

At-A-Glance: Thrift Savings Plan (TSP) Facts/Referral Sources Customer Care Center Representatives

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Opt-in eligible service members

Eligible service members currently contributing to the TSP

Service members who are currently contributing to the TSP should verify their personal information and verify their current contribution percentage. Remember, opt-in members must contribute 5% of their basic pay to get the full service match. Verify information at:

- Army, Air Force, Navy: [MyPay](#)
- Marine Corps: [Marine Online \(MOL\)](#)
- Coast Guard, NOAA: [Direct Access](#)
- U.S. Public Health Service : Contact the USPHS Compensation Branch

Eligible service members not contributing to the TSP

Opting into BRS does not start TSP contributions. Service members who are not contributing currently to the TSP and opt into BRS, after making their opt-in decision, will need to visit their service’s pay portal’s TSP contribution section and **designate their contribution percentage – in any whole percentage**. After their first contribution, the TSP will create a TSP.gov online account for them and will mail them a “Welcome to the TSP” letter and their PIN/password.

Any member who opts-in will begin receiving Service matching contributions even if the opt-in member has not served for two years based on the chart below.

**Service Contributions to Your Account
(Service Employees Only)**

You put in:	Your service puts in:		And the total contribution is:
	Automatic (1%) Contribution	Service Matching Contribution	
0%	1%	0%	1%
1%	1%	1%	3%
2%	1%	2%	5%
3%	1%	3%	7%
4%	1%	3.5%	8.5%
5%	1%	4%	10%
More than 5%	1%	4%	Your Contribution + 5%

New members to the military on or after Jan. 1, 2018

On or after Jan. 1, 2018, new members of the Uniformed Services, are covered by the Blended Retirement System and after 60 days of service, will be **automatically enrolled** in the Thrift Savings Plan (TSP) with a default contribution of 3% of their basic pay into a Traditional (pre-tax) TSP account.

- The money from their pay will automatically go into a [TSP Lifecycle retirement fund](#), also known as the L Fund, which is appropriate for their projected age of retirement, unless they choose other TSP Fund options.
- **After 60 days of service**, their Service will begin contributing an amount equal to 1% of their basic pay into their TSP account. This 1% does not come out of their pay, but is provided by their service.
- Once their Service makes their first TSP contribution, (generally 60 days), the TSP will set-up their account, mail a “Welcome to the TSP” letter and their PIN/password and they’ll be able to access their account online at www.TSP.gov.
 - They go to TSP.gov to move their money across fund choices.

- They will go to their Service’s online payroll center (such as MyPay, Marine Online, or Direct Access) if they want to make contribution percentage changes (for example, change their 3% default contribution rate to a 5% contribution rate), or to change from a Traditional (pre-tax) TSP account to a Roth (after-tax) TSP account.
- NOTE: New members who stop their TSP contributions will be automatically reenrolled at 3% of their basic pay each calendar year.
- **At the completion of two years of service**, they will receive Service Matching Contributions based on the chart below.

**Service Contributions to Your Account
(Service Employees Only)**

You put in:	Your service puts in:		And the total contribution is:
	Automatic (1%) Contribution	Service Matching Contribution	
0%	1%	0%	1%
1%	1%	1%	3%
2%	1%	2%	5%
3%	1%	3%	7%
4%	1%	3.5%	8.5%
5%	1%	4%	10%
More than 5%	1%	4%	Your Contribution + 5%

FAQ's.

Changing Contribution Percentages

How do I change the amount I am contributing?

You can start, change, or stop any of your contributions at any time by using MyPay (Army, Navy, Air Force), Marine Corps On-line (USMC), Direct Access (USCG and NOAA), or by visiting your Compensation Branch (PHS). Additionally, service members may fill out and turn in [TSP Form U1: TSP Election](#), to their HR/Servicing office.

Special, Incentive, or Bonus Pay

How do I contribute Special, Incentive, or Bonus Pay?

Initially you'll be making contributions from your basic pay. However, you can also elect to make future contributions from special, incentive, or bonus pay by visiting:

- Army, Air Force, Navy: [MyPay](#)
- Marine Corps: [Marine Online \(MOL\)](#)
- Coast Guard, NOAA: [Direct Access](#)
- U.S. Public Health Service : Contact the USPHS Compensation Branch

This election stays in place until you revoke it. This means that, if you elect to contribute an upcoming bonus now, any future bonus will also be contributed to the TSP unless you revoke your election to contribute bonus pay.

After-Tax, Roth Contributions

How do I elect to make TSP Roth (after-tax) contributions?

You'll initially be making TSP traditional (tax-deferred) contributions to your TSP account. But, you can also elect to make TSP Roth (after-tax) contributions to your TSP account (or contribute to both). You can make this change by:

- Army, Air Force, Navy: [MyPay](#)
- Marine Corps: [Marine Online \(MOL\)](#)

- Coast Guard, NOAA: [Direct Access](#)
- U.S. Public Health Service : Contact the USPHS Compensation Branch

To learn more about the differences between TSP traditional (tax-deferred contributions) and TSP Roth (after-tax) or to learn about contributing tax-exempt, combat zone pay to your TSP account, visit www.TSP.gov or call the ThriftLine at **1-877-968-3778**.

Changing the investment mix

How do I change where my money is invested?

Initially you'll have your contributions invested in an [age-appropriate Lifecycle \(L\) Fund](#). To change your investments to other Lifecycle Funds or to any or all of the TSP's [five, separate, investment funds](#), log in to your TSP account at www.TSP.gov or call the ThriftLine (1-877-968-3778).

- The first transaction you may want to make is a contribution allocation. This transaction directs how new money (contributions, transfers into the TSP, loan payments) will be invested. It does not change your existing account balance.
- The second transaction you may want to make is an interfund transfer (IFT). An IFT is a transaction that allows you to redistribute all or part of your existing TSP account among the different TSP funds. It does not change how your future contributions will be invested.

Additional Resources:

The following additional resources are available to members:

- DoD BRS Comparison Calculator
<http://militarypay.defense.gov/Calculators/BRS/>
- Free, professional financial support is available from your installation's accredited Personal Financial Manager or counselor. Search online at <http://militaryinstallations.dod.mil> or <https://jointservicesupport.org/spn>.
- Get financial support 24/7 by calling Military OneSource at 1-800-342-9647. Additionally, MOS can refer service members locally for enhanced financial assistance, including budgeting, debt management, tax assistance, and retirement planning.
- Which online resources to use based on service:
MyPay (Army, Navy, Air Force), Marine Corps On-line (USMC), Direct Access (USCG and NOAA)