Sample article for organizations and employers to use to reach customers (444 word count)

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

Join the plan in 2016

By participating in your employer-sponsored retirement plan, you can:

- decrease your taxable income by making pre-tax salary deferral contributions if allowed by the plan; and
- increase your retirement savings.

Participate in your employer's retirement plan
Join the plan as soon as you can. Many retirement plans have quarterly or semi-annual entry dates. Contact your employer to find out when you can participate and consider joining the plan on the next entry date.

If your employer does not offer a retirement plan, consider enrolling in *my*RA®, a new retirement savings plan offered by the U.S. Department of the Treasury. It's safe and affordable and a great option for people who don't have a retirement savings plan at work.

Review your retirement plan contributions
Once you have joined your employer's retirement plan, review the amount you are contributing to the plan. The maximum annual salary deferral contributions allowed for 2016 are:

- $18,000 to 401(k) or 403(b) plans
- $12,500 to SIMPLE plans

If you are 50 or older by the end of the year, your retirement plan may allow you to make additional contributions, known as catch-up contributions. For 2015, you can make catch-up contributions of:

- $6,000 to 401(k) or 403(b) plans
- $3,000 to SIMPLE plans

Saver's credit
You may be able to take a tax credit for making eligible contributions to your employer-sponsored retirement plan and IRA, including a myRA. The amount of the credit you can get is based on the contributions you make and your credit rate. Your credit rate can be as low as 10 percent or as high as 50 percent, depending on your income and your filing status.

So, join the plan as soon as you can and start saving for your retirement!

NOTE TO EDITOR: Below are helpful resources on retirement topics found on IRS.gov.

- Saving For Retirement – links to various topics, including benefits of saving for retirement, eligibility and participation, contributions limits for plans and more.
- Types of Retirement Plans – information on the different types of plans, including the amount and type of contributions you can make to the plan.
- Retirement Plans Frequently Asked Questions – answers to commonly asked questions on various retirement plan topics.
- Saver's Credit (Retirement Savings Contributions Credit) – explains who is eligible to take the credit, the amount of the credit and how to claim it.

On Twitter? Send these Tweets:

- Find out the benefits of saving for your retirement http://go.usa.gov/FsC4 #IRS
- Learn how marriage, divorce or kids can affect your retirement savings http://go.usa.gov/FsCG #IRS