

Sample article for organizations to use to reach customers (374 word count)

Customize and provide the following article in your communication vehicles for your audience.

Learn about the limits on the contributions you can make to your IRA

There are limits on the contributions you can make to traditional and Roth IRAs. An excess IRA contribution occurs if you:

- contribute more than the contribution limit.
- make a regular IRA contribution to a traditional IRA for a year if you're age 70½ or older in that year (you may be able to contribute to a Roth IRA regardless of your age).
- make an improper rollover contribution to an IRA.

You must pay an excise tax of 6 percent per year as long as the excess contributions remain in the IRA, but not more than 6 percent of the combined value of all your IRAs as of the end of the year.

To avoid the excise tax, you should withdraw:

- the excess contribution from your IRA, and
- any income earned on the excess contribution by the due date of your individual income tax return (including extensions).

For most taxpayers, if you filed your tax return by April 15, 2015, without withdrawing the [excess contributions](#), you can still remove the additional 6 percent tax if you take the withdrawal no later than Oct. 15, 2015, by filing an amended return.

You may also be able to avoid including withdrawals of excess contributions in your gross income even if withdrawn after the due date of your tax return under certain conditions.

Double check the IRA contributions you have made for 2014 and 2015 and withdraw any excess contributions.

NOTE TO EDITOR: Below are helpful resources on retirement topics on [IRS.gov](#).

- [Individual Retirement Arrangement \(IRAs\)](#) – information on annual contribution and deduction limits, and excess contributions to traditional and Roth IRAs.

- [Publication 590 A](#) Contributions to Individual Retirement Arrangements (*IRAs*) – information on excess IRA contributions, including when withdrawal of excess IRA contributions are taxed.
- [Frequently Asked Questions](#): IRAs – answers to common IRA questions on contributions and deductions, rollovers to and from your IRAs, loans and tax on withdrawals.
- [Traditional and Roth IRAs](#) – Comparison of these two types of IRAs, showing who can contribute and how withdrawals are taxed.