

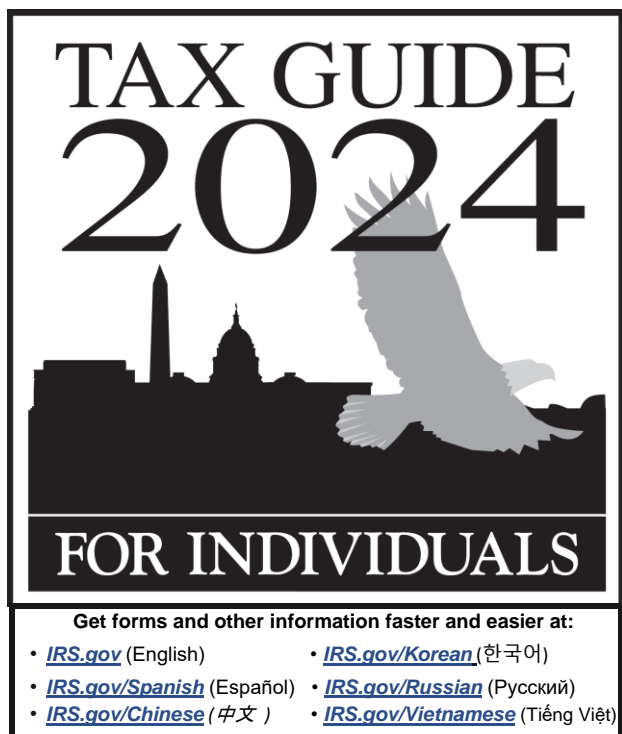
Publication 17

Your Federal Income Tax

For use in preparing

2024 Returns

Volume 9 of 14



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Reporting winnings and recordkeeping.

For more information on reporting gambling winnings and recordkeeping, see *Gambling Losses up to the Amount of Gambling Winnings* in chapter 12.

Gifts and inheritances. In most cases, property you receive as a gift, bequest, or inheritance isn't included in your income. However, if property you receive this way later produces income such as interest, dividends, or rents, that income is taxable to you. If property is given to a trust and the income from it is paid, credited, or distributed to you, that income is also taxable to you. If the gift, bequest, or inheritance is the income from the property, that income is taxable to you.

Inherited pension or individual retirement arrangement (IRA). If you inherited a pension or an IRA, you may have to include part of the inherited amount in your income. See *Survivors and Beneficiaries*

in Pub. 575 if you inherited a pension. See *What if You Inherit an IRA?* in Pubs. 590-A and 590-B if you inherited an IRA.

Hobby losses. Losses from a hobby aren't deductible from other income. A hobby is an activity from which you don't expect to make a profit. See *Activity not for profit*, earlier.



If you collect stamps, coins, or other items as a hobby for recreation and pleasure, and you sell any of the items, your gain is taxable as a capital gain. (See Pub. 550.) However, if you sell items from your collection at a loss, you can't deduct the loss.

Illegal activities. Income from illegal activities, such as money from dealing illegal drugs, must be included in your income on Schedule 1 (Form 1040), line 8z, or on Schedule C (Form 1040) if from your self-employment activity.

Indian fishing rights. If you're a member of a qualified Indian tribe that has fishing rights secured by treaty, Executive order, or an Act of Congress as of March 17, 1988, don't include in your income amounts you receive from activities related to those fishing rights. The income isn't subject to income tax, self-employment tax, or employment taxes.

Interest on frozen deposits. In general, you exclude from your income the amount of interest earned on a frozen deposit. See *Interest income on frozen deposits* in chapter 6.

Interest on qualified savings bonds. You may be able to exclude from income the interest from qualified U.S. savings bonds you redeem if you pay qualified higher education expenses in the same year. For more information on this exclusion, see *Education Savings Bond Program* under *U.S. Savings Bonds* in chapter 6.

Job interview expenses. If a prospective employer asks you to appear for an interview and either pays you an allowance or reimburses you for your transportation and other travel expenses, the amount you receive is generally not taxable. You include in income only the amount you receive that's more than your actual expenses.

Jury duty. Jury duty pay you receive must be included in your income on Schedule 1 (Form 1040), line 8h. If you gave any of your jury duty pay to your employer because your employer continued to pay you while you served jury duty, include the amount you gave your employer as an income adjustment on Schedule 1 (Form 1040), line 24a, and see the instructions there.

Kickbacks. You must include kickbacks, side commissions, push money, or similar payments you receive in your income on Schedule 1 (Form 1040), line 8z, or on

Schedule C (Form 1040) if from your self-employment activity.

Example. You sell cars and help arrange car insurance for buyers. Insurance brokers pay back part of their commissions to you for referring customers to them. You must include the kickbacks in your income.

Medical savings accounts (Archer MSAs and Medicare Advantage MSAs). In most cases, you don't include in income amounts you withdraw from your Archer MSA or Medicare Advantage MSA if you use the money to pay for qualified medical expenses. Generally, qualified medical expenses are those you can deduct on Schedule A (Form 1040). For more information about qualified medical expenses, see Pub. 502. For more information about Archer MSAs or Medicare Advantage MSAs, see Pub. 969, Health Savings Accounts and Other Tax-Favored Health Plans.

Prizes and awards. If you win a prize in a lucky number drawing, television or radio quiz program, beauty contest, or other event, you must include it in your income. For example, if you win a \$50 prize in a photography contest, you must report this income on Schedule 1 (Form 1040), line 8i. If you refuse to accept a prize, don't include its value in your income.

Prizes and awards in goods or services must be included in your income at their fair market value.

Employee awards or bonuses. Cash awards or bonuses given to you by your employer for good work or suggestions must generally be included in your income as wages. However, certain noncash employee achievement awards can be excluded from income. See *Bonuses and awards* in chapter 5.

Pulitzer, Nobel, and similar prizes. If you were awarded a prize in recognition of accomplishments in religious, charitable, scientific, artistic, educational, literary, or civic fields, you must generally include the value of the prize in your income. However, you don't include this prize in your income if you meet all of the following requirements.

- You were selected without any action on your part to enter the contest or proceeding.
- You aren't required to perform substantial future services as a condition to receiving the prize or award.
- The prize or award is transferred by the payer directly to a governmental unit or tax-exempt charitable organization as designated by you.

See Pub. 525 for more information about the conditions that apply to the transfer.

Qualified Opportunity Fund (QOF).

Effective December 22, 2017, Code section 1400Z-2 provides a temporary deferral on inclusion in gross income for capital gains invested in QOFs, and permanent exclusion of capital gains from the sale or exchange of an investment in the QOF if the investment is held for at least 10 years. See the Instructions for Form 8949 on how to report your election to defer eligible gains invested in a QOF. See the instructions for Form 8997, Initial and Annual Statement of Qualified Opportunity Fund (QOF) Investments, for reporting information. For additional information, see Opportunity Zones Frequently Asked Questions at [IRS.gov/Newsroom/Opportunity-Zones-FrequentlyAsked-Questions](https://www.irs.gov/newsroom/opportunity-zones-frequently-asked-questions).

Qualified tuition programs (QTPs). A QTP (also known as a 529 program) is a program set up to allow you to either prepay or contribute to an account established for

paying a student's qualified higher education expenses at an eligible educational institution. A program can be established and maintained by a state, an agency or instrumentality of a state, or an eligible educational institution.

The part of a distribution representing the amount paid or contributed to a QTP isn't included in income. This is a return of the investment in the program.

In most cases, the beneficiary doesn't include in income any earnings distributed from a QTP if the total distribution is less than or equal to adjusted qualified higher education expenses. See Pub. 970 for more information.

Railroad retirement annuities. The following types of payments are treated as pension or annuity income and are taxable under the rules explained in Pub. 575, Pension and Annuity Income.

- Tier 1 railroad retirement benefits that are more than the social security equivalent benefit.
- Tier 2 benefits.
- Vested dual benefits.

Rewards. If you receive a reward for providing information, include it in your income.

Sale of home. You may be able to exclude from income all or part of any gain from the sale or exchange of your main home. See Pub. 523.

Sale of personal items. If you sold an item you owned for personal use, such as a car, refrigerator, furniture, stereo, jewelry, or silverware, your gain is taxable as a capital gain. Report it as explained in the Instructions for Schedule D (Form 1040). You can't deduct a loss.

However, if you sold an item you held for investment, such as gold or silver bullion, coins, or gems, any gain is taxable as a capital gain and any loss is deductible as a capital loss.

Example. You sold a painting on an online auction website for \$100. You bought the painting for \$20 at a garage sale years ago. Report your gain as a capital gain as explained in the Instructions for Schedule D (Form 1040).

Scholarships and fellowships. A candidate for a degree can exclude amounts received as a qualified scholarship or fellowship. A qualified scholarship or fellowship is any amount you receive that's for:

- Tuition and fees to enroll at or attend an educational institution; or
- Fees, books, supplies, and equipment required for courses at the educational institution.

Amounts used for room and board don't qualify for the exclusion. See Pub. 970 for more information on qualified scholarships and fellowship grants.

Payment for services. In most cases, you must include in income the part of any scholarship or fellowship that represents payment for past, present, or future teaching, research, or other services. This applies even if all candidates for a degree must perform the services to receive the degree.

For information about the rules that apply to a tax-free qualified tuition reduction provided to employees and their families by an educational institution, see Pub. 970.

Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) payments. Allowances paid by the VA aren't included in your income. These allowances aren't considered scholarship or fellowship grants.

Prizes. Scholarship prizes won in a contest aren't scholarships or fellowships if you don't have to use the prizes for educational purposes. You must include these amounts in your income on Schedule 1 (Form 1040), line 8i, whether or not you use the amounts for educational purposes.

Sharing/gig economy. A sharing economy is one in which assets are shared between individuals for a fee, usually through the internet. For example, you rent out your car when you don't need it, or you share your wi-fi account for a fee.

A gig economy is one in which a short-term contract or freelance work is the norm, as opposed to a permanent job. For example, you drive for a ride-sharing service, or work as a fitness trainer, babysitter, or tutor.

Generally, if you have income from sharing economy transactions, or you did gig work, you must include all income received whether you received a Form 1099-K, Payment Card

and Third-Party Network Transactions, or not. See the Instructions for Schedule C (Form 1040) and the Instructions for Schedule SE (Form 1040).

Changes to reporting requirements on Form 1099-K. For calendar years after 2023, lower reporting thresholds will lead to more people receiving a Form 1099-K. For calendar year 2024, taxpayers who accept payments from a third-party settlement organization will receive a Form 1099-K if the aggregate amount they receive for the provision of goods and services exceeds \$5,000 during the calendar year. Use amounts reported on the Form 1099-K with your other tax records to compute your taxable income. Taxpayers who received payments as gross receipts in a trade or business should report their gross receipts on Schedule C (Form 1040).

Taxpayers who received payments for the sale of a capital asset at a gain should report the sale on Form 8949 and Schedule D (Form

1040). Taxpayers who received payments for the sale of an asset used in a trade or business or held for the production of income, on which depreciation was or should have been claimed, report the sale on Form 4797. Taxpayers who received payments from the sale of a personal item sold at a gain treat the sale as a sale of a capital asset as discussed above. If the personal item was sold at a loss, the loss is generally not deductible. Report the sales amount as income on Schedule 1 (Form 1040), line 8z, and the same amount as a deduction on Schedule 1 (Form 1040), line 24z. If the loss was a result of a casualty in a federally declared disaster, see the instructions for Schedule A (Form 1040), line 15. If the Form 1099-K erroneously reports reimbursements for personal expenses, report the amount on both Schedule 1 (Form 1040), lines 8z and 24z.

For more information about Form 1099-K, see the *Instructions for Payee* included on that form and frequently asked questions and other information at [IRS.gov/1099K](https://www.irs.gov/1099K).

State tax payments. Do not include payments on your tax return made by states under legislatively provided social benefit programs for the promotion of the general welfare. To qualify for the general welfare exclusion, state payments must be paid from a governmental fund, be for the promotion of general welfare (that is, based on the need of the individual or family receiving such payments), and not represent compensation for services.

Stolen property. If you steal property, you must report its fair market value in your income in the year you steal it unless you return it to its rightful owner in the same year.

Transporting school children. Don't include in your income a school board mileage allowance for taking children to and from school if you aren't in the business of taking children to school. You can't deduct expenses for providing this transportation.

Union benefits and dues. Amounts deducted from your pay for union dues, assessments, contributions, or other payments to a union can't be excluded from your income.

Strike and lockout benefits. Benefits paid to you by a union as strike or lockout benefits, including both cash and the fair market value of other property, are usually included in your income as compensation. You can exclude these benefits from your income only when the facts clearly show that the union intended them as gifts to you.

Utility rebates. If you're a customer of an electric utility company and you participate in the utility's energy conservation program, you

may receive on your monthly electric bill either:

- A reduction in the purchase price of electricity furnished to you (rate reduction), or
- A nonrefundable credit against the purchase price of the electricity.

The amount of the rate reduction or nonrefundable credit isn't included in your income.

9.

Individual Retirement Arrangements (IRAs)

What's New

IRA contribution limit increased.

Beginning in 2024, the IRA contribution limit is increased to \$7,000 (\$8,000 for individuals age 50 or older) from \$6,500 (\$7,500 for individuals age 50 or older).

Distributions to victims of domestic abuse. Beginning with distributions made after December 31, 2023, a distribution to a domestic abuse victim is not subject to the 10% additional tax on early distributions if certain requirements are met. See Pub. 590-B for more information.

Distributions for emergency personal expenses. Beginning with distributions made after December 31, 2023, a distribution to an

individual for certain emergency personal expenses is not subject to the 10% additional tax on early distributions if certain requirements are met. See Pub. 590-B for more information.

Modified adjusted gross income (AGI) limit for traditional IRA contributions. For 2024, if you are covered by a retirement plan at work, your deduction for contributions to a traditional IRA is reduced (phased out) if your modified AGI is:

- More than \$123,000 but less than \$143,000 for a married couple filing a joint return or a qualifying surviving spouse,
- More than \$77,000 but less than \$87,000 for a single individual or head of household, or
- Less than \$10,000 for a married individual filing a separate return.

If you either live with your spouse or file a joint return, and your spouse is covered by a retirement plan at work but you aren't, your deduction is phased out if your modified AGI is more than \$230,000 but less than \$240,000. If your modified AGI is \$240,000 or more, you can't take a deduction for contributions to a traditional IRA. See *How Much Can You Deduct*, later.

Modified AGI limit for Roth IRA contributions. For 2024, your Roth IRA contribution limit is reduced (phased out) in the following situations.

- Your filing status is married filing jointly or qualifying surviving spouse and your modified AGI is at least \$230,000. You can't make a Roth IRA contribution if your modified AGI is \$240,000 or more.
- Your filing status is single, head of household, or married filing separately and you didn't live with your spouse at any time in 2024 and your modified AGI is

at least \$146,000. You can't make a Roth IRA contribution if your modified AGI is \$161,000 or more.

- Your filing status is married filing separately, you lived with your spouse at any time during the year, and your modified AGI is more than zero. You can't make a Roth IRA contribution if your modified AGI is \$10,000 or more.

See Can You Contribute to a Roth IRA, later.

2025 modified AGI limits. You can find information about the 2025 contribution and AGI limits in Pub. 590-A.

Reminders

Contributions to both traditional and Roth IRAs. For information on your combined contribution limit if you contribute to both traditional and Roth IRAs, see Roth IRAs and traditional IRAs, later.

Statement of required minimum

distribution. If a minimum distribution from your IRA is required, the trustee, custodian, or issuer that held the IRA at the end of the preceding year must either report the amount of the required minimum distribution to you, or offer to figure it for you. The report or offer must include the date by which the amount must be distributed. The report is due January 31 of the year in which the minimum distribution is required. It can be provided with the year-end fair market value statement that you normally get each year. No report is required for IRAs of owners who have died.

IRA interest. Although interest earned from your IRA is generally not taxed in the year earned, it isn't tax-exempt interest. Tax on your traditional IRA is generally deferred until you take a distribution. Don't report this interest on your tax return as tax-exempt interest.

Net Investment Income Tax (NIIT). For purposes of the NIIT, net investment income doesn't include distributions from a qualified retirement plan including IRAs (for example, 401(a), 403(a), 403(b), 408, 408A, or 457(b) plans). However, these distributions are taken into account when determining the modified AGI threshold. Distributions from a nonqualified retirement plan are included in net investment income. See Form 8960, Net Investment Income Tax—Individuals, Estates, and Trusts, and its instructions for more information.

Form 8606. To designate contributions as nondeductible, you must file Form 8606.



The term "50 or older" is used several times in this chapter. It refers to an IRA owner who is age 50 or older by the end of the tax year.

Introduction

An IRA is a personal savings plan that gives you tax advantages for setting aside money for your retirement.

This chapter discusses the following topics.

- The rules for a traditional IRA (any IRA that isn't a Roth or SIMPLE IRA).
- The Roth IRA, which features nondeductible contributions and tax-free distributions.

Simplified Employee Pensions (SEPs) and Savings Incentive Match Plans for Employees (SIMPLE) plans aren't discussed in this chapter. For more information on these plans and employees' SEP IRAs and SIMPLE IRAs that are part of these plans, see Pub. 560.

For information about contributions, deductions, withdrawals, transfers, rollovers, and other transactions, see Pub. 590-A and Pub. 590-B.

Useful Items

You may want to see:

Publication

- ☐ **560** Retirement Plans for Small Business
- ☐ **575** Pension and Annuity Income
- ☐ **590-A** Contributions to Individual Retirement Arrangements (IRAs)
- ☐ **590-B** Distributions from Individual Retirement Arrangements (IRAs)

Form (and Instructions)

- ☐ **5329** Additional Taxes on Qualified Plans (Including IRAs) and Other Tax-Favored Accounts
- ☐ **8606** Nondeductible IRAs
- ☐ **8915-F** Qualified Disaster Retirement Plan Distributions and Repayments

For these and other useful items, go to [IRS.gov/ Forms](https://www.irs.gov/forms).

Traditional IRAs

In this chapter, the original IRA (sometimes called an ordinary or regular IRA) is referred to as a “traditional IRA.” A traditional IRA is any IRA that isn't a Roth IRA or a SIMPLE IRA. Two advantages of a traditional IRA are:

- You may be able to deduct some or all of your contributions to it, depending on your circumstances; and
- Generally, amounts in your IRA, including earnings and gains, aren't taxed until they are distributed.

Who Can Open a Traditional IRA?

You can open and make contributions to a traditional IRA if you (or, if you file a joint return, your spouse) received taxable compensation during the year.



For tax years beginning after 2019, there is no age limit on making contributions to your traditional IRA. For more information, see Pub. 590-A.

What is compensation? Generally, compensation is what you earn from working. Compensation includes wages, salaries, tips, professional fees, bonuses, and other amounts you receive for providing personal services. The IRS treats as compensation any amount properly shown in box 1 (Wages, tips, other compensation) of Form W-2, Wage and Tax Statement, provided that this amount is reduced by any amount properly shown in box 11 (Nonqualified plans).

Scholarship or fellowship payments are generally compensation for this purpose only if reported in box 1 of your Form W-2.

However, for tax years beginning after 2019, certain non-tuition fellowship and stipend payments not reported to you on Form W-2 are treated as taxable compensation for IRA

purposes. These amounts include taxable non-tuition fellowship and stipend payments made to aid you in the pursuit of graduate or postdoctoral study and included in your gross income under the rules discussed in chapter 1 of Pub. 970, Tax Benefits for Education.

Compensation also includes commissions and taxable alimony and separate maintenance payments.

Self-employment income. If you are self-employed (a sole proprietor or a partner), compensation is the net earnings from your trade or business (provided your personal services are a material income-producing factor) reduced by the total of:

- The deduction for contributions made on your behalf to retirement plans, and
- The deductible part of your self-employment tax.

Compensation includes earnings from self-employment even if they aren't subject to self-employment tax because of your religious beliefs.

Nontaxable combat pay. For IRA purposes, if you were a member of the U.S. Armed Forces, your compensation includes any nontaxable combat pay you receive.

What isn't compensation? Compensation doesn't include any of the following items.

- Earnings and profits from property, such as rental income, interest income, and dividend income.
- Pension or annuity income.
- Deferred compensation received (compensation payments postponed from a past year).
- Income from a partnership for which you don't provide services that are a material income-producing factor.

- Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) payments reported on Schedule SE (Form 1040), line 1b.
- Any amounts (other than combat pay) you exclude from income, such as foreign earned income and housing costs.

When and How Can a Traditional IRA Be Opened?

You can open a traditional IRA at any time. However, the time for making contributions for any year is limited. See *When Can Contributions Be Made*, later.

You can open different kinds of IRAs with a variety of organizations. You can open an IRA at a bank or other financial institution or with a mutual fund or life insurance company. You can also open an IRA through your stockbroker. Any IRA must meet Internal Revenue Code requirements.

Kinds of traditional IRAs. Your traditional IRA can be an individual retirement account or annuity. It can be part of either a SEP or an employer or employee association trust account.

How Much Can Be Contributed?

There are limits and other rules that affect the amount that can be contributed to a traditional IRA. These limits and other rules are explained below.

Community property laws. Except as discussed later under Kay Bailey Hutchison Spousal IRA limit, each spouse figures their limit separately, using their own compensation. This is the rule even in states with community property laws.

Brokers' commissions. Brokers' commissions paid in connection with your traditional IRA are subject to the contribution limit.

Trustees' fees. Trustees' administrative fees aren't subject to the contribution limit.

Qualified reservist repayments. If you are (or were) a member of a reserve component and you were ordered or called to active duty after September 11, 2001, you may be able to contribute (repay) to an IRA amounts equal to any qualified reservist distributions you received.

You can make these repayment contributions even if they would cause your total contributions to the IRA to be more than the general limit on contributions. To be eligible to make these repayment contributions, you must have received a qualified reservist distribution from an IRA or from a section 401(k) or 403(b) plan or similar arrangement.

For more information, see *Qualified reservist repayments* under *How Much Can Be Contributed?* in chapter 1 of Pub. 590-A.



Contributions on your behalf to a traditional IRA reduce your limit for contributions to a Roth IRA.

(See Roth IRAs, later.)

General limit. For 2024, the most that can be contributed to your traditional IRA is generally the smaller of the following amounts.

- \$7,000 (\$8,000 if you are 50 or older).
- Your taxable compensation (defined earlier) for the year.

This is the most that can be contributed regardless of whether the contributions are to one or more traditional IRAs or whether all or part of the contributions are nondeductible.

(See Nondeductible Contributions, later.)

Qualified reservist repayments don't affect this limit.

Example 1. You are 34 years old and single and earned \$24,000 in 2024. Your IRA contributions for 2024 are limited to \$7,000.

Example 2. You are an unmarried college student working part time and earned \$3,500 in 2024. Your IRA contributions for 2024 are limited to \$3,500, the amount of your compensation.

Kay Bailey Hutchison Spousal IRA limit.

For 2024, if you file a joint return and your taxable compensation is less than that of your spouse, the most that can be contributed for the year to your IRA is the smaller of the following amounts.

1. \$7,000 (\$8,000 if you are 50 or older).
2. The total compensation includible in the gross income of both you and your spouse for the year, reduced by the following two amounts.
 - a. Your spouse's IRA contribution for the year to a traditional IRA.
 - b. Any contribution for the year to a Roth IRA on behalf of your spouse.

This means that the total combined contributions that can be made for the year to your IRA and your spouse's IRA can be as much as \$14,000 (\$15,000 if only one of you is 50 or older, or \$16,000 if both of you are 50 or older).

When Can Contributions Be Made?

As soon as you open your traditional IRA, contributions can be made to it through your chosen sponsor (trustee or other administrator). Contributions must be in the form of money (cash, check, or money order). Property can't be contributed.

Contributions must be made by due date.

Contributions can be made to your traditional IRA for a year at any time during the year or by the due date for filing your return for that year, not including extensions.

Designating year for which contribution is made. If an amount is contributed to your traditional IRA between January 1 and April

15, you should tell the sponsor which year (the current year or the previous year) the contribution is for. If you don't tell the sponsor which year it is for, the sponsor can assume, and report to the IRS, that the contribution is for the current year (the year the sponsor received it).

Filing before a contribution is made. You can file your return claiming a traditional IRA contribution before the contribution is actually made. Generally, the contribution must be made by the due date of your return, not including extensions.

Contributions not required. You don't have to contribute to your traditional IRA for every tax year, even if you can.

How Much Can You Deduct?

Generally, you can deduct the lesser of:

- The contributions to your traditional IRA for the year, or

- The general limit (or the Kay Bailey Hutchison Spousal IRA limit, if it applies).

However, if you or your spouse were covered by an employer retirement plan, you may not be able to deduct this amount. See Limit if Covered by Employer Plan, later.



You may be able to claim a credit for contributions to your traditional IRA. For more information, see chapter 3 of Pub. 590-A.

Trustees' fees. Trustees' administrative fees that are billed separately and paid in connection with your traditional IRA aren't deductible as IRA contributions. You are also not able to deduct these fees as an itemized deduction.

Brokers' commissions. Brokers' commissions are part of your IRA contribution and, as such, are deductible subject to the limits.

Full deduction. If neither you nor your spouse was covered for any part of the year by an employer retirement plan, you can take a deduction for total contributions to one or more traditional IRAs of up to the lesser of:

- \$7,000 (\$8,000 if you are 50 or older in 2024), or
- 100% of your compensation.

This limit is reduced by any contributions made to a section 501(c)(18) plan on your behalf.

Kay Bailey Hutchison Spousal IRA. In the case of a married couple with unequal compensation who file a joint return, the deduction for contributions to the traditional IRA of the spouse with less compensation is limited to the lesser of the following amounts.

1. \$7,000 (\$8,000 if the spouse with the lower compensation is 50 or older in 2024).

2. The total compensation includible in the gross income of both spouses for the year reduced by the following three amounts.
 - a. The IRA deduction for the year of the spouse with the greater compensation.
 - b. Any designated nondeductible contribution for the year made on behalf of the spouse with the greater compensation.
 - c. Any contributions for the year to a Roth IRA on behalf of the spouse with the greater compensation.

This limit is reduced by any contributions to a 501(c)(18) plan on behalf of the spouse with the lesser compensation.

Note. If you were divorced or legally separated (and didn't remarry) before the end of the year, you can't deduct any

contributions to your spouse's IRA. After a divorce or legal separation, you can deduct only contributions to your own IRA. Your deductions are subject to the rules for single individuals.

Covered by an employer retirement plan.

If you or your spouse was covered by an employer retirement plan at any time during the year for which contributions were made, your deduction may be further limited. This is discussed later under *Limit if Covered by Employer Plan*. Limits on the amount you can deduct don't affect the amount that can be contributed. See *Nondeductible Contributions*, later.

Are You Covered by an Employer Plan?

The Form W-2 you receive from your employer has a box used to indicate whether you were covered for the year. The "Retirement plan" box should be checked if you were covered.

Reservists and volunteer firefighters should also see *Situations in Which You Aren't Covered*, later.

If you aren't certain whether you were covered by your employer's retirement plan, you should ask your employer.

Federal judges. For purposes of the IRA deduction, federal judges are covered by an employer retirement plan.

For Which Year(s) Are You Covered?

Special rules apply to determine the tax years for which you are covered by an employer plan. These rules differ depending on whether the plan is a defined contribution plan or a defined benefit plan.

Tax year. Your tax year is the annual accounting period you use to keep records and report income and expenses on your income tax return. For almost all people, the tax year is the calendar year.

Defined contribution plan. Generally, you are covered by a defined contribution plan for a tax year if amounts are contributed or allocated to your account for the plan year that ends with or within that tax year.

A defined contribution plan is a plan that provides for a separate account for each person covered by the plan. Types of defined contribution plans include profit-sharing plans, stock bonus plans, and money purchase pension plans. For additional information, see Pub. 590-A.

Table 9-1. Effect of Modified AGI¹ on Deduction if You Are Covered by Retirement Plan at Work

If you are covered by a retirement plan at work, use this table to determine if your modified AGI affects the amount of your deduction.

IF your filing status is...	AND your modified AGI is...	THEN you can take...
Single or Head of household	\$77,000 or less	a full deduction.
	more than \$77,000 but less than \$87,000	a partial deduction.
	\$87,000 or more	no deduction.

Married filing jointly or Qualifying surviving spouse	\$123,000 or less	a full deduction.
	more than \$123,000 but less than \$143,000	a partial deduction.
	\$143,000 or more	no deduction.
Married filing separately²	less than \$10,000	a partial deduction.
	\$10,000 or more	no deduction.

1. Modified AGI (adjusted gross income). See Modified AGI, later.
2. If you didn't live with your spouse at any time during the year, your filing status is considered Single for this

purpose (therefore, your IRA deduction is determined under the "Single" column).

Defined benefit plan. If you are eligible to participate in your employer's defined benefit plan for the plan year that ends within your tax year, you are covered by the plan. This rule applies even if you:

- Declined to participate in the plan,
- Didn't make a required contribution, or
- Didn't perform the minimum service required to accrue a benefit for the year.

A defined benefit plan is any plan that isn't a defined contribution plan. In a defined benefit plan, the level of benefits to be provided to each participant is spelled out in the plan. The plan administrator figures the amount needed to provide those benefits, and those amounts are contributed to the plan. Defined benefit plans include pension plans and annuity plans.

No vested interest. If you accrue a benefit for a plan year, you are covered by that plan even if you have no vested interest in (legal right to) the accrual.

Situations in Which You Aren't Covered

Unless you are covered under another employer plan, you aren't covered by an employer plan if you are in one of the situations described below.

Social security or railroad retirement.

Coverage under social security or railroad retirement isn't coverage under an employer retirement plan.

Benefits from a previous employer's plan. If you receive retirement benefits from a previous employer's plan, you aren't covered by that plan.

Reservists. If the only reason you participate in a plan is because you are a member of a re-serve unit of the U.S. Armed Forces, you may not be covered by the plan. You aren't

covered by the plan if both of the following conditions are met.

1. The plan you participate in is established for its employees by:
 - a. The United States,
 - b. A state or political subdivision of a state, or
 - c. An instrumentality of either (a) or (b) above.
2. You didn't serve more than 90 days on active duty during the year (not counting duty for training).

Volunteer firefighters. If the only reason you participate in a plan is because you are a volunteer firefighter, you may not be covered by the plan. You aren't covered by the plan if both of the following conditions are met.

1. The plan you participate in is established for its employees by:
 - a. The United States,
 - b. A state or political subdivision of a state, or
 - c. An instrumentality of either (a) or (b) above.
2. Your accrued retirement benefits at the beginning of the year won't provide more than \$1,800 per year at retirement.

Limit if Covered by Employer Plan

If either you or your spouse was covered by an employer retirement plan, you may be entitled to only a partial (reduced) deduction or no de-duction at all, depending on your income and your filing status.

Your deduction begins to decrease (phase out) when your income rises above a certain amount and is eliminated altogether when it

reaches a higher amount. These amounts vary depending on your filing status.

To determine if your deduction is subject to phaseout, you must determine your modified AGI and your filing status. See *Filing status* and *Modified AGI*, later. Then use Table 9-1 or Table 9-2 to determine if the phaseout applies.

Social security recipients. Instead of using Table 9-1 or Table 9-2, use the worksheets in *Appendix B* of Pub. 590-A if, for the year, all of the following apply.

- You received social security benefits.
- You received taxable compensation.
- Contributions were made to your traditional IRA.
- You or your spouse was covered by an employer retirement plan.

Use those worksheets to figure your IRA deduction, your nondeductible contribution, and the taxable portion, if any, of your social security benefits.

Deduction phaseout. If you are covered by an employer retirement plan and you didn't receive any social security retirement benefits, your IRA deduction may be reduced or eliminated de-pending on your filing status and modified AGI as shown in Table 9-1.

If your spouse is covered. If you aren't covered by an employer retirement plan, but your spouse is, and you didn't receive any social security benefits, your IRA deduction may be reduced or eliminated entirely depending on your filing status and modified AGI as shown in Table 9-2.

Filing status. Your filing status depends primarily on your marital status. For this purpose, you need to know if your filing status is single, head of household, married filing jointly, qualifying surviving spouse, or

married filing separately. If you need more information on filing status, see chapter 2.

Lived apart from spouse. If you didn't live with your spouse at any time during the year and you file a separate return, your filing status, for this purpose, is single.

Modified AGI. You may be able to use Worksheet 9-1 to figure your modified AGI. However, if you made contributions to your IRA for 2024 and received a distribution from your IRA in 2024, see Pub. 590-A.



Don't assume that your modified AGI is the same as your compensation. Your modified AGI may include income in addition to your compensation (discussed earlier), such as interest, dividends, and income from IRA distributions.

When filing Form 1040 or 1040-SR, refigure the AGI amount on line 11 without taking into account any of the following amounts.

- IRA deduction.
- Student loan interest deduction.
- Foreign earned income exclusion.
- Foreign housing exclusion or deduction.
- Exclusion of qualified savings bond interest shown on Form 8815, Exclusion of Interest From Series EE and I U.S. Savings Bonds Issued After 1989.
- Exclusion of employer-provided adoption benefits shown on Form 8839, Qualified Adoption Expenses.

Table 9-2. Effect of Modified AGI¹ on Deduction if You Aren't Covered by Retirement Plan at Work

If you aren't covered by a retirement plan at work, use this table to determine if your modified AGI affects the amount of your deduction.

IF your filing status is...	AND your modified AGI is...	THEN you can take...
Single, Head of household, or Qualifying surviving spouse	any amount	a full deduction.
Married filing jointly or separately with a spouse who <i>isn't</i>	any amount	a full deduction.

covered by a plan at work		
Married filing jointly with a spouse who <i>is</i> covered by a plan at work	\$230,000 or less	a full deduction.
	more than \$230,000 but less than \$240,000	a partial deduction.
	\$240,000 or more	no deduction.
Married filing separately with a spouse who <i>is</i> covered by a plan at work ²	less than \$10,000	a partial deduction.
	\$10,000 or more	no deduction.

1. Modified AGI (adjusted gross income).
See Modified AGI, on previous page.
2. You are entitled to the full deduction if you didn't live with your spouse at any time during the year.

This is your modified AGI.

Worksheet 9-1. **Figuring Your Modified AGI**

Keep for Your Records 

Use this worksheet to figure your modified AGI for traditional IRA purposes.

1. Enter your AGI from Form 1040 or 1040-SR, line 11, figured without taking into account the amount from Schedule 1 (Form 1040), line 20	1. _____
2. Enter any student loan interest deduction from Schedule 1 (Form 1040), line 21	2. _____
3. Enter any foreign earned income and/or housing exclusion from Form 2555, line 45	3. _____
4. Enter any foreign housing deduction from Form 2555, line 50	4. _____
5. Enter any excludable savings bond interest from Form 8815, line 14	5. _____
6. Enter any excluded employer-provided adoption benefits from Form 8839, line 28	6. _____
7. Add lines 1 through 6. This is your modified AGI for traditional IRA purposes	7. _____

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Both contributions for 2024 and distributions in 2024. If all three of the following apply, any IRA distributions you received in 2024 may be partly tax free and partly taxable.

- You received distributions in 2024 from one or more traditional IRAs.
- You made contributions to a traditional IRA for 2024.
- Some of those contributions may be nondeductible contributions.

If this is your situation, you must figure the taxable part of the traditional IRA distribution before you can figure your modified AGI. To do this, you can use Worksheet 1-1 in Pub. 590-B.

If at least one of the above doesn't apply, figure your modified AGI using Worksheet 9-1.

How to figure your reduced IRA

deduction. You can figure your reduced IRA deduction for Form 1040 or 1040-SR by using the worksheets in chapter 1 of Pub. 590-A. Also, the Instructions for Form 1040 include similar worksheets that you may be able to use instead.

Reporting Deductible Contributions

When filing Form 1040 or 1040-SR, enter your IRA deduction on Schedule 1 (Form 1040), line 20.

Nondeductible Contributions

Although your deduction for IRA contributions may be reduced or eliminated, contributions can be made to your IRA up to the general limit or, if it applies, the Kay Bailey Hutchison Spousal IRA limit. The difference between your total permitted contributions and your IRA deduction, if any, is your nondeductible contribution.

Example. You are 30 years old and single. In 2024, you were covered by a retirement plan at work. Your salary was \$67,000. Your modified AGI was \$90,000. You made a \$7,000 IRA contribution for 2024. Because you were covered by a retirement plan and your modified AGI was over \$87,000, you can't deduct the \$7,000 IRA contribution. You must designate this contribution as a nondeductible contribution by reporting it on Form 8606, as explained next.

Form 8606. To designate contributions as nondeductible, you must file Form 8606.

You don't have to designate a contribution as nondeductible until you file your tax return. When you file, you can even designate otherwise deductible contributions as nondeductible.

You must file Form 8606 to report nondeductible contributions even if you don't have to file a tax return for the year.



A Form 8606 isn't used for the year that you make a rollover from a qualified retirement plan to a traditional IRA and the rollover includes nontaxable amounts. In those situations, a Form 8606 is completed for the year you take a distribution from that IRA. See Form 8606 under Distributions Fully or Partly Taxable, later.

Failure to report nondeductible contributions. If you don't report nondeductible contributions, all of the contributions to your traditional IRA will be treated as deductible contributions when withdrawn. All distributions from your IRA will be taxed unless you can show, with satisfactory evidence, that nondeductible contributions were made.

Penalty for overstatement. If you overstate the amount of nondeductible contributions on your Form 8606 for any tax year, you must pay a penalty of \$100 for

each overstatement, unless it was due to reasonable cause.

Penalty for failure to file Form 8606. You will have to pay a \$50 penalty if you don't file a required Form 8606, unless you can prove that the failure was due to reasonable cause.

Tax on earnings on nondeductible contributions. As long as contributions are within the contribution limits, none of the earnings or gains on contributions (deductible or nondeductible) will be taxed until they are distributed. See *When Can You Withdraw or Use IRA Assets*, later.

Cost basis. You will have a cost basis in your traditional IRA if you made any nondeductible contributions. Your cost basis is the sum of the nondeductible contributions to your IRA minus any withdrawals or distributions of nondeductible contributions.

Inherited IRAs

If you inherit a traditional IRA, you are called a beneficiary. A beneficiary can be any person or entity the owner chooses to receive the benefits of the IRA after the owner dies.

Beneficiaries of a traditional IRA must include in their gross income any taxable distributions they receive.

Inherited from spouse. If you inherit a traditional IRA from your spouse, you generally have the following three choices.

1. Treat it as your own IRA by designating yourself as the account owner.
2. Treat it as your own by rolling it over into your IRA, or to the extent it is taxable, into a:
 - a. Qualified employer plan,
 - b. Qualified employee annuity plan (section 403(a) plan),

- c. Tax-sheltered annuity plan (section 403(b) plan), or
 - d. Deferred compensation plan of a state or local government (section 457 plan).
3. Treat yourself as the beneficiary rather than treating the IRA as your own.

Treating it as your own. You will be considered to have chosen to treat the IRA as your own if:

- Contributions (including rollover contributions) are made to the inherited IRA, or
- You don't take the required minimum distribution for a year as a beneficiary of the IRA.

You will only be considered to have chosen to treat the IRA as your own if:

- You are the sole beneficiary of the IRA, and
- You have an unlimited right to withdraw amounts from it.

However, if you receive a distribution from your deceased spouse's IRA, you can roll that distribution over into your own IRA within the 60-day time limit, as long as the distribution isn't a required distribution, even if you aren't the sole beneficiary of your deceased spouse's IRA.

Inherited from someone other than spouse. If you inherit a traditional IRA from anyone other than your deceased spouse, you can't treat the inherited IRA as your own. This means that you can't make any contributions to the IRA. It also means you can't roll over any amounts into or out of the inherited IRA. However, you can make a trustee-to-trustee

transfer as long as the IRA into which amounts are being moved is set up and maintained in the name of the deceased IRA owner for the benefit of you as beneficiary.

For more information, see *Inherited IRAs* under *Rollover From One IRA Into Another*, later.

Can You Move Retirement Plan Assets?

You can transfer, tax free, assets (money or property) from other retirement plans (including traditional IRAs) to a traditional IRA. You can make the following kinds of transfers.

- Transfers from one trustee to another.
- Rollovers.
- Transfers incident to a divorce.

Transfers to Roth IRAs. Under certain conditions, you can move assets from a traditional IRA or from a designated Roth

account to a Roth IRA. You can also move assets from a qualified retirement plan to a Roth IRA. See *Can You Move Amounts Into a Roth IRA?* under *Roth IRAs*, later.

Trustee-to-Trustee Transfer

A transfer of funds in your traditional IRA from one trustee directly to another, either at your request or at the trustee's request, isn't a rollover. This includes the situation where the current trustee issues a check to the new trustee, but gives it to you to deposit.

Because there is no distribution to you, the transfer is tax free. Because it isn't a rollover, it isn't affected by the 1-year waiting period required between rollovers, discussed later under *Rollover From One IRA Into Another*.

For information about direct transfers to IRAs from retirement plans other than IRAs, see *Can You Move Retirement Plan Assets?* in chapter 1 and *Can You Move Amounts Into a Roth IRA?* in chapter 2 of Pub. 590-A.

Rollovers

Generally, a rollover is a tax-free distribution to you of cash or other assets from one retirement plan that you contribute (roll over) to another retirement plan. The contribution to the second retirement plan is called a rollover contribution.

Note. An amount rolled over tax free from one retirement plan to another is generally includible in income when it is distributed from the second plan.

Kinds of rollovers to a traditional IRA.

You can roll over amounts from the following plans into a traditional IRA.

- A traditional IRA.
- An employer's qualified retirement plan for its employees.
- A deferred compensation plan of a state or local government (section 457 plan).

- A tax-sheltered annuity plan (section 403(b) plan).

Treatment of rollovers. You can't deduct a rollover contribution, but you must report the rollover distribution on your tax return as discussed later under Reporting rollovers from IRAs and Reporting rollovers from employer plans.

Rollover notice. A written explanation of rollover treatment must be given to you by the plan (other than an IRA) making the distribution. See *Written explanation to recipients* in Pub. 590-A.

Kinds of rollovers from a traditional IRA. You may be able to roll over, tax free, a distribution from your traditional IRA into a qualified plan. These plans include the federal Thrift Savings Plan (for federal employees), deferred compensation plans of state or local governments (section 457 plans), and tax-sheltered annuity plans (section 403(b) plans). The part of the distribution that you

can roll over is the part that would otherwise be taxable (includible in your income).

Qualified plans may, but aren't required to, accept such rollovers.

Time limit for making a rollover

contribution. You must generally make the rollover contribution by the 60th day after the day you receive the distribution from your traditional IRA or your employer's plan.

The IRS may waive the 60-day requirement where the failure to do so would be against equity or good conscience, such as in the event of a casualty, disaster, or other event beyond your reasonable control. For more information, see *Can You Move Retirement Plan Assets?* in chapter 1 of Pub. 590-A.

Extension of rollover period. If an amount distributed to you from a traditional IRA or a qualified employer retirement plan is a frozen deposit at any time during the 60-day period allowed for a rollover, special rules extend the rollover period. For more information, see

Can You Move Retirement Plan Assets? in chapter 1 of Pub. 590-A.

Rollover From One IRA Into Another

You can withdraw, tax free, all or part of the assets from one traditional IRA if you reinvest them within 60 days in the same or another traditional IRA. Because this is a rollover, you can't deduct the amount that you reinvest in an IRA.

Waiting period between rollovers.

Generally, if you make a tax-free rollover of any part of a distribution from a traditional IRA, you can't, within a 1-year period, make a tax-free rollover of any later distribution from that same IRA. You also can't make a tax-free rollover of any amount distributed, within the same 1-year period, from the IRA into which you made the tax-free rollover.

The 1-year period begins on the date you receive the IRA distribution, not on the date you roll it over into an IRA. Rules apply to the

number of rollovers you can have with your traditional IRAs. See *Application of one-rollover limitation* next.

Application of one-rollover limitation. You can make only one rollover from an IRA to another (or the same) IRA in any 1-year period, regardless of the number of IRAs you own. The limit applies by aggregating all of an individual's IRAs, including SEP and SIMPLE IRAs, as well as traditional and Roth IRAs, effectively treating them as one IRA for purposes of the limit. However, trustee-to-trustee transfers between IRAs aren't limited and rollovers from traditional IRAs to Roth IRAs (conversions) aren't limited.

Example. You have three traditional IRAs: IRA-1, IRA-2, and IRA-3. You didn't take any distributions from your IRAs in 2024. On January 1, 2025, you took a distribution from IRA-1 and rolled it over into IRA-2 on the same day. For 2025, you can't roll over any other 2024 IRA distribution, including a

rollover distribution involving IRA-3. This wouldn't apply to a trustee-to-trustee transfer or a Roth IRA conversion.

Partial rollovers. If you withdraw assets from a traditional IRA, you can roll over part of the withdrawal tax free and keep the rest of it. The amount you keep will generally be taxable (except for the part that is a return of nondeductible contributions). The amount you keep may be subject to the 10% additional tax on early distributions, discussed later under *What Acts Result in Penalties or Additional Taxes*.

Required distributions. Amounts that must be distributed during a particular year under the required minimum distribution rules (discussed later) aren't eligible for rollover treatment.

Inherited IRAs. If you inherit a traditional IRA from your spouse, you can generally roll it over, or you can choose to make the

inherited IRA your own. See *Treating it as your own*, earlier.

Not inherited from spouse. If you inherit a traditional IRA from someone other than your spouse, you can't roll it over or allow it to receive a rollover contribution. You must withdraw the IRA assets within a certain period. For more information, see *When Must You Withdraw Assets? (Required Minimum Distributions)* in chapter 1 of Pub. 590-B.

Reporting rollovers from IRAs. Report any rollover from one traditional IRA to the same or another traditional IRA on Form 1040 or 1040-SR as follows.

Enter the total amount of the distribution on Form 1040 or 1040-SR, line 4a. If the total amount on Form 1040 or 1040-SR, line 4a, was rolled over, enter zero on Form 1040 or 1040-SR, line 4b. If the total distribution wasn't rolled over, enter the taxable portion of the part that wasn't rolled over on Form 1040 or 1040-SR, line 4b. Enter "Rollover"

next to Form 1040 or 1040-SR, line 4b. For more information, see the Instructions for Form 1040.

If you rolled over the distribution into a qualified plan (other than an IRA) or you make the rollover in 2025, attach a statement explaining what you did.

Rollover From Employer's Plan Into an IRA

You can roll over into a traditional IRA all or part of an eligible rollover distribution you receive from your (or your deceased spouse's):

- Employer's qualified pension, profit-sharing, or stock bonus plan;
- Annuity plan;
- Tax-sheltered annuity plan (section 403(b) plan); or
- Governmental deferred compensation plan (section 457 plan).

A qualified plan is one that meets the requirements of the Internal Revenue Code.

Eligible rollover distribution. Generally, an eligible rollover distribution is any distribution of all or part of the balance to your credit in a qualified retirement plan except the following.

1. A required minimum distribution (explained later under When Must You Withdraw IRA Assets? (Required Minimum Distributions)).
2. A hardship distribution.
3. Any of a series of substantially equal periodic distributions paid at least once a year over:
 - a. Your lifetime or life expectancy,
 - b. The lifetimes or life expectancies of you and your beneficiary, or
 - c. A period of 10 years or more.
4. Corrective distributions of excess contributions or excess deferrals, and any income allocable to the excess, or

of excess annual additions and any allocable gains.

5. A loan treated as a distribution because it doesn't satisfy certain requirements either when made or later (such as upon default), unless the participant's accrued benefits are reduced (offset) to repay the loan. For more information, see Plan loan offsets under Time Limit for Making a Rollover Contribution in Pub. 590-A.
6. Dividends on employer securities.
7. The cost of life insurance coverage.

Your rollover into a traditional IRA may include both amounts that would be taxable and amounts that wouldn't be taxable if they were distributed to you but not rolled over. To the extent the distribution is rolled over into a traditional IRA, it isn't includible in your income.



Any nontaxable amounts that you roll over into your traditional IRA become part of your basis (cost) in your IRAs.

To recover your basis when you take distributions from your IRA, you must complete Form 8606 for the year of the distribution. See Form 8606 under Distributions Fully or Partly Taxable, later.

Rollover by nonspouse beneficiary. A direct transfer from a deceased employee's qualified pension, profit-sharing, or stock bonus plan; annuity plan; tax-sheltered annuity (section 403(b)) plan; or governmental deferred compensation (section 457) plan to an IRA set up to receive the distribution on your behalf can be treated as an eligible rollover distribution if you are the designated beneficiary of the plan and not the employee's spouse. The IRA is treated as an inherited IRA. For more information about inherited IRAs, see Inherited IRAs, earlier.

Reporting rollovers from employer plans.

Enter the total distribution (before income tax or other deductions were withheld) on Form 1040 or 1040-SR, line 4a. This amount should be shown in box 1 of Form 1099-R, Distributions From Pensions, Annuities, Retirement or Profit-Sharing Plans, IRAs, Insurance Contracts, etc. From this amount, subtract any contributions (usually shown in box 5 of Form 1099-R) that were taxable to you when made. From that result, subtract the amount that was rolled over either directly or within 60 days of receiving the distribution. Enter the remaining amount, even if zero, on Form 1040 or 1040-SR, line 4b. Also, enter "Rollover" next to Form 1040 or 1040-SR, line 4b.

Transfers Incident to Divorce

If an interest in a traditional IRA is transferred from your spouse or former spouse to you by a divorce or separate maintenance decree or a written document

related to such a decree, the interest in the IRA, starting from the date of the transfer, is treated as your IRA. The transfer is tax free. For detailed information, see *Distributions under divorce or similar proceedings (alternate payees)* under *Rollover From Employer's Plan Into an IRA* in Pub. 590-A.

Converting From Any Traditional IRA to a Roth IRA

Allowable conversions. You can withdraw all or part of the assets from a traditional IRA and reinvest them (within 60 days) in a Roth IRA. The amount that you withdraw and timely contribute (convert) to the Roth IRA is called a conversion contribution. If properly (and timely) rolled over, the 10% additional tax on early distributions won't apply. However, a part or all of the conversion contribution from your traditional IRA is included in your gross income.

Required distributions. You can't convert amounts that must be distributed from your traditional IRA for a particular year (including the calendar year in which you reach age 73 under the required minimum distribution rules (discussed later)).

Income. You must include in your gross income distributions from a traditional IRA that you would have had to include in income if you hadn't converted them into a Roth IRA. These amounts are normally included in income on your return for the year that you converted them from a traditional IRA to a Roth IRA.

You don't include in gross income any part of a distribution from a traditional IRA that is a return of your basis, as discussed later.

You must file Form 8606 to report 2024 conversions from traditional, SEP, or SIMPLE IRAs to a Roth IRA in 2024 (unless you recharacterized the entire amount) and to figure the amount to include in income.

If you must include any amount in your gross income, you may have to increase your withholding or make estimated tax payments. See chapter 4.

Recharacterizations

You may be able to treat a contribution made to one type of IRA as having been made to a different type of IRA. This is called recharacterizing the contribution. See *Can You Move Retirement Plan Assets?* in chapter 1 of Pub. 590-A for more detailed information.

How to recharacterize a contribution. To recharacterize a contribution, you must generally have the contribution transferred from the first IRA (the one to which it was made) to the second IRA in a trustee-to-trustee transfer. If the transfer is made by the due date (including extensions) for your tax return for the year during which the contribution was made, you can elect to treat the contribution as having been originally

made to the second IRA instead of to the first IRA. If you recharacterize your contribution, you must do all three of the following.

- Include in the transfer any net income allocable to the contribution. If there was a loss, the net income you must transfer may be a negative amount.
- Report the recharacterization on your tax return for the year during which the contribution was made.
- Treat the contribution as having been made to the second IRA on the date that it was actually made to the first IRA.

No recharacterizations of conversions made in 2018 or later. A conversion of a traditional IRA to a Roth IRA, and a rollover from any other eligible retirement plan to a Roth IRA, made in tax years beginning after tax year 2017, can't be recharacterized as having been made to a traditional IRA. If you made a conversion in the 2017 tax year, you

had until the due date (including extensions) for filing the return for that tax year to recharacterize it.

No deduction allowed. You can't deduct the contribution to the first IRA. Any net income you transfer with the recharacterized contribution is treated as earned in the second IRA.

How do you recharacterize a contribution? To recharacterize a contribution, you must notify both the trustee of the first IRA (the one to which the contribution was actually made) and the trustee of the second IRA (the one to which the contribution is being moved) that you have elected to treat the contribution as having been made to the second IRA rather than the first. You must make the notifications by the date of the transfer.

Only one notification is required if both IRAs are maintained by the same trustee. The notification(s) must include all of the following information.

- The type and amount of the contribution to the first IRA that is to be recharacterized.
- The date on which the contribution was made to the first IRA and the year for which it was made.
- A direction to the trustee of the first IRA to transfer in a trustee-to-trustee transfer the amount of the contribution and any net income (or loss) allocable to the contribution to the trustee of the second IRA.
- The name of the trustee of the first IRA and the name of the trustee of the second IRA.
- Any additional information needed to make the transfer.

Reporting a recharacterization. If you elect to recharacterize a contribution to one IRA as a contribution to another IRA, you must report the recharacterization on your tax return as directed by Form 8606 and its instructions. You must treat the contribution as having been made to the second IRA.

When Can You Withdraw or Use IRA Assets?

There are rules limiting use of your IRA assets and distributions from it. Violation of the rules generally results in additional taxes in the year of violation. See *What Acts Result in Penalties or Additional Taxes*, later.

Contributions returned before the due date of return. If you made IRA contributions in 2024, you can withdraw them tax free by the due date of your return. If you have an extension of time to file your return, you can withdraw them tax free by the extended due date. You can do this if, for

each contribution you withdraw, both of the following conditions apply.

- You didn't take a deduction for the contribution.
- You withdraw any interest or other income earned on the contribution. You can take into account any loss on the contribution while it was in the IRA when figuring the amount that must be withdrawn. If there was a loss, the net income earned on the contribution may be a negative amount.

Note. To figure the amount you must withdraw, see Worksheet 1-4 under *When Can You Withdraw or Use Assets?* in chapter 1 of Pub. 590-A.

Earnings includible in income. You must include in income any earnings on the contributions you withdraw. Include the earnings in income for the year in which you made the contributions, not in the year in which you withdraw them.