11,500
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**Compensation for SEPs**

Compensation taken into account to determine eligibility for simplified employee pensions (SEPs).

\$550	\$550
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The Social Security Administration also announced that, as there was no increase in the Consumer Price Index (CPI-W) from the third quarter of 2008 to the third quarter of 2009, there was no cost of living adjustment in 2010:

**Taxable Wage Base****2009****2010**

Maximum amount of earnings subject to payroll tax.

\$106,800	\$106,800
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