

## 457 Governmental Plan

## **FACT SHEET**

457 Programs (also called deferred compensation programs) are retirement programs available to employees of state and local governments and political sub-divisions. A 457 Program allows participants to save for retirement by deferring a portion of their income now and paying taxes on it at withdrawal. There are no early distribution penalties that apply to 457 withdrawals.

457 Governmental Plan Overvi	ew
Tax Advantages	<ul> <li>Employee deferrals are pre-tax</li> <li>Employee Roth 457 contributions are after-tax</li> <li>Employees pay no income taxes on contributions or earnings until they are received by the participant or their beneficiary</li> <li>Tax-deferral maximizes the compounding value and increases the participant's ultimate retirement income</li> <li>Flexible distributions are available through employee-controlled lump sum or periodic distributions following severance from employment</li> <li>Distributions prior to 59½ after severance from employment are not subject to IRS 10% early withdrawal penalty tax</li> <li>Roth 457 contributions and earnings are totally tax free at the time of distribution if certain requirements are met</li> </ul>
457 Features	Employees can elect to contribute from 0 up to 100% of their income, up to the IRS maximum of:  Tax Year: 2020 \$19,500
	Catch-up contributions for age 50 and older:      A second s
	Tax Year: 2020 \$6,500
	<ul> <li>A special catch up provision for the final three years before retirement may also allow for deferrals higher than the regular deferral rate</li> <li>Salary reductions make deferrals convenient and easy</li> <li>Employee pre-tax deferrals reduce the Federal, State* and Local* income taxes but are subject to Social Security (FICA) tax</li> <li>Employee Roth 457 after-tax contributions are subject to Local, State, Federal and Social Security (FICA) tax</li> <li>Flexibility for employees to change their deferral/contribution rates as desired</li> <li>Loans can be permitted under the plan</li> <li>Employee deferrals are always 100% vested</li> <li>The participant's account balance is eligible for distribution upon retirement, severance from employment, disability or death. Withdrawals generally are taxable as ordinary income</li> <li>Unforeseeable emergency distributions may be permitted</li> </ul>
Basic plan Features	<ul> <li>Employees can defer any or all distributions until they are subject to IRS minimum distribution rules at the later of age 70½ or retirement</li> <li>Younger and long-term employees benefit the most because they have more contribution opportunities and a longer period of tax-deferred earnings</li> <li>At severance from employment, you have several choices</li> <li>You can leave your money in the plan</li> <li>You may transfer your 457 account to another retirement plan</li> <li>You can transfer it into an IRA, or a Roth IRA</li> <li>You can withdraw your money</li> </ul>

 $<sup>^{\</sup>star}\text{Check}$  with your tax advisor for your state and local income tax treatment.



457 Governmental Plan Overview	
Plan Suitability	457 Plans are favored when the employer:
	<ul> <li>Wants to give employees the opportunity to enhance their own retirement benefits</li> <li>Wants employees to make all or part of their contributions</li> <li>Wants a plan with contribution flexibility</li> <li>Wants an inexpensive and easy-to-understand plan</li> <li>Wants to attract and retain key employees</li> </ul>

## Your path *To and Through Retirement*® begins here.

Talk to your financial professional to see whether a 457 Governmental Plan can complement your retirement portfolio or contact us at 800.747.5164, Option 3.

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