

## Are you in jeopardy of losing your agency matching contributions?

If you are an employee covered by the Federal Employee Retirement System (FERS), who has elected to maximize your contributions to your Thrift Savings account (TSP), it is very important that you do not exceed the [2009 IRS Elective Deferral Limit](#) of \$16,500 before pay period 25, which is the last pay period paid out in 2009.

### Why?

If you reach the IRS Elective Deferral Limit before the last pay date pay period of the year, your TSP employee contributions and the attributable agency matching contributions will stop for the remainder of the pay year's pay periods.

### How will I know?

First, you will need a copy of your Statement of Earnings and Leave available on NFC's Employee Personal Page (EPP) at <https://www.nfc.usda.gov/personal/index2.asp>

Second, you may use this calculator to help you determine if you need to make any adjustments to your contribution amount before it's too late.

Enter the amount for each pay period that you have already contributed (or the year to date total for that pay period).

Second, enter the contributions scheduled for the remaining pay periods.

### What should I do?

If your contributions scheduled for the remaining pay periods of 2009 put you over the elective deferral limit, now is the time to make an adjustment to your TSP contribution amount. Use the calculator to compute a contribution amount that will enable you to contribute each of the remaining pay periods in 2009 while also reaching the elective deferral limit.

Once you have done the math, you can make an adjustment to your TSP contributions by using NFC's EPP <https://www.nfc.usda.gov/personal/index2.asp> or by faxing a TSP-1 form to the Benefits section at (612) 336-3545. TSP-1 forms are available at [www.tsp.gov](http://www.tsp.gov) under Civilian forms and publications. **Please note:** TSP-1 forms are effective the pay period after they are received in the Benefits section. However, if you make an election using NFC's EPP, you will be able to choose the earliest effective pay period possible.

### Are you over age 50?

If you are age 50 or older this year, and you will contribute the maximum limit to the TSP, you may contribute additional "[catch up](#)" contributions to your TSP account. Use the calculator to figure out the amount of catch up contributions you may contribute during the remaining pay periods of 2009 to reach the catch up elective deferral limit of \$5,500.