



VANTAGE®

Account Application

Date Stamp
(Office use only)
Rev. 9/29/2025

This is a fillable PDF form. To complete the form, click in an area and type.

☐ New Client ☐ Existing Client

Personal Information (All information in this section is required.)

Legal Name: _____
First, Middle, Last

Legal Address: _____
(P.O. Box not allowed. Must be legal residence)

City: _____ **State:** _____ **Zip:** _____

Mailing Address: _____
(If different than above)

City: _____ **State:** _____ **Zip:** _____

Date of Birth: _____ **Social Security Number:** _____

Mobile Number: _____ **Email Address:** _____

By providing your mobile number, you agree to receive account-related text messages. Message and data rates may apply. Reply STOP to opt out at any time. To Opt Out now check here: ☐

Occupation (If retired, must state former occupation) _____ **Industry:** _____

County of Residence: _____ **Marital Status:** ☐ Single ☐ Married ☐ Widowed or Divorced

Account Type (Please select one.)

☐ **Traditional IRA** (IRS Form 5305) ☐ **ROTH IRA** (IRS Form 5305 IRA) ☐ **SEP IRA** (IRS Form 5305-SPE needed to open account) ☐ **SIMPLE IRA** (IRS Form 5305-Simple needed to open account)

☐ **Health Savings Account** - Please select one of the following ☐ **Self Coverage** ☐ **Family Coverage** (IRS Form 5305-C)

☐ **Beneficiary IRA** This option applies to beneficiaries of deceased parties only - Please select one of the following: ☐ **Traditional IRA** ☐ **ROTH IRA**

Original IRA Holder _____ **Date of Passing:** _____

Application Fee

☐ Visa ☐ MC ☐ Discover ☐ AMEX **Promo Code** (If Applicable): _____

Name On Card: _____

Card Number: _____ **Exp:** _____

Billing Address: _____

City: _____ **State:** _____ **Zip:** _____

How Did You Hear About Us?

☐ **Referred by a friend or family?** ☐ Yes ☐ No **If yes, their:** _____
First and Last Name

Are they a Vantage Client? ☐ Yes ☐ No

☐ **Workshop / Event:** _____ **Company Name:** _____
Event Name and Date

☐ **Advertisement:** ☐ Bing ☐ Google ☐ Yahoo ☐ Facebook ☐ LinkedIn

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Beneficiary Designation

If designating a Trust as the beneficiary, please include a copy of the Trust Abstract. If the Primary or Contingent box is not checked for a beneficiary, the beneficiary will be deemed to be a Primary Beneficiary. If more than one Primary Beneficiary is designated and no distribution percentages are indicated, the beneficiaries will be deemed to own equal share percentages in the Account. Multiple Contingent Beneficiaries with no share percentage indicated will also be deemed to share equally. Share percentages must equal 100%.

Legal Name: _____ ☐ Primary ☐ Contingent Phone: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Date Of Birth: _____ Social Security Number: _____

Relationship: _____ Share: _____

Legal Name: _____ ☐ Primary ☐ Contingent Phone: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Date Of Birth: _____ Social Security Number: _____

Relationship: _____ Share: _____

Legal Name: _____ ☐ Primary ☐ Contingent Phone: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Date Of Birth: _____ Social Security Number: _____

Relationship: _____ Share: _____

Spousal Consent (Only required if your spouse is not the primary beneficiary - see note below.)

The consent of spouse must be signed only if all of the following conditions are present:

- a. Your spouse is living;
- b. Your spouse is not the sole primary beneficiary named; and
- c. You and your spouse are residents of a community property state (such as AZ, CA, ID, LA, NV, NM, TX, WA, or WI).

I am the spouse of the account holder listed above. I hereby certify that I have reviewed the Beneficiary Designation and I understand that I have a property interest in the account. I hereby acknowledge and consent to the above Beneficiary Designation other than, or in addition to, myself as primary beneficiary. I further acknowledge that I am waiving part or all of my rights to receive benefits under this plan when my spouse dies.

I, _____ hereby consent to the above Beneficiary Designation.
(Please type or print name.)

Spouse Signature: _____ Date: _____

Interested Party Authorization

I hereby authorize Administrator to provide the individual and/or entity named below access to information contained in my Account. I understand that this authorization relates only to information and that the named individual and/or entity may not conduct transactions on my behalf. I understand if an entity is named, any individual associated with the entity may receive information related to my account. I understand that I may revoke this authorization by providing written notice to Administrator at any time.

Interested Party Name: _____ Phone Number: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email Address: _____ Relationship: _____

Appointment of Custodian, Investment Direction and Important Disclosures.

Your signature is required. Please read before signing.

The account holder shown on the front of this application must read this agreement carefully and sign and date this part. By signing this application, you acknowledge the following:

Administrator Role:

I, the undersigned Account Owner, understand that Vantage Retirement Plans, L.L.C. ("Administrator") provides certain record keeping and administrative services in connection with self-directed retirement accounts on the behalf of the appointed custodian of the account ("Custodian"). I am making this application (my "Account Application") for Custodian to become the custodian of my self-directed retirement account (my "Account") and for Administrator to provide services to Custodian and me in connection with my Account. Custodian is identified in the IRS Form 5305 disclosed to and reviewed by me (the "Custodial Account Agreement"). I understand and acknowledge: (i) the Custodial Account Agreement is my separate agreement with Custodian and I consent to all its terms and conditions; (ii) Custodian may delegate certain responsibilities for my Account to Administrator under the Custodial Account Agreement; (iii) this Account Application, including the terms and conditions of the Documents (defined below), sets forth the terms of my relationship with Administrator; (iv) Administrator provides services as a record keeper and administrator, and no communication between me and Administrator, whether by e-mail, U.S. Mail, facsimile, direction/authorization letter, or otherwise, creates a contractual obligation of Administrator; (v) Administrator is a beneficiary of the terms and conditions of the Custodial Account Agreement; and (vi) Custodian is a beneficiary of the terms and conditions of this Account Application. For purposes of this Account Application, the terms Administrator and Custodian include their respective agents, assigns, licensees, and franchisees.

Appointment:

I hereby appoint Custodian as the custodian of my Account and Administrator as the administrator of my Account. Administrator may change custodians at any time to any institution permitted by law. The appointment of Custodian and Administrator does not create a fiduciary relationship between me or my Account and Administrator or Custodian. I understand and agree that neither Administrator nor Custodian is a fiduciary to me or for my Account and/or my investment as such term is defined in the IRC, ERISA, and/or any applicable federal, state, or local law. I authorize Administrator to communicate with me by e-mail, and I will regularly monitor the e-mail address(es) that I provide to Administrator. I will deliver written notice to Administrator within ten (10) days of any change to the contact information I provide to Administrator, including, but not limited to, e-mail addresses, mailing addresses, and telephone numbers. Administrator may cease providing services and resign as administrator if I do not respond to written correspondence from Administrator or fail to pay any of Administrator's fees.

I hereby agree to participate in the Account offered by Custodian. I direct that all benefits upon my death be paid as stated above. If I designate a trust as a beneficiary, then I understand that I must disclose information regarding such trust to Administrator and Custodian. I authorize Administrator to deduct annual fees and other charges from my Account. I acknowledge and agree that I am responsible for determining my eligibility to participate in this Account, the amount and deductibility of any contributions made in connection with the Account, and the taxation of any distribution from my Account.

Adequate Information:

I acknowledge that I have received a copy of the Fee Schedule and reviewed the appropriate IRS Form 5305 for my type of account, and that occasionally Administrator will provide additional documents and forms for my information and use in connection with my Account (documents provided or made available to me by Administrator regarding the administration of my Account are hereafter collectively referred to as the "Documents"). The Documents contain terms and conditions that apply to my Account, and I agree to be bound by those terms and conditions, as they may be amended from time to time. Failure to promptly notify Administrator in writing of my objection(s) to a term or condition of my Account Application or a Document is deemed a waiver of such an objection. If my Account Application pertains to an individual retirement account (an "IRA"), then I may revoke the Account Application without penalty by delivering written notice of the same to Custodian c/o Administrator within seven (7) days of the date of submission of the Account Application to Administrator. I have received sufficient information from Administrator to complete this Account Application. I have been afforded the opportunity to request information from Administrator and am satisfied with the information Administrator has provided to me.

Responsibility for Tax Consequences:

I assume all responsibility for any tax consequences and/or penalties that may result from making contributions to, transactions with, or distributions from my Account. I am authorized and of legal age to establish this Account and purchase investments permitted under the Plan Agreement offered by Custodian. I assume complete responsibility for: (i) determining my eligibility for the Account transaction(s) that I direct Administrator to make on my behalf; (ii) ensuring all contributions I make are within the limits established by applicable tax laws and regulations; and (iii) the tax consequences of any contribution and distribution (including rollover contributions and distributions). I understand and acknowledge that no tax advice has been or will be provided to me by Administrator. I certify under penalty of perjury that: (i) I have provided Administrator with complete and accurate social security or tax identification number(s); and (ii) I am not subject to backup withholding because: (a) I am exempt from backup withholding; or (b) I have not been notified by the Internal Revenue Service ("IRS") that I am subject to backup withholding because of a failure to report interest or dividends; or (c) the IRS has notified me that I am no longer subject to backup withholding. (Please note: you must cross out item (ii) if you have been notified by the IRS that you are currently subject to backup withholding because of under reporting interest or dividends on your tax return). I understand and acknowledge the IRS does not require my consent to any provision of this document other than the certification required to avoid backup withholding. If the Account is a rollover contribution, then I hereby irrevocably elect, pursuant to the requirements of Section 1.402(a)(5)-1T of the IRS regulations, to treat this contribution as a rollover contribution.

Investment Instructions:

I hereby instruct Custodian to follow the investment directions that I provide to Administrator relating to my Account. Investment directions must be made in the form of an executed Administrator-approved direction letter. Administrator will not accept investment directions in any form other than an Administrator-approved Document. Administrator may accept and act in accordance with electronic copies of signed direction letters or other Documents. In taking any action related to my Account, Administrator and Custodian may act on my instruction, designation, or representation stated in an investment direction letter or other Document for the Account that has been delivered to Administrator. Administrator does not verify information and signatures supplied in an investment direction letter or other Document, and I am responsible for all damages associated with or arising from falsified or forged information and/or signatures in investment direction letters and other Documents delivered to Administrator regarding the Account. I understand that I am responsible for providing true, correct, and complete information in all instructions and other Documents delivered to Administrator and that Administrator and Custodian are not responsible for any damages caused by or related to incomplete or incorrect information, misleading, or impossible instructions, or falsified or forged information or signatures contained in a direction or other Document delivered to Administrator.

Account Responsibility:

The Account is established for the exclusive benefit of me or my beneficiaries. I take complete responsibility for the type of investment instrument(s) that I choose to fund my Account. I further understand that my Account is self-directed and that Administrator and Custodian will not investigate, perform due diligence, or otherwise review or ascertain the legitimacy, quality, security, and/or suitability of any investment or the persons offering the investment. I am solely responsible for investigating and performing all due diligence and research that a reasonably prudent investor would undertake prior to making an investment and throughout the period an investment is held, including, but not limited to, completing title and lien searches and monitoring the status and compliance of the investment(s) and investment source(s). It is my responsibility to review investments for all investment risks, and to monitor my Account investments for status, risks, and compliance for the entire duration they are held in my Account. I understand and agree that Administrator and Custodian are not required to take any action should there be any default regarding an investment asset in my Account. Administrator is not responsible for any damages associated with use of the website www.vantageiras.com or its associated pages (the "Website"), including, but not limited to, inability to access the Website or inaccurate information.

Release; Indemnification; Litigation Costs:

I understand and agree that Administrator does not and will not provide, through its website, workshops, or otherwise, any investment advice, structure, guidance, or strategies, or any tax advice, legal advice, due diligence, research, recording or title services, or endorsement of professional relationships ("Advisory Activities"). I understand and agree that Administrator has not made, through its website, workshops, or otherwise, any representations, warranties, promises, or guarantees regarding any investment, including, but not limited to, the quality and/or suitability of an investment, investment performance, preservation of capital, return on capital, feasibility of an investment strategy, security lien positions, placement of security interests, the credibility of business practices and/or ethics, or an investment's compliance with the Employee Retirement Income Securities Act ("ERISA"), the Internal Revenue Code ("IRC"), or any federal, state, or local law or regulation, including, but not limited to, applicable securities laws ("Investment Representations"). If I desire Advisory Activities and/or Investment Representations, then I will not look to nor rely on Administrator and will consult with independent legal, accounting, and/or financial professionals. I am aware of the transactions prohibited by Internal Revenue Code Section 4975 ("Prohibited Transactions") and warrant and represent that I will not participate in or request Administrator to participate in any Prohibited Transaction. Understanding and acknowledging that Administrator will not provide me with, and has at no time provided me with, any Advisory Activities, Investment Representations, or Prohibited Transactions, I fully, finally, and forever release and discharge Administrator from all claims relating to and arising from, in the broadest sense, Advisory Activities, Investment Representations, and Prohibited Transactions. I covenant not to sue or otherwise assert against Administrator, in any forum, any claim of any nature whatsoever, which I had, now have, or may purport to have related to or arising out of Advisory Activities, Investment Representations, or Prohibited Transactions. This release extends to all claims, whether known or unknown, past, present, or future. My release will remain effective as a full and complete release notwithstanding my discovery of new facts and/or claims.

If I elect to transfer assets from another custodian and/or administrator to the Account, then I hold harmless and fully indemnify Administrator and Custodian from and against claims, action, omissions, damages, liabilities, obligations, penalties, fines, judgments, deficiencies, losses, costs, expenses, assessments (including without limitation, interest, penalties, and reasonable attorneys' fees) arising from or relating to the transferred assets, in the broadest sense, prior to the date Custodian comes into possession of the assets designated for transfer to the Account. Neither Custodian nor Administrator has any duty or responsibility to investigate or take any action regarding actions or omissions completed by a prior custodian or administrator of accounts and assets held by me and/or for my benefit.

I further hold harmless and fully indemnify Administrator from and against all claims, actions, omissions, damages, liabilities, obligations, penalties, fines, judgments, deficiencies, losses, costs, expenses, assessments (including without limitation, interest, penalties, and reasonable attorneys' fees) arising from or relating to: (i) any action taken by Administrator or Custodian in reliance upon my instructions, designations, or representations; (ii) any action taken by Administrator or Custodian in exercising a right or power of Administrator or Custodian; (iii) any Advisory Activities, Investment Representations, or Prohibited Transaction; (iv) my actions or omissions in investigating, reviewing, and selecting investments; and (v) any action or omission of a third party regarding the Account or its assets; (vi) any claim made by a third-party related to my Account whereby Administrator or Custodian is named as a party.

In the event a claim, action, omission, damage, liability, obligation, penalty, fine, judgment, deficiency, loss, cost, expense, or assessment subject to the foregoing releases and indemnification (an "Indemnified Claim") is noticed or asserted, Administrator and Custodian may: (i) at their sole discretion, select their own attorneys to represent them regarding the Indemnified Claim(s); and deduct from my Account amounts sufficient to pay for any damages, costs, and expenses associated with such claim, including, but not limited to, all internal costs of Administrator and Custodian, and attorneys' fees and costs incurred by Administrator or Custodian, in connection with such claim (collectively, "Litigation Costs"). If there are insufficient funds in my Account to fully reimburse Administrator and Custodian for all Litigation Costs, then, upon demand by Administrator or Custodian, I will promptly reimburse Administrator and/or Custodian the outstanding balance of the Litigation Costs. If I fail to promptly reimburse the Litigation Costs, then Administrator and Custodian may seize and/or liquidate any of my assets under their control, and/or initiate legal action to obtain full reimbursement of the Litigation Costs.

I understand and acknowledge that if the services of Administrator or Custodian were marketed, suggested, or otherwise recommended to me by a third-party, individual or entity, such as a financial representative or investment promoter, then all such persons are not and will not be construed as agents, employees, representatives, affiliates, partners, consultants, or subsidiaries of Administrator or Custodian. Neither Administrator nor Custodian is responsible for or bound by any statements, representations, warranties, or agreements, made by any such person.

If any provision of this Account Application is determined to be illegal, invalid, void, or unenforceable, then such provision is severed from this Account Application and such illegality or invalidity will not affect the remaining provisions of this Account Application, which will remain in full force and effect.

Appointment of Custodian, Investment Direction and Important Disclosures. *(Continued)*

Your signature is required. Please read before signing.

The account holder shown on the front of this application must read this agreement carefully and sign and date this part. By signing this application, you acknowledge the following:

Important Information for Opening a New Account:

To comply with the USA PATRIOT Act, Administrator has adopted a Customer Identification Program that requires all accounts include a copy of an unexpired, photo-bearing, government-issued identification of the Account holder. The copy must be legible to permit Administrator to identify Account Owner's name and driver's license number or state issued identification number.

Electronic Communications, Signatures, and Records:

Subject to any limitations in Treasury Regulation section 1.401(a)-21 and other applicable federal law, I understand and acknowledge and the Account is subject to the Uniform Electronic Transactions Act, as passed in the state where the Administrator or Custodian is organized, and the federal Electronic Signature in Global and National Commerce Act (ESIGN Act, as contained in 15 U.S.C. 7001), as those laws pertain to electronic communication, electronic signatures, and electronic storage of Account records. Pursuant to applicable law, in lieu of the retention of the original records, Administrator and Custodian may cause any, or all, of its records, and records at any time in its custody, to be photographed or otherwise reproduced to permanent form, and any such photograph or reproduction has the same force and effect as the original thereof.

I acknowledge and agree that Administrator may monitor and record telephonic communications between me (or any Account representative) and Administrator for record-keeping, training, and quality-assurance purposes, and I consent to the same. My consent is effective without regard to, and is not contingent upon, the disclosure and/or publication of notice at the time of telephonic communication.

I further consent to Administrator's disclosure of records regarding the Account when required by law, including under subpoenas and/or orders issued by state and/or federal agencies, or state and/or federal courts.

Arbitration; Class Action:

Scope. I consent to the arbitration of any claim, controversy, dispute, or disagreement between me, the Account Owner, and Administrator (collectively the "Parties") arising out of and relating to the Account, the Account Application, the Documents, and/or the Custodial Account Agreement (each a "Dispute") under the terms and provisions set forth herein (the "Procedures") and in accordance with the Federal Arbitration Act. The Procedures do not preclude Administrator from seeking a temporary restraining order, injunction, or other equitable relief in state court or federal court for the breach of any duty, obligation, covenant, representation, or warranty, the breach of which may cause irreparable harm or damage to Administrator. All Disputes must be commenced within one (1) year after they accrue.

These Procedures do not apply to claims, controversies, disputes, or disagreements between me, the Account Owner, and persons other than the Administrator that arise out of or relate to the Account and/or investments made by me by or through the Account. I warrant and represent that I will not join or seek to add Administrator as a party, whether designated as indispensable or otherwise, to any legal proceeding or civil action between me, the Account Owner, and persons other than the Administrator that arise out of or relate to the Account and/or investments made by me by or through the Account.

Waiver. I acknowledge and agree that all Disputes not commenced within one (1) year after they accrue are waived by the Parties. I will only assert Disputes in my individual capacity and will not, and waive all right to assert, claims against Administrator in a class action or representative action in any forum, and I understand I have no right or authority to claim any Dispute be arbitrated on a class action or representative action basis. BY SIGNING THIS AGREEMENT, I, AS THE ACCOUNT OWNER, WAIVE ALL RIGHTS TO A JURY TRIAL AND ALL RIGHTS TO PARTICIPATE IN A CLASS ACTION OR REPRESENTATIVE ACTION.

Written Notice. If a Dispute occurs, then written notice of the Dispute must be delivered by the noticing Party (the "Claimant") to the other Party ("Respondent") by certified U.S. Mail, return receipt requested (a "Dispute Notice"). The Dispute Notice must identify the facts and claims that comprise the Dispute and the Claimant's requested remedy. Upon delivery of the Dispute Notice, the Parties must engage in good faith efforts to resolve the Dispute. If the Parties cannot resolve the Dispute within thirty (30) days following the Dispute Notice (the "Negotiation Period"), then the Parties must proceed to arbitration as set forth below.

Arbitration. A Dispute not resolved by agreement of the Parties will be resolved by means of binding arbitration before a single arbitrator in accordance with the then existing Commercial Arbitration Rules of the American Arbitration Association, including the Rules for Emergency Measures of Protection, unless otherwise provided herein.

The Parties may mutually agree to appoint a qualified arbitrator. Unless otherwise agreed by the Parties, a qualified arbitrator is a retired federal or state court judge, or American Arbitration Association ("AAA") and/or National Academy of Distinguished Neutrals ("NADN") neutral, located in Arizona with at least fifteen (15) years of working experience related to commercial legal disputes. If the Parties do not mutually select an arbitrator for appointment within fifteen (15) days of the expiration of the Negotiation Period, then the arbitrator of the Dispute will be selected and appointed as follows: The Claimant will nominate one arbitrator and notify the Respondent of Claimant's nomination within twenty (20) days of the expiration of the Negotiation Period; the Respondent will within fifteen (15) days of Claimant's delivery of notice of nomination nominate one arbitrator and notify Claimant of Respondent's nomination; and the two nominated arbitrators will then confer amongst themselves and mutually nominate and appoint a third arbitrator and notify the Parties of the same within fifteen (15) days of Respondent's delivery of notice to Claimant. Unless otherwise provided herein, the third arbitrator will serve as the sole arbitrator to hear and decide the Dispute identified under the Dispute Notice (the

"Arbitrator"). If Claimant fails to nominate an arbitrator and deliver notice of its nomination to Respondent within twenty (20) days of the expiration of the Negotiation Period, then all claims asserted by Claimant under the Dispute Notice will be deemed waived. If Respondent fails to timely nominate an arbitrator and provide notice of the same to Claimant under the Procedures, then the arbitrator timely nominated by Claimant will be appointed and serve as the Arbitrator. If one or both Parties' nominated arbitrators fail to appoint and notice the appointment of a third arbitrator, then the Dispute will be submitted to the AAA by the Party that noticed the Dispute, and the AAA will select and appoint the Arbitrator under its applicable rules.

The arbitration must be held in the Phoenix, Arizona metropolitan area and, unless otherwise provided herein, the Dispute is governed by Arizona law. The arbitration proceedings and arbitration award must be maintained by the Parties as strictly confidential, except as otherwise required by court order or as is necessary to confirm, vacate, or enforce the arbitration award and for disclosure in confidence to the Parties' respective attorneys, tax advisors, and senior management and to immediate family members of a Party who is an individual.

The Arbitrator will require exchange of disclosure statements by the Parties that conform with Arizona Rule of Civil Procedure 26.1 within forty-five (45) days following the appointment of the Arbitrator. All discovery must be completed within one hundred-twenty (120) days following the appointment of the Arbitrator, unless the Arbitrator otherwise determines for good cause. Any dispute or objections regarding discovery or the relevance of evidence will be determined by the Arbitrator. The final decision of the Arbitrator must be reduced to writing, include findings of fact and conclusions of law, and identify the prevailing Party for an award of attorneys' fees and costs. The prevailing Party is entitled to an award of his/her/its reasonable attorneys' fees and costs. The decision of the Arbitrator is binding on the Parties and not subject to appeal. Judgment upon the award(s) rendered by the Arbitrator may be entered and execution had in any court of competent jurisdiction and application may be made to such court(s) for a judicial acceptance of the award and an order of enforcement. The Arbitrator is not authorized to award punitive or other damages not measured by the prevailing party's actual damages. The Arbitrator has no authority to consider a class action or representative action by one or more Parties or otherwise preside over any form of a class or representative proceeding. All privileges under state and federal law, including attorney-client and work-product privileges, will be preserved and protected to the same extent that such privileges would be protected in a federal court proceeding applying the state laws of Arizona.

Under penalty of perjury, I certify that I have examined this Account Application, including all accompanying documents, and to the best of my knowledge and belief, the Account Application is true, correct, and complete. I have carefully read this document and I understand its contents, and I have not executed this Account Application under any duress, pressure, or fraud. I understand that upon signing below, this document becomes a legally enforceable agreement under which I will give up rights and potential claims. I have been encouraged to have legal counsel review this agreement before signing it. I understand that no person associated with Administrator or Custodian has authority to agree to anything different than as set forth in this Account Application.

PRINT, SIGN, AND MAIL THIS FORM TO ADMINISTRATOR. THIS FORM CONTAINS SENSITIVE FINANCIAL INFORMATION.

Account Owner's Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

An incomplete application will be discarded if not completed within 30 days of submitting. A new applicaton will be required to open an account.

Vantage, as agent for Custodian: _____ **Date:** _____



VANTAGE®

Fee Schedule

Date Stamp
(Office use only)
Rev. 1/29/2026

Account Owner Information (As it appears on your account application)

First Name: _____ Last Name: _____ Middle Initial: _____

Account Fees

Account Setup Fee (Non-refundable account application fee)	\$50
Annual Administration Fee (Due upon account funding)	
Per Asset	\$450
Per Mortgage Liability	\$150
<i>Maximum Annual Administration Fee \$2,250</i>	

Transaction Fees

Purchase, Sale, Exchange, Payoff, or Reregistration of Any Asset or Liability (For the addition or removal of an asset)	\$175
Roth Conversion or Recharacterization (Including partial requests)	\$75
Reregistration to Beneficiary Account	\$125
Domestic Wire Transfers	\$50
International Wire Transfers	\$75
Cashier's Checks	\$50
Check Fee or ACH Transfers (No Check / ACH Fee for Required Minimum Distributions)	\$10
Overnight Mail / Certified Mail	\$45 minimum / \$15
Returned Items or Stop Payment Requests	\$50
Tax Form Corrections	\$50 each
Legal Research Fee (3 hour minimum - \$150 per additional hour)	\$450 minimum / \$150
Custom Research Fee (5 hour minimum - \$75 per additional hour)	\$350 minimum / \$75
Full Account Termination (All assets are removed and the account is closed. An account cannot remain open with a zero market value. Annual administration fees are not prorated)	\$250
Outgoing Transfer / Rollover (For all Cash / In-Kind Transfers or Rollovers)	\$100
Specialized Distributions (In-Kind Distributions, Removal of Excess / Non-Deductible Contribution, Distribution due to Divorce / Legal Separation and Substantially Equal Payments)	\$100
Late Fee on Outstanding Invoices	\$35
Late or Incomplete Fair Market Valuation Submission (Assessed May 1st)	\$125 per account

Pay Fees From

Credit Card: Visa MC Discover AMEX

Name On Card: _____

Card Number: _____ **Exp.:** _____

Billing Address: _____

City: _____ **State:** _____ **Zip:** _____

Note: By adding your credit card information, you are authorizing Vantage to keep the information on file for the payment of future fees.

Signature

Vantage Retirement Plans, LLC ("Administrator") performs recordkeeping and administration duties in connection with Account Owner's self-directed account (the "Account") on behalf of the custodian ("Custodian") as set forth in Account Owner's account application (the "Account Application"). The terms and conditions of this document are incorporated into the Account Application, and the terms and conditions of the Account Application are incorporated herein.

The Custodian is entitled to receive, from the assets held in your Account, a fee equal in amount to all income that is generated from any Undirected Cash (defined as any cash in your Account not invested pursuant to a specific investment direction by you, the Account holder) which is held by Custodian in an account or product of an FDIC or other United States government insured financial institution, United States government security, or security that is insured or guaranteed by the United States government ("Custodial Fee"). The Custodial Fee is associated with cash management activities, including, but not limited to, account maintenance, depository bank selection, transaction processing, subaccounting, recordkeeping, and other services performed under the terms of this Agreement and your Account Application. Custodian retains the right, but does not have the obligation, to reduce this fee by rebating a portion of the Custodial Fee into your Account. You agree that the Custodial Fee may be retained by Custodian as compensation for the services provided by Custodian under this Agreement and your Account Application. Custodian may pay all or an agreed portion of Custodial Fee to Administrator as agreed between Custodian and Administrator. Custodian reserves the right to change all or part of the Custodial Fee at its discretion. If changes adversely affect any clients, 30 days written notice of the change will be provided.

FEES WILL BE DEDUCTED FROM YOUR ACCOUNT UNLESS OTHER ARRANGEMENTS HAVE BEEN MADE.

Minimum account balances may apply. Annual administration fees may be prepaid from your Account and not prorated. For your convenience, your annual fee will be reflected on your statements showing your administration charges. You may pay the amount shown on the statement.

If you have previously provided a credit card to be kept on file for payment of fees associated with your Account and the credit card is declined, the Administrator reserves the right to deduct these fees from your Account. If there are insufficient funds in your Account, we may liquidate other assets to pay for such fees. All Undirected Cash is maintained by Custodian at FDIC insured banks. Fees are subject to change.

Accounts that are not funded or that maintain a zero balance for sixty (60) days may be subject to closure.

In accordance with your Account Application, this Fee Disclosure is part of your Agreement with Administrator and must accompany your Account Application.

PLEASE SIGN AND RETURN THIS FORM TO THE VANTAGE OFFICE

Account Owner's Signature: _____ Date: _____

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VANTAGE®

Safekeeping Your Confidentiality

Privacy Policy

Vantage Retirement Plans, LLC (“we” or “us”) respects your desire for privacy and is committed to maintaining the confidentiality of your personal financial information. We believe the protection of customer information is a priority. As such, it is one of our fundamental business responsibilities as we strive to offer you the best IRA administration and recordkeeping services. This document outlines our Privacy Policy for maintaining your information.

Information We May Collect. To better understand your needs, administer our business, process transactions, and provide you with services, we collect non-public personal information about you from applications, questionnaires, or other forms submitted to us (through our website or otherwise) and your transactions with us or others. Non-public personal information may include information such as your name, postal address, e-mail address, social security number, assets, income, account balances, and account history.

Our Disclosure of That Information. We may disclose some of the information described above, such as your name and address, to affiliated companies that perform recordkeeping, marketing, mailings and other services on our behalf. We do not provide account or personal information to non-affiliated companies for the purpose of telemarketing or direct mail marketing.

We may disclose information about you, your accounts, and your transactions: (a) where it is necessary or helpful to effect, process, or confirm your transactions; (b) to verify the existence, history, and condition of your account for credit reporting agencies; (c) to comply with legal process, such as subpoenas and court orders; (d) to law enforcement authorities if we believe a crime has been committed; (e) if you give us your consent; and (f) as otherwise permitted by law.

We do not disclose nonpublic personal information about our current or former customers to others, except as set forth in this policy. If you decide to close your account(s) or become an inactive customer, we will adhere to the privacy policies and practices as described in this notice.

Maintaining Accurate Information. We have procedures in place that help us to maintain the accuracy of the personally identifiable information that we collect. Please contact us at (866)-459-4580 if you believe that our information about you is incomplete, out-of-date, or incorrect.

Information Security. We restrict access to your nonpublic personal information to those employees who have a need to know such information (e.g., to process your transactions or provide services to you). We maintain physical, electronic, and procedural safeguards that comply with federal standards to guard your nonpublic personal information.

Changes to this Policy. We may add to, delete, or change the terms of this Privacy Policy from time to time. We will notify you by mail within 30 days of any changes.

Questions. We value our customer relationships. If you have any questions regarding this Policy, please call us at (866) 459-4580. You can also write to us at Vantage Retirement Plans, LLC, 8742 E. Via de Commercio, Scottsdale, AZ 85258.

Form 5305-RA

(Rev. April 2017)

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

Roth Individual Retirement Custodial Account (Under Section 408A of the Internal Revenue Code)

Article I

- 1.01 Except in the case of a qualified rollover contribution described in section 408A(e) or a recharacterized contribution described in section 408A(d)(6), the Custodian will accept only cash contributions up to \$5,500 per year for 2013 through 2017. For individuals who have reached the age of 50 by the end of the year, the contribution limit is increased to \$6,500 per year for 2013 through 2017. For years after 2017, these limits will be increased to reflect a cost-of-living adjustment, if any.

Article II

- 2.01 The annual contribution limit described in Article I is gradually reduced to \$0 for higher income levels. For a Depositor who is single or treated as single, the annual contribution is phased out between adjusted gross income (AGI) of \$118,000 and \$133,000; for a married Depositor filing jointly, between AGI of \$186,000 and \$196,000; and for a married Depositor filing separately, between AGI of \$0 and \$10,000. These phase-out ranges are for 2017. For years after 2017, the phase-out ranges, except for the \$0 to \$10,000 range will be increased to reflect a cost-of-living adjustment, if any. Adjusted gross income is defined in section 408A(c)(3).
- 2.02 In the case of a joint return, the AGI limits in the preceding paragraph apply to the combined AGI of the Depositor and his or her spouse.

Article III

- 3.01 The Depositor's interest in the balance in the Custodial account is nonforfeitable.

Article IV

- 4.01 No part of the Custodial account funds may be invested in life insurance contracts, nor may the assets of the Custodial account be commingled with other property except in a common Custodial fund or common investment fund (within the meaning of section 408(a)(5)).
- 4.02 No part of the Custodial account funds may be invested in collectibles (within the meaning of section 408(m)) except as otherwise permitted by section 408(m)(3), which provides an exception for certain gold, silver, and platinum coins, coins issued under the laws of any state, and certain bullion.

Article V

- 5.01 If the Depositor dies before his or her entire interest is distributed to him or her and the Depositor's surviving spouse is not the designated beneficiary, the remaining interest will be distributed in accordance with (a) below or, if elected or there is no designated beneficiary, in accordance with (b) below:
- (a) The remaining interest will be distributed; starting by the end of the calendar year following the year of the Depositor's death, over the designated beneficiary's remaining life expectancy as determined in the year following the death of the Depositor.
- (b) The remaining interest will be distributed by the end of the calendar year containing the fifth anniversary of the Depositor's death.
- 5.02 The minimum amount that must be distributed each year under paragraph 5.01(a) above is the account value at the close of business on December 31 of the preceding year divided by the life expectancy (in the single life table in Regulations section 1.401(a)(9)-9) of the designated beneficiary using the attained age of the beneficiary in the year following the year of the Depositor's death and subtracting 1 from the divisor for each subsequent year.
- 5.03 If the Depositor's surviving spouse is the designated beneficiary, such spouse will then be treated as the Depositor.

Article VI

- 6.01 The Depositor agrees to provide the Custodian with all information necessary to prepare any reports required by sections 408(i) and 408A(d)(3)(E), Regulations sections 1.408-5 and 1.408-6, or other guidance published by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS).
- 6.02 The Custodian agrees to submit to the IRS and Depositor the reports prescribed by the IRS.

Article VII

- 7.01 Notwithstanding any other articles which may be added or incorporated, the provisions of Articles I through IV and this sentence will be controlling. Any additional articles inconsistent with section 408A, the related regulations, and other published guidance will be invalid.

Article VIII

- 8.01 This agreement will be amended as necessary to comply with the provisions of the Code, the related regulations, and other published guidance. Other amendments may be made with the consent of the persons whose signatures appear on the Roth IRA Adoption Agreement.

Article IX

- 9.01 **Applicable Law:** This Custodial Agreement is subject to all applicable federal laws and regulations and shall be governed by and construed under the applicable laws of the state of Washington, where the Custodian is organized. The term Depositor also includes the Depositor's Beneficiary(ies), where appropriate throughout this Agreement. Any lawsuit filed against or by Custodian or Administrator shall only be instituted in the district or county courts of Chelan County, Washington, where Custodian maintains its principal office, and Depositor agrees to submit to such jurisdiction both in connection with any such lawsuit which Depositor may file and in connection with any lawsuit which Custodian or Administrator may file against Depositor.
- 9.02 **Custodian and Administrator:**
- (a) The Custodian for the Custodial Account is **Foundation Trust Company, LLC**
- (b) The Administrator for the Custodial Account is **Vantage Retirement Plans, LLC**, a **Arizona** corporation.
- 9.03 **Agent for the Custodian:** The Custodian has appointed the Administrator to act as agent for the Custodian for the purpose of performing administrative or other custodial-related services with respect to the Custodial Account for which the Custodian otherwise has responsibility under this Agreement. All limitations of duties to the Depositor, and releases or indemnifications of the Custodian by the Depositor in this Agreement shall apply equally to the Administrator. The Administrator shall perform duties on behalf of the Custodian which include, but are not limited to, executing applications or adoption agreements, transfers, stock powers, escrow accounts, purchase agreements, notes, deeds, conveyances, liens, placing assets or liabilities in the Administrator's name for the benefit of the Depositor to provide administrative feasibility for such transactions, depositing contributions, and income, paying liabilities and distributions and government reporting for Depositors who have established a Custodial Account with the Custodian.
- 9.04 **Annual Accounting:** The Custodian shall, at least annually, provide the Depositor or Beneficiary (in the case of death) with an accounting of such Depositor's account. Such accounting shall be deemed to be accepted by the Depositor or Beneficiary, if the Depositor or Beneficiary does not object in writing within 60 days after the mailing of such accounting statement.
- 9.05 **Amendment:** The Depositor irrevocably delegates to the Custodian the right and power to amend this Custodial Agreement. Except as hereafter provided, the Custodian will give the Depositor 30 days prior written notice of any amendment. In case of a retroactive amendment required by law, the Custodian will provide written notice to the Depositor of the amendment within 30 days after the amendment is made, or if later, by the time that notice of the amendment is required to be given under regulations or other guidance provided by the IRS. The Depositor shall be deemed to have consented to any such amendment unless the Depositor notifies the Custodian to the contrary within 30 days after notice to the Depositor and requests a distribution or transfer of the balance in the account.
- 9.06 **Resignation and Removal of Custodian:**
- (a) The Custodian may resign and appoint a successor trustee or custodian to serve under this agreement or under another governing instrument

selected by the successor trustee or custodian by giving the Depositor written notice at least 30 days prior to the effective date of such resignation and appointment, which notice shall also include or be provided under separate cover a copy of such other governing instrument, if applicable, and the related disclosure statement. The Depositor shall then have 30 days from the date of such notice to either request a distribution of the entire account balance or designate a different successor trustee or custodian and notify the Custodian of such designation. If the Depositor does not request distribution of the account balance or notify the Custodian of the designation of a different successor trustee or custodian within such 30 day period, the Depositor shall be deemed to have consented to the appointment of the successor trustee or custodian and the terms of any new governing instrument, and neither the Depositor nor the successor shall be required to execute any written document to complete the transfer of the account to the successor trustee or custodian. The successor trustee or custodian may rely on any information, including beneficiary designations, previously provided by the Depositor to the Custodian.

- (b) The Depositor may at any time remove the Custodian and replace the Custodian with a successor trustee or custodian of the Depositor's choice by giving 30 days notice of such removal and replacement. The Custodian shall then deliver the assets of the account as directed by the Depositor. However, the Custodian may retain a portion of the assets of the IRA as a reserve for payment of any anticipated remaining fees and expenses and shall pay over any remainder of this reserve to the successor trustee or custodian upon satisfaction of such fees and expenses.
- (c) The Custodian may resign and demand that the Depositor appoint a successor trustee or custodian of this IRA by giving the Depositor written notice at least 30 days prior to the effective date of such resignation. The Depositor shall then have 30 days from the date of such notice to designate a successor trustee or custodian, notify the Custodian of the name and address of the successor trustee or custodian, and provide the Custodian with appropriate evidence that such successor has accepted the appointment and is qualified to serve as trustee or custodian of an individual retirement account.
 - (1) If the Depositor designates a successor trustee or custodian and provides the Custodian evidence of the successor's acceptance of appointment and qualification within such 30-day period, the Custodian shall then deliver all of the assets held by the Custodian in the account (whether in cash or personal or real property, wherever located, and regardless of value) to the successor trustee or custodian.
 - (2) If the Depositor does not notify the Custodian of the appointment of a successor trustee or custodian within such 30 day period, then the Custodian may distribute all of the assets held by the Custodian in the account (whether in cash or personal or real property, wherever located, and regardless of value) to the Depositor, outright and free of trust, and the Depositor shall be wholly responsible for the tax consequences of such distribution.

In either case, the Custodian may expend any assets in the account to pay expenses of transfer (including re-registering the assets and preparation of deeds, assignments, and other instruments of transfer or conveyance) to the successor trustee or custodian or the Depositor, as the case may be. In addition, the Custodian may retain a portion of the assets as a reserve for payment of any anticipated remaining fees and expenses. Upon satisfaction of such fees and expenses, the Custodian shall pay over any remainder of the reserve to the successor trustee or custodian or to the Depositor, as the case may be.

- (d) Administrator may at any time select a qualified successor custodian by giving the Depositor and Custodian written notice at least 30 days prior to the effective date of such appointment, which notice shall also include or be provided under separate cover a copy of such other governing instrument, if applicable, and the related disclosure statement. The Depositor shall then have 30 days from the date of such notice to either request a distribution of the entire Custodial Account balance or designate a different successor trustee or custodian and notify the Custodian and Administrator of such designation. If the Depositor does not request distribution of the Custodial Account balance or notify the Administrator of the designation of a different successor trustee or custodian within such 30 day period, the Depositor shall be deemed to have consented to the appointment of the successor custodian and the terms of any new governing instrument, and neither the Depositor nor the successor shall be required to execute any written document to complete the transfer of the Custodial Account to the successor custodian. The successor custodian may rely on any information, including beneficiary designations, previously provided by the Depositor to the Custodian.

9.07 Custodian's Fees and Expenses:

- (a) The Depositor agrees to pay the Custodian any and all fees specified in the Custodian's current published fee schedule for establishing and maintaining this Roth IRA, including but not limited to any fees for distributions from, transfers from, and terminations of this Roth IRA. The Custodian may change its fee schedule at any time by giving the Depositor 30 days prior written notice.
- (b) The Depositor agrees to pay any expenses incurred by the Custodian in the performance of its duties in connection with the account. Such expenses include, but are not limited to, administrative expenses, such as legal and accounting fees, and any taxes of any kind whatsoever that may be levied or assessed with respect to such account.
- (c) All such fees, taxes, and other administrative expenses charged to the account shall be collected either from the assets in the account or from any contributions to or distributions from such account if not paid by the Depositor, but the Depositor shall be responsible for any deficiency.
- (d) In the event that for any reason the Custodian is not certain as to who is entitled to receive all or part of the Custodial Funds, the Custodian reserves the right to withhold any payment from the Custodial Account, to request a court ruling to determine the disposition of the Custodial assets, and to charge the Custodial Account for any expenses incurred in obtaining such legal determination.
- (e) The Custodian shall be entitled to receive, from the assets held in the Custodial Account, a fee equal in amount to all income that is generated from any Undirected Cash (defined as any cash in the Custodial Account not invested pursuant to a specific investment direction by Depositor) which has been deposited by Custodian into FDIC or other United States government insured financial institutions, United States government securities, or securities that are insured or guaranteed by the United States government, as provided in Section 10.01(b) below. Custodian's fees from the Undirected Cash in the Custodial Account are associated with cash management activities, including, but not limited to, account maintenance, depository bank selection, transaction processing, sub-accounting, record keeping, and other services performed under the terms of this Agreement. Custodian retains the right, but does not have the obligation, to reduce this fee by rebating a portion of the fee into the Custodial Account. The Depositor agrees that this fee may be retained by the Custodian as compensation for the services provided by Custodian under this Agreement. The Custodian may pay all or an agreed portion of this fee to the Administrator as agreed between the Custodian and the Administrator. The Custodian reserves the right to change all or part of the Custodial Fee Schedule at its discretion with 30 days advance written notice to Depositor.
- (f) In addition to any portion of the Custodian's fee that the Administrator receives from the Custodian as provided in Section 9.07(e), the Administrator shall be entitled to fees for account opening, asset purchases and sales, distributions, transfers, terminations, and annual administration of the Custodial Account, along with other miscellaneous fees, as disclosed in a fee schedule provided by the Administrator to the Depositor. The Administrator may change its fee schedule at any time by giving the Depositor 30 days prior written notice. If payment is not received within thirty (30) days from the due date reflected on an invoice, a past due notice will be mailed to Depositor and a late fee equal to the lower of (a) 1.5% of the outstanding invoice for every month or partial month that the invoice is outstanding or (b) the maximum late penalty permitted under the state law where the Administrator is organized, shall be assessed to the Custodial Account. Additionally, assets may be liquidated from the account, without notice, for any outstanding fee which has not been paid. If fees are not paid within thirty (30) days after Administrator has mailed the past due notice, Administrator will begin the process of closing the Custodial Account. Any asset distributed directly to Depositor as part of closing the Custodial Account will be reported to the IRS on Form 1099-R and may subject the Depositor to possible taxes and penalties. Accounts with past due fees, unfunded accounts, and accounts with zero value will continue to incur administration fees until such time as Depositor notifies Administrator (on a form prescribed by Custodian) of Depositor's intent to close the account or until Custodian resigns.

- 9.08 **Withdrawal Requests:** All requests for withdrawal shall be in writing on the form provided by the Custodian. Such written notice must also contain the reason for the withdrawal and the method of distribution being requested. The Custodian reserves the right to reject any withdrawal request it may deem appropriate and to apply to a court of competent jurisdiction to make a determination with respect to the proper party eligible to receive a distribution from the account.
- 9.09 **Responsibilities:** Depositor agrees that all information and instructions given to the Custodian by the Depositor are complete and accurate and that the Custodian shall not be responsible for any incomplete or inaccurate information provided by the Depositor or Depositor's beneficiary(ies). Depositor and Depositor's beneficiaries agree to be responsible for all tax consequences arising from contributions to and distributions from this Custodial Account and acknowledges that no tax advice has been provided by the Custodian.
- 9.10 **Designation of Beneficiary:**
- (a) Except as may be otherwise required by State law, in the event of the Depositor's death, the balance in the account shall be paid to the beneficiary or beneficiaries designated by the Depositor on a beneficiary designation form acceptable to and filed with the Custodian. The Depositor may change the Depositor's beneficiary or beneficiaries at any time by filing a new beneficiary designation with the Custodian. If no beneficiary designation is in effect, if none of the named beneficiaries survive the Depositor, or if the Custodian cannot locate any of the named beneficiaries after reasonable search, any balance in the account will be payable to the Depositor's estate.
 - (b) If the Custodian permits, in the event of the Depositor's death, any beneficiary may name a subsequent beneficiary(ies) to receive the balance of the account to which such beneficiary is entitled upon the death of the original beneficiary by filing a Subsequent Beneficiary Designation Form acceptable to and filed with the Custodian. Payments to such subsequent beneficiary(ies) shall be distributed in accordance with the payment schedule applicable to the original beneficiary. In no event can any subsequent beneficiary be treated as a designated beneficiary of the Depositor. The preceding sentence shall not apply with respect to the subsequent beneficiary(ies), if any, of an original spouse beneficiary where the Depositor dies before his or her required beginning date. In this case, the original spouse beneficiary is treated as the Depositor. If the balance of the account has not been completely distributed to the original beneficiary and such beneficiary has not named a subsequent beneficiary or no named subsequent beneficiary is living on the date of the original beneficiary's death, such balance shall be payable to the estate of the original beneficiary.
- 9.11 **Spousal Beneficiary Provisions:** Notwithstanding the provisions of Article 5.03, if the Depositor's only primary beneficiary is the surviving spouse, such spouse may elect to be treated as a non-spouse beneficiary for purposes of the provisions of Articles 5.01 and 5.02, but including the special rule provided under section 401(a)(9)(B)(iv) of the Code. Thus, a surviving spouse beneficiary may remain the beneficiary of the deceased spouse's Roth IRA and be able to take death distributions under the five year rule or the exception to the five year rule, including the ability to wait to begin receiving distributions over his or her single life expectancy by December 31 of the year the deceased spouse would have attained the age of 70½ had he or she lived, if this date is later than the December 31 immediately following the year of death. In addition, if the surviving spouse is not the sole beneficiary of the Roth IRA, in addition to the provisions of Articles 5.01 and 5.02, the surviving spouse beneficiary may elect to treat his or her beneficial portion of the deceased spouse's Roth IRA as his or her own Roth IRA.
- 9.12 **Responsibility for Determining Eligibility for Conversion Contributions:** Notwithstanding the provisions of the third sentence of Article II, the Depositor agrees to be solely responsible for determining eligibility to convert any of the Depositor's traditional IRAs or an employer's plan to a Roth IRA. The conversion eligibility requirements are eliminated for years after December 31, 2009.
- 9.13 **Combining Regular Roth IRA Contributions with Roth Conversion Contributions:** The Depositor may combine regular Roth IRA contributions in the same Roth IRA account as Roth IRA conversion contributions. The Depositor agrees to designate each deposit as either a regular Roth IRA contribution (and the tax year to which it relates) or a Roth IRA conversion contribution. The Depositor further agrees that he/she will be solely responsible for any recordkeeping of such deposits as determined or required by the Internal Revenue Service, including but not limited to, the timing, ordering and taxation of any distributions.
- 9.14 **Death Benefit Default Provisions:** If the Depositor dies and the beneficiary does not select a method of distribution described in Article V, Section 5.01(a) or (b) by the December 31st following the year of the Depositor's death, then distributions will be made pursuant to the single life expectancy of the Designated Beneficiary determined in accordance with IRS regulations. However, no payment will be made until the beneficiary provides the Custodian with a proper distribution request acceptable to the Custodian and other documentation that may be required by the Custodian. A beneficiary may at any time request a complete distribution of his or her remaining interest in the Custodial Account. The Custodian reserves the right to require a minimum balance in the account in order to make periodic payments from the account.
- 9.15 **Transitional Rule for Determining Required Minimum Distributions for Calendar Year 2002:** Unless the Custodian provides otherwise, if a beneficiary is subject to required minimum distributions for calendar year 2002, such individual may elect to apply the 1987 proposed regulations, the 2001 proposed regulations, or the 2002 final regulations in determining the amount of the 2002 required minimum. However, the Custodian, in its sole discretion, reserves the right to perform any required minimum distribution calculations through its data systems or otherwise based upon any of the three sets of regulations delineated in the previous sentence.

ARTICLE X SELF-DIRECTED IRA PROVISIONS

- 10.01 **Investment of Contributions:**
- (a) At the direction of the Depositor (or the direction of the beneficiary upon the Depositor's death) the Custodian shall invest all contributions to the account and earnings thereon in investments acceptable to the Custodian, which may include marketable securities traded on a recognized exchange or "over the counter" (excluding any securities issued by the Custodian), covered call options, certificates of deposit, and other investments to which the Custodian consents, in such amounts as are specifically selected and specified by Depositor in orders to the Custodian in such form as may be acceptable to the Custodian, without any duty to diversify and without regard to whether such property is authorized by the laws of any jurisdiction as a Custodial investment. The Custodian shall be responsible for the execution of such orders and for maintaining adequate records thereof. However, if any such orders are not received as required, or, if received, are unclear in the opinion of the Custodian, all or a portion of the contribution may be held uninvested without liability for loss of income or appreciation, and without liability for interest pending receipt of such orders or clarification, or the contribution may be returned. The Custodian may, but need not, establish programs under which cash deposits in excess of a minimum set by it will be periodically and automatically invested in interest-bearing investment funds. The Custodian shall have no duty other than to follow the written investment directions of the Depositor and shall be under no duty to question said instructions and shall not be liable for any investment losses sustained by the Depositor under any circumstances.
 - (b) Depositor hereby acknowledges and agrees that Custodian will deposit all Undirected Cash in the Custodial Account into pooled deposit accounts at one or more FDIC or other United States government insured institutions or in United States government securities or in securities that are insured or guaranteed by the United States government pending further investment direction by Depositor. All income generated by Undirected Cash in Custodian's pooled deposit accounts shall be retained by Custodian as fees, as described in paragraph 9.07(e) above. Depositor authorizes Custodian to transfer any Undirected Cash in the Custodial Account into any FDIC insured financial institution or in United States government securities or in securities that are insured or guaranteed by the United States government without any further approval or direction by the Depositor.
- 10.02 **Indemnification:** The Custodian and Administrator shall have no duty other than to follow the written instructions of the Depositor, and shall be under no duty to question said instructions and shall not be liable for any investment losses sustained by the Depositor under any circumstances. By performing services under this Agreement, the Custodian and the Administrator are acting as the agent of Depositor, and nothing in this Agreement shall be construed as conferring fiduciary status on the Custodian or the Administrator. Depositor agrees to indemnify and hold harmless the

Custodian and the Administrator from any and all claims, damages, liability, actions, costs, expenses (including reasonable attorneys' fees) and any loss to the Custodial Account, to the Depositor or to Depositor's beneficiary(ies) as a result of any action taken (or omitted to be taken) pursuant to and/or in connection with any investment transaction directed by Depositor or Depositor's investment advisor or resulting from serving as the Custodian or the Administrator, including, without limitation, claims, damages, liability, actions and losses asserted by the Depositor or the Depositor's beneficiary(ies).

- 10.03 **Registration:** All assets of the Custodial Account shall be registered in the name of the Custodian, or in the name of the Administrator, who shall be the nominee of the Custodian for purposes of holding assets of the Custodial Account. The same Administrator may be the nominee of the Custodian with respect to the holding of assets of other investors whether or not held under agreements similar to this one or in any capacity whatsoever; and the Custodian may commingle the assets so held to the extent permitted by law. However, the Custodial Account and each other account or asset so held shall each be separate and distinct; a separate account therefore shall be maintained by the Custodian (or by the Administrator on behalf of the Custodian). The assets of the Custodial Account may be held by the Custodian in individual or bulk segregation either in the Custodian's vaults or vaults of the Custodian's agent or through brokerage accounts of entities permitted to hold assets of the applicable type under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 or the Commodities Exchange Act.
- 10.04 **Investment Advisor:** The Depositor may appoint an Investment Advisor, qualified under Section 3(38) of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, to direct the investment of his Roth IRA. The Depositor shall notify the Custodian in writing of any such appointment by providing the Custodian a copy of the instruments appointing the Investment Advisor and evidencing the Investment Advisor's acceptance of such appointment, an acknowledgement by the Investment Advisor that it is a fiduciary of the account, and a certificate evidencing the Investment Advisor's current registration under the Investment Advisor's Act of 1940. The Custodian shall comply with any investment directions furnished to it by the Investment Advisor, unless and until it receives written notification from the Depositor that the Investment Advisor's appointment has been terminated. The Custodian shall have no duty other than to follow the written investment directions of such Investment Advisor and shall be under no duty to question said instructions, and the Custodian shall not be liable for any investment losses sustained by the Depositor.
- 10.05 **No Investment Advice:** The Depositor acknowledges and agrees that the Custodian and the Administrator do not provide or assume responsibility for any tax, legal or investment advice with respect to the investments and assets in the Custodial Account and shall not be liable for any loss which results from the Depositor's exercise of control over the Custodial Account. The Depositor and the Depositor's beneficiary(ies) release, indemnify and agree to hold the Custodian and the Administrator harmless in the event that any investment or sale of the assets in the Custodial Account pursuant to a direction by the Depositor or the Depositor's Investment Advisor violates any federal or state law or regulation or otherwise results in a disqualification, penalty, tax or fine imposed upon the Custodian, the Administrator, the Depositor or the Custodial Account.
- 10.06 **Prohibited Transactions:** The Depositor acknowledges and agrees that the Custodial Account is subject to the provisions of section 4975, which defines certain prohibited transactions. Depositor acknowledges and agrees that the Custodian and the Administrator shall make no determination as to whether any transaction or investment in the Custodial Account is prohibited under sections 4975, 408(e) or 408A, or under any other state or federal law. The Depositor understands that should the Custodial Account engage in a prohibited transaction, and depending on the type of prohibited transaction, certain assets of the Custodial Account will be deemed to have been distributed and will be subject to taxes as well as possible penalties. The Depositor agrees that he or she will consult with a tax or legal professional of the Depositor's choice to ensure that none of the investments in the Custodial Account will constitute a prohibited transaction and that the investments in the Custodial Account comply with all applicable federal and state laws, regulations and requirements.
- 10.07 **Unrelated Business Income Tax:** The Depositor acknowledges and agrees that the Custodial Account is subject to the provisions of Internal Revenue Code Sections 511-514 relating to Unrelated Business Taxable Income (UBTI) of tax-exempt organizations. If the Depositor directs the Custodian to make an investment in the Custodial Account which generates UBTI, the Depositor agrees to prepare or have prepared the required IRS Form 990-T tax return, an application for an Employer Identification Number (EIN) for the Custodial Account (if not previously obtained), and any other documents that may be required, and to submit them to the Custodian for filing with the Internal Revenue Service at least ten (10) days prior to the date on which the return is due, along with an appropriate directive authorizing the Custodian to execute the forms on behalf of the Custodial Account and to pay the applicable tax from the assets in the Custodial Account. Depositor understands and acknowledges that the Custodian and the Administrator do not make any determination of whether or not investments in the Custodial Account generate UBTI; have no duty to and do not monitor whether or not the Custodial Account has incurred UBTI; and do not prepare Form 990-T on behalf of the Custodial Account.
- 10.08 **Disclosures and Voting:** The Custodian shall deliver, or cause to be executed and delivered, to Depositor all notices, prospectuses, financial statements, proxies and proxy soliciting materials relating to assets credited to the account. The Custodian shall not vote any shares of stock or take any other action, pursuant to such documents, with respect to such assets except upon receipt by the Custodian of adequate written instructions from Depositor.
- 10.09 **Miscellaneous Expenses:** In addition to those expenses set out in Section 9.05 of this plan, the Depositor agrees to pay any and all expenses incurred by the Custodian in connection with the investment of the account, including expenses of preparation and filing any returns and reports with regard to unrelated business income, including taxes and estimated taxes, as well as any transfer taxes incurred in connection with the investment or reinvestment of the assets of the account.
- 10.10 **Valuations:** The assets in the Custodial Account shall be valued annually at the end of each calendar year in accordance with section 408(i) and other guidance provided by the IRS, but Custodian retains the right to value the assets in the Custodial Account more frequently. In valuing the assets of the Custodial Account for record keeping and government reporting purposes, Custodian will ascertain the fair market value of each investment through utilizing various third-party pricing sources and designated valuation agents. However, Custodian does not guarantee the accuracy of prices obtained from these sources. Where assets are illiquid or their value is not readily ascertainable on either an established exchange or generally recognized market, the valuation is by necessity not a true market value and is merely an estimate of value, and Depositor agrees not to rely on any such valuation for any other purposes. Depositor agrees to provide the year end value of any illiquid and/or non-publicly traded investments, which may include without limitation limited partnerships, limited liability companies, privately held stock, real estate investment trusts, hedge funds, real estate, secured and unsecured promissory notes, and any other investments as Custodian shall designate, by no later than the following January 10th. If Custodian does not receive a current year end fair market value by the following January 10th for any such investment, the Custodian shall take appropriate actions to receive the fair market value from an independent third party that specializes in valuations, paying the cost of such valuation from the liquid assets held in the Custodial Account, or in the alternative after having first received the cost of the valuation from Depositor or Depositor's beneficiary(ies) if liquid investments in the Custodial Account are otherwise insufficient. Unless Custodian has received a written fair market valuation to the contrary, promissory notes and privately offered corporate debt will have valuations reflected at the face value shown on the original note or debt instrument, or if the note is subject to an amortization schedule and the amortization schedule has been provided to Custodian by Depositor, valuation may be shown at the principal amount shown on the amortization schedule as of the end of the previous year. Depositor, and upon Depositor's death Depositor's beneficiary(ies), agree to indemnify and hold harmless Custodian from any and all losses, expenses, settlements, or claims with regard to investment decisions, distribution values, tax reporting or any other financial impact or consequence relating to or arising from the valuation of assets in the Custodial Account.
- 10.11 **Insurance, Tax and Other Payments:** Custodian and Administrator shall not bear or assume any responsibility to notify Depositor or to secure or maintain any fire, casualty, liability or other insurance coverage, including but not limited to title insurance coverage, on any real or personal property owned in the Custodial Account or on any property which serves as collateral under any mortgage, deed of trust, or other security instrument with respect to any promissory note or other evidence of indebtedness in the Custodial Account. Depositor acknowledges and agrees that it is the responsibility of Depositor to decide what insurance is necessary or appropriate for any investment in the Custodial Account, and to direct Custodian in writing (on a form prescribed by Custodian) to pay the premiums for any such insurance. Custodian and Administrator shall not be responsible for

notification or payments of any real estate taxes, homeowners association dues, utilities or other charges with respect to any investment held in the Custodial Account unless Depositor specifically directs the Custodian to pay the same in writing (on a form prescribed by Custodian), and sufficient funds are available to pay the same from the Custodial Account. Depositor acknowledges and agrees that it shall be Depositor's responsibility to provide to Custodian or to ensure that Custodian has received any and all bills for insurance, taxes, homeowners dues, utilities or other amounts due for assets held in the Custodial Account. Furthermore, Depositor agrees that it shall be Depositor's responsibility to determine that payments have been made by verifying the payments via Depositor's Custodial Account statements.

Article XI Miscellaneous Provisions

- 11.01 **Electronic Communications, Signatures, and Records:** Subject to any limitations contained in Treasury Regulation section 1.401(a)-21 and any other applicable federal or state law or regulation, Depositor acknowledges and agrees that the Custodial Account shall be subject to the provisions of the Uniform Electronic Transactions Act, as passed in the state where the Custodian is organized (Revised Code of Washington (RCW) Chapter 1.80, et seq.), and the federal Electronic Signature in Global and National Commerce Act (ESIGN Act, as contained in 15 U.S.C. 7001), as those laws pertain to electronic communication, electronic signatures, and electronic storage of Custodial Account records. Pursuant to RCW Section 1.80.120, in lieu of the retention of the original records, Custodian may cause any, or all, of its records, and records at any time in its custody, to be photographed or otherwise reproduced to permanent form, and any such photograph or reproduction shall have the same force and effect as the original thereof and may be admitted in evidence equally with the original.
- 11.02 **Severability:** If any provision of this Custodial Account Agreement is found to be illegal, invalid, void or unenforceable, such provision shall be severed and such illegality or invalidity shall not affect the remaining provisions which shall remain in full force and effect. Neither Depositor's or Custodian's failure to enforce at any time or for any period of time any of the provisions of this Agreement shall be construed as a waiver of such provisions, or Depositor's right or Custodian's right to enforce each and every such provision.

General Instructions

(Section references are to the Internal Revenue Code unless otherwise noted.)

Purpose of Form - Form 5305-RA is a model Custodial account agreement that meets the requirements of section 408A. However, only Articles I through VIII have been reviewed by the IRS. A Roth individual retirement account (Roth IRA) is established after the form is fully executed by both the individual (Depositor) and the Custodian. This account must be created in the United States for the exclusive benefit of the Depositor and his or her beneficiaries.

Do not file Form 5305-RA with the IRS. Instead, keep it with your records.

Unlike contributions to traditional individual retirement arrangements, contributions to a Roth IRA are not deductible from the Depositor's gross income; and distributions after 5 years that are made when the Depositor is 59½ years of age or older or on account of death, disability, or the purchase of a home by a first-time homebuyer (limited to \$10,000), are not includible in gross income. For more information on Roth IRAs, including the required disclosures the Custodian must give the Depositor, see Pub. 590-A, Contributions to Individual Retirement Arrangements (IRAs), and 590-B, Distributions from Individual Retirement Arrangements (IRAs).

Definitions

Custodian. The Custodian must be a bank or savings and loan association, as defined in section 408(n), or any person who has the approval of the IRS to act as Custodian.

Depositor. The Depositor is the person who establishes the Custodial account.

Specific Instructions

Article I. The Depositor may be subject to a 6% tax on excess contributions if **(1)** contributions to other individual retirement arrangements of the Depositor have been made for the same tax year, **(2)** the Depositor's adjusted gross income exceeds the applicable limits in Article II for the tax year, or **(3)** the Depositor's and spouse's compensation is less than the amount contributed by or on behalf of them for the tax year.

Article V. This article describes how distributions will be made from the Roth IRA after the Depositor's death. Elections made pursuant to this article should be reviewed periodically to ensure they correspond to the Depositor's intent. Under paragraph 3 of Article V, the Depositor's spouse is treated as the owner of the Roth IRA upon the death of the Depositor, rather than as the beneficiary. If the spouse is to be treated as the beneficiary, and not the owner, an overriding provision should be added to Article IX.

Article IX. Article IX and any that follow it may incorporate additional provisions that are agreed to by the Depositor and Custodian to complete the agreement. They may include, for example, definitions, investment powers, voting rights, exculpatory provisions, amendment and termination, removal of the Custodian, Custodian's fees, state law requirements, beginning date of distributions, accepting only cash, treatment of excess contributions, prohibited transactions with the Depositor, etc. Attach additional pages if necessary.

ROTH IRA DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

RIGHT TO REVOKE YOUR ROTH IRA ACCOUNT

You may revoke your Roth IRA within 7 days after you sign the Roth IRA Adoption Agreement by hand-delivering or mailing a written notice to the name and address indicated below:

IRA Administrator
Vantage Retirement Plans, LLC
20860 N. Tatum Blvd. Suite 240
Phoenix, AZ 85050

If you revoke your account by mailing a written notice, such notice must be postmarked by the 7th day after you sign the Adoption Agreement. If you revoke your Roth IRA within the 7-day period you will receive a refund of the entire amount of your contributions to the Roth IRA without any adjustment for earnings or any administrative expenses. If you exercise this revocation, we are still required to report the contribution on Form 5498 (except transfers) and the revoked distribution on Form 1099-R.

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS OF A ROTH IRA

- Your contributions must be made in cash, unless you are making a qualified rollover or transfer contribution, and the Custodian accepts non-cash rollover or transfer contributions.
- The annual contributions you make on your behalf to all of your Roth IRAs and traditional IRAs may not exceed the lesser of 100% of your compensation or the "applicable annual dollar limitation" (defined below), unless you are making a qualified rollover or transfer contribution.
- Your regular annual Roth IRA contributions for any taxable year may be deposited at any time during that taxable year and up to the due date for the filing of your Federal income tax return for that taxable year, no extensions. This generally means April 15th of the following year.
- The Custodian of your Roth IRA must be a bank, savings and loan association, credit union or a person who is approved to act in such a capacity by the Secretary of the Treasury.
- No portion of your Roth IRA funds may be invested in life insurance contracts.
- Your interest in your Roth IRA is nonforfeitable at all times.
- The assets in your Roth IRA may not be commingled with other property except in a common Custodial fund or common investment fund.
- You may not invest the assets of your Roth IRA in collectibles (as described in Section 408(m) of the Internal Revenue Code.) A collectible is defined as any work of art, rug or antique, metal or gem, stamp or coin, alcoholic beverage, or any other tangible personal property specified by the IRS. However, if the Custodian permits, specially-minted US gold, silver, and platinum coins and certain state-issued coins are permissible Roth IRA investments. Beginning on 1/1/98, you may also invest in certain gold, silver, platinum or palladium bullion, if the trustee or custodian permits. Such bullion must be in the physical possession of the Roth IRA trustee or custodian.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO MAKE A REGULAR ROTH IRA CONTRIBUTION?

You are permitted to make regular contributions to your Roth IRA for any taxable year if you receive compensation for such taxable year. Compensation includes salaries, wages, tips, commissions, bonuses, alimony, royalties from creative efforts and "earned income" in the case of self-employed. Members of the Armed Forces who serve in combat zones who receive compensation that is otherwise non-taxable, are considered to have taxable compensation for purposes of making regular Roth IRA contributions. The amount which is permitted to be contributed depends upon your modified adjusted gross income (Modified AGI); your marital status; and your tax filing status discussed below.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO A ROTH IRA

Regular Roth IRA Contributions - The maximum amount you may contribute for any year is the lesser of 100% of your compensation or the "applicable annual dollar limitation" (described below). Your actual contribution limit depends upon your marital status, tax filing status, and your Modified AGI.

Applicable Annual Dollar Limitation	
Tax Year	Contribution Limit
2001	\$2,000
2002 through 2004	\$3,000
2005 through 2007	\$4,000
2008 through 2012	\$5,000
2013 through 2018	\$5,500

After 2018, the \$5,500 annual limit will be subject to cost-of living increases in increments of \$500, rounded to the lower increment. This means that it may take several years beyond 2018 for the \$5,500 annual limit to increase to \$6,000. All regular contributions (including catch-up contributions) to a Roth IRA are nondeductible. The maximum amount you may contribute to a Roth IRA is reduced by any contributions you make to all of your traditional IRAs for the same tax year.

Catch-up Contributions - If an individual has attained the age of 50 before the close of the taxable year for which an annual contribution is being made and meets the other eligibility requirements for making regular Roth IRA contributions, the annual Roth IRA contribution limit for that individual would be increased as follows:

Tax Year	Normal Limit	Additional Catch-up*	Total Contribution
2002	\$3,000	\$ 500	\$3,500
2003	\$3,000	\$ 500	\$3,500
2004	\$3,000	\$ 500	\$3,500

2005	\$4,000	\$ 500	\$4,500
2006	\$4,000	\$1,000	\$5,000
2007	\$4,000	\$1,000	\$5,000
2008 – 2012	\$5,000	\$1,000	\$6,000
2013 – 2018	\$5,500	\$1,000	\$6,500

*The additional catch-up amount for Roth IRAs is not subject to COLAs.

Special IRA Catch-up Contributions for Certain Section 401(k) Participants No Longer Available - Special Roth IRA catch-up contributions are permitted for each of years 2007, 2008 and 2009 equal to the applicable year's age-50 catch-up limit multiplied by 3. To be eligible for this special catch-up Roth IRA contribution, the individual must have been a participant in an employer's 401(k) plan where employer-matching contributions were being made at the rate of at least 50% of the participant's deferrals with employer stock and such employer is in bankruptcy and is subject to an indictment or conviction. The individual is not required to be age 50 in order to take advantage of this rule. However, if the individual is age 50 or over, he or she may not contribute the age-50 catch-up amount in addition to this special catch-up.

The deadline for making such special catch-up contributions was the normal deadline for the applicable year. For example, an eligible individual takes advantage of this rule for calendar year 2008. The normal regular Roth IRA contribution limit for 2008 was \$5,000 and the normal age-50 catch-up contribution limit for 2008 was \$1,000. The eligible individual could contribute the \$5,000 normal limit plus a special catch-up contribution of \$3,000 for a total of \$8,000. The deadline for making this contribution was the 2008 tax filing deadline, no extensions.

Modified Adjusted Gross Income - The amount of your regular annual Roth IRA contribution depends upon your Modified Adjusted Gross Income (MAGI) for the taxable year and your marital status. If your MAGI is below a certain amount, you can contribute the entire contribution subject to the dollar limit. If your MAGI is above a certain amount, you cannot make any regular contribution to a Roth IRA. If your MAGI is between certain amounts, you are entitled to making a partial Roth IRA contribution. You are responsible for keeping track of your Roth IRA contributions so that you can report Roth IRA distributions on IRS Form 8606. Refer to the chart below for the MAGI ranges. The MAGI ranges are subject to cost-of-living adjustments. Also refer to IRS Publication 590-A for additional information.

	Married Participants Filing Jointly	Unmarried Participants	Married Participants Filing Separately*
1998 – 2006	\$150,000 - \$160,000	\$ 95,000 - \$110,000	\$0 - \$10,000
2007	\$156,000 - \$166,000	\$ 99,000 - \$114,000	\$0 - \$10,000
2008	\$159,000 - \$169,000	\$101,000 - \$116,000	\$0 - \$10,000
2009	\$166,000 - \$176,000	\$105,000 - \$120,000	\$0 - \$10,000
2010	\$167,000 - \$177,000	\$105,000 - \$120,000	\$0 - \$10,000
2011	\$169,000 - \$179,000	\$107,000 - \$122,000	\$0 - \$10,000
2012	\$173,000 - \$183,000	\$110,000 - \$125,000	\$0 - \$10,000
2013	\$178,000 - \$188,000	\$112,000 - \$127,000	\$0 - \$10,000
2014	\$181,000 - \$191,000	\$114,000 - \$129,000	\$0 - \$10,000
2015	\$183,000 - \$193,000	\$116,000 - \$131,000	\$0 - \$10,000
2016	\$184,000 - \$194,000	\$117,000 - \$132,000	\$0 - \$10,000
2017	\$186,000 - \$196,000	\$118,000 - \$133,000	\$0 - \$10,000
2018	\$189,000 - \$199,000	\$120,000 - \$135,000	\$0 - \$10,000

Spousal Roth IRAs - If you and your spouse file a joint tax return and have unequal compensation (including no compensation for one spouse or one spouse who chooses to be treated as receiving no compensation) you may establish separate Roth IRAs for each spouse. The total annual contribution limit for both Roth IRAs may not exceed 100% of the combined compensation for both spouses, but neither Roth IRA may accept more than the Applicable Annual Dollar Limitation per spouse, plus the additional catch-up amount, if applicable.

The maximum Roth IRA contribution for the spouse is then reduced by:

1. regular traditional IRA contributions made on behalf of such spouse; and
2. Roth IRA contributions made on behalf of such spouse.

This annual limit may be further reduced if the Modified AGI exceeds the levels discussed above.

\$200 Minimum Roth IRA Contribution - If you fall into any of the categories listed above, your minimum allowable Roth IRA contribution will be \$200 until phased out under the appropriate marital status. In other words, if your Roth IRA contribution amount calculated under the appropriate dollar amounts discussed above results in a contribution between \$0 and \$200, your permitted contribution is \$200 instead of the calculated amount. If the result is not a multiple of \$10, round up to the nearest \$10.

Modified AGI - Modified AGI does not include any conversions to a Roth IRA and included in income. Modified AGI is determined before deductible traditional IRA contributions. Effective for distributions after December 31, 2004, Modified AGI does not include any amounts that are required minimum distributions pursuant to section 408(a)(6) only for purposes of determining eligibility for conversion contributions.

Miscellaneous Contribution Rules - Contributions are permitted after you attain age 70½, so long as you have compensation and meet the AGI limits described above. Contributions are permitted regardless of whether you are an active participant in an employer-sponsored plan.

Special Rules for Qualified Reservist Distributions – Qualified Reservist Distributions withdrawn from a Roth IRA are eligible to be repaid to a Roth IRA within a 2-year period after the end of active duty. A Qualified Reservist Distribution is a distribution received from a Roth IRA by members of the National Guard or reservists who are called to active duty for a period of at least 180 days and such distribution is taken during the period of such active duty. This provision is retroactively effective with respect to distributions after September 11, 2001, for individuals called to active duty after September 11, 2001. The repayments are not treated as tax-free rollovers. Instead, the repayments become basis in the Roth IRA.

EXCESS CONTRIBUTIONS TO A ROTH IRA

Generally, an excess Roth IRA contribution is any contribution which exceeds the contribution limits. Such excess amount is subject to a 6% excise tax on the principal remaining amount of the excess each year until the excess is corrected.

Method of Withdrawing Excess in a Timely Manner (Applies to Excesses Removed Prior to 2018) - This 6% excise tax may be avoided, if the excess amount plus the earnings attributable to the excess are distributed to you by your tax filing deadline including extensions *for the year during which the excess contribution was made*. If you decide to correct your excess in this manner, the principal amount of the excess returned to you is not taxable; however, the earnings attributable to the excess are taxable to you in the year in which the contribution was made. In addition, if you are under age 59½, the earnings attributable to the excess amount are subject to a 10% additional income tax. This is the only method of correcting an excess contribution that will avoid the 6% excise tax. The earnings attributable to an excess contribution will always be taxable, even if you would otherwise meet the definition of a "qualified distribution" discussed later.

Method of Withdrawing Excess in a Timely Manner (Applies to Excesses Removed After 2017) - This 6% excise tax may be avoided, if the excess amount plus the earnings attributable to the excess are distributed to you by your tax filing deadline including extensions *for the year for which the excess contribution was made*. If you decide to correct your excess in this manner, the principal amount of the excess returned to you is not taxable; however, the earnings attributable to the excess are taxable to you in the year in which the contribution was made. In addition, if you are under age 59½, the earnings attributable to the excess amount are subject to a 10% additional income tax. This is the only method of correcting an excess contribution that will avoid the 6% excise tax. The earnings attributable to an excess contribution will always be taxable, even if you would otherwise meet the definition of a "qualified distribution" discussed later.

Undercontribution Method - If an excess is not corrected by the tax filing deadline, including extensions, for the year during which the excess contribution was made, such excess contribution may be applied, on a year-by-year basis, against the annual limit for regular Roth IRA contributions. However, in order to "carry over" the excess contribution and treat it as a contribution made for a subsequent year, the participant must meet the eligibility requirements for the subsequent year. In addition, the taxpayer is subject to the 6% excise tax for the initial year and each subsequent year until the excess is used up.

CONTRIBUTION RECHARACTERIZATIONS

You may be able to recharacterize certain contributions under the following two different circumstances:

1. By recharacterizing a current year regular contribution plus earnings explained in this section; or
2. By recharacterizing a conversion made to a Roth IRA by transferring the amount plus earnings back to a traditional IRA discussed in the next section under the heading "Conversion from a Traditional IRA or an Employer Plan to a Roth IRA". Beginning 1/1/2018, recharacterizations of conversions made after 12/31/2017 are no longer permitted.

If you decide by your tax filing deadline (including extensions) of the year for which the contribution was made to transfer a current year contribution plus earnings from your traditional IRA to a Roth IRA, no amount will be included in your gross income as long as you did not take a deduction for the amount of the contribution. You may also recharacterize a current year contribution plus earnings from your Roth IRA to a traditional IRA by your tax filing deadline including extensions of the year for which the contribution was made.

In order to recharacterize a regular contribution from one type of IRA to another type of IRA, you must be eligible to make a regular contribution to the IRA to which the contribution plus earnings is recharacterized. All recharacterizations must be accomplished as a direct transfer, rather than a distribution and subsequent rollover.

You are also required to report recharacterizations to the IRS in accordance with the instructions to IRS Form 8606. Prior year excess contributions made to an IRA that are carried over to a subsequent year cannot be recharacterized as a current year contribution to another IRA. Only actual contributions made for a taxable year may be recharacterized. Any recharacterized contribution (whether a regular contribution or a pre-2018 conversion) cannot be revoked after the transfer. You are required to notify both custodians (and trustees) and to provide them with certain information in order to properly effectuate such a recharacterization.

ROLLOVER ROTH IRAS

Rollover Contribution from Another Roth IRA - A rollover contribution from another Roth IRA is any amount you receive from one Roth IRA and within 60 days roll some or all of it over into another Roth IRA. You are not required to roll over the entire amount received from the first Roth IRA. However, any taxable amount (generally earnings) you do not roll over will be taxed at ordinary income tax rates for Federal income tax purposes and may be subject to the 10% additional income tax.

The following special rules also apply to rollovers between Roth IRAs:

- The rollover must be completed no later than the 60th day after the day the distribution was received by you from the first Roth IRA. However, if the reason for distribution was for qualified first time home buyer expenses and there has been a delay or cancellation in the acquisition of such first home, the 60 day rollover period is increased to 120 days. This 60 day rollover period is also extended in cases of disaster or casualty beyond the reasonable control of the taxpayer.
- Beginning in 2015, you can make only one rollover from an IRA to another (or the same) IRA in any 12-month period, regardless of the number of IRAs you own. The limit will apply 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. (See IRS Publication 590-A for more information).
- The same property you receive in a distribution from the first Roth IRA must be the same property you roll over into the second Roth IRA. For example, if you receive a distribution from a Roth IRA of property, such as stocks, that same stock must be the property rolled over into the second Roth IRA.
- You are required to make an irrevocable election indicating that this transaction will be treated as a rollover contribution.
- You are not required to receive a complete distribution from your Roth IRA in order to make a rollover contribution into another Roth IRA, nor are you required to roll over the entire amount you received from the first Roth IRA into the second Roth IRA.
- If you inherit a Roth IRA due to the death of the participant, you may not roll this Roth IRA into your own Roth IRA unless you are the spouse of the deceased Roth IRA participant.

Rollovers From a Designated Roth Contribution Account Under Employer-Sponsored Plans – Effective for Eligible Rollover Distributions after December 31, 2005, amounts attributable to the participant's Designated Roth Contribution Account under an employer's §401(k) plan, §403(b) plan, or

governmental 457(b) plan are eligible to roll over to a Roth IRA as either a direct rollover or a 60-day rollover. After such amounts have been rolled over to a Roth IRA, these amounts cannot be subsequently rolled back to an employer's plan.

Effect of 5-Year Aging – If the Roth IRA owner has already started the 5-year aging on any Roth IRA, the rollover of the Designated Roth Contribution Account under the employer's plan has the same 5-year period start date. However, if the Roth IRA owner establishes a Roth IRA for the first time with the rollover of the Designated Roth Contributions Account under the employer's plan, a new 5-year aging period starts with respect to the rollover amount, regardless of the period of participation in the employer's plan.

Effect on Ordering Rules for Subsequent Distributions from the Roth IRA – If a Roth IRA owner rolls over his or her Designated Roth Contributions Account under an employer's plan, the Roth IRA owner is responsible for keeping track of the rollover in the following manner for purposes of determining taxable distributions from the Roth IRA:

- If the distribution from the employer's plan is a "nonqualified distribution", the Roth IRA owner adds the basis amount (contributions) to his or her other regular Roth IRA contributions, and adds the earnings to the earnings.
- If the distribution from the employer's plan is a "qualified distribution", the Roth IRA owner adds the entire amount of the rollover to his or her other regular Roth IRA contributions.

Partial Rollovers - If a distribution representing the participant's Designated Roth Contribution Account is eligible to roll over and it is paid to the participant, and the participant rolls over to a Roth IRA only a portion of the distribution, the amount not rolled over is treated as first consisting of the nontaxable portion (the contributions). Thus, the amount rolled over is treated first as the taxable earnings and no amount is taxable to the participant if the amount of the rollover is equal to or greater than the amount of the earnings attributable to the distribution received by the employee. Proper adjustments to the ordering rules explained above are necessary in the case of a partial rollover.

Special Rollover Rules for Qualified Hurricane Distributions, Qualified Wildfire Distributions and Certain Other Presidentially Declared Disaster Areas— Qualified Disaster Distributions (QDDs) include Qualified Hurricane Distributions, Qualified Wildfire Distributions and other disaster areas as declared by the President. Qualified Disaster Distributions withdrawn from a Roth IRA are eligible to be rolled over to a Roth IRA within a 3-year period after the eligible individual received such distribution. More information on Qualified Hurricane Distributions and other tax relief provisions applicable to affected individuals of Hurricanes Harvey, Irma and Maria as well as other disaster relief can be found on the IRS website at <https://www.irs.gov/newsroom/around-the-nation>. Taxpayers using these tax relief provisions must file Form 8915 with his or her Federal income tax return. The maximum amount of a QDD is \$100,000 per taxpayer; is not subject to the premature distribution penalty tax of 10%, and will be taxed pro rata over a 3 year period unless the taxpayer elects to pay all of the taxes in the year of the distribution. See the instructions to Form 8915 for more information.

Special Rules for Qualified Settlement Income Received from Exxon Valdez Litigation - Any qualified taxpayer who receives qualified settlement income during the taxable year, at any time before the end of the taxable year in which such income was received, make one or more contributions to an eligible retirement plan of which such qualified taxpayer is a beneficiary in an aggregate amount not to exceed the lesser of: (a) \$100,000 (reduced by the amount of qualified settlement income contributed to an eligible retirement plan in prior taxable years); or (b) the amount of qualified settlement income received by the individual during the taxable year.

The contribution will be deemed made on the last day of the taxable year in which such income is received if the contribution is made on account of such taxable year and is made not later than the deadline for filing the income tax return for such year, not including extensions thereof.

If the settlement income is contributed to a Roth IRA such income is currently includible in the taxpayer's gross income and becomes basis in such Roth IRA.

A qualified taxpayer means:

1. Any individual who is a plaintiff in the civil action *In re Exxon Valdez*, No. 89-095-CV (HRH) (Consolidated) (D. Alaska); or
2. Any individual who is a beneficiary of the estate of such a plaintiff who acquired the right to receive qualified settlement income from that plaintiff and was the spouse or an immediate relative of that plaintiff.

Special Rollover Rules for Military Death Gratuity and SGLI Payments – In general the beneficiary of Death Gratuity and the SGLI (Servicemember's Group Life Insurance) may roll these payments into a Roth IRA in the name of the recipient of such payments, without regard to any adjusted gross income limitations. Such Roth IRA will not be an inherited IRA but rather the Roth IRA will be in the beneficiary's own name. Such rule is effective with deaths occurring after June 17, 2008. However, if the payment was made due to a death that occurred after October 7, 2001, and before June 17, 2008, a recipient can still roll such amounts over to a Roth IRA as long as the rollover is completed by June 17, 2009.

The rollover to the Roth IRA must generally be completed within one year following the receipt of the payment. These payments are not taxable to the recipient. The trustee, custodian or issuer of the Roth IRA is not required to independently verify that such amounts are eligible to roll over to the Roth IRA. It is also important to note that recipients these amounts may be a spouse or other family member, and the rollover would go into the Roth IRA as the recipient's own Roth IRA, not an inherited Roth IRA. Whether or not distributions from the Roth IRA are "qualified distributions" where the earnings would be tax-free would depend upon the 5-year aging period and reason for distribution applicable to any Roth IRA distribution that is a "qualified distribution".

For purposes of the ordering rules applicable to nonqualified distributions from Roth IRAs, these amounts are treated as contributions to the Roth IRA, not as conversions. This means that these amounts may be immediately withdrawn for any purpose and not be taxed or subject to penalty.

Rollover of Amounts Received in Airline Carrier Bankruptcy – Effective December 11, 2008, a "qualified airline employee" may contribute any portion of an "airline payment" amount to a Roth IRA within 180 days of receipt of such payment (or, if later, within 180 days of the enactment of the Worker, Retiree and Employer Recovery Act of 2008). Such contribution is treated as a qualified rollover contribution to the Roth IRA, and as such, the airline payment is includible in gross income of the recipient to the extent it would be so includible were it not part of the rollover contribution.

An "airline payment" means any payment by a commercial airline carrier to a "qualified airline employee" that is paid: (1) under an order of a Federal bankruptcy court in a case filed after September 11, 2001, and before January 1, 2007; and (2) in respect of the employee's interest in a bankruptcy claim against the airline carrier.

In determining the amount that may be contributed to a Roth IRA, any reduction in the airline payment on account of employment tax withholding is disregarded. A "qualified airline employee" is an employee or former employee of a commercial passenger airline who was a participant in a qualified defined benefit plan maintained by the airline carrier that was terminated or became subject to the benefit accrual and other restrictions applicable to plans maintained by commercial passenger airlines.

Effective February 14, 2012, under the FAA Modernization and Reform Act of 2012 ("The Act") certain qualified airline employees may rollover or recharacterize to a Traditional IRA in lieu of a Roth IRA. The Act permits 'qualified airline employees' and their surviving spouses, who received an 'airline payment amount', and did *not* roll over any portion of such payment to a Roth IRA:

- To rollover now to a Traditional IRA 90% of the payment received, and the amount rolled over is excludible from income in the taxable year payment was made;
- The rollover must take place within 180 days after the receipt of the 'airline payment amount' or within 180 days of February 14, 2012, the date of enactment i.e. August 13, 2012, whichever is later.

Additionally, the Act permits 'qualified airline employees' and their surviving spouses who contributed all or a portion of an 'airline payment amount' previously to a Roth IRA:

- To recharacterize up to 90% of such amounts, to a traditional IRA;
- The recharacterization transfer must be made within 180 days of February 14, 2012, the date of enactment i.e. August 13, 2012;
- The IRA owner can then claim a refund of the Federal taxes they previously paid on such transferred funds if made under certain time frames;
- The amount rolled over will be excluded from income in the taxable year payment was made;
- The transfer must be 'trustee to trustee';
- The contribution amount (including any net income allocable to it), rolled into the traditional IRA, will be deemed to have been rolled over at the time of the rollover to the ROTH.

The Act does *not* apply to employees who in the taxable year or any preceding years, when payment were made, were chief executive officers ("CEO") or one of the 4 highest compensated officers (other than the CEO), whose total compensation had to be reported to shareholders (as required by Securities and Exchange Commission Act of 1934). The PATH Act of 2015 extended this rollover deadline to 180 days after enactment or until June 15, 2016.

Special Rules for Nonspouse Beneficiaries – For distributions prior to 2007, any distribution from a Designated Roth Contribution Account to a beneficiary other than a surviving spouse was not eligible to be rolled over to a Roth IRA. Beginning in 2007, eligible rollover distributions from a Designated Roth Contribution Account payable to a nonspouse beneficiary are eligible for direct rollover into an Inherited Roth IRA. Such amounts must be paid in the form of a direct rollover, rather than a distribution and subsequent rollover. Thus, if the distribution is paid directly by the plan to the nonspouse beneficiary, no rollover is permitted. Also, the Roth IRA receiving the direct rollover must be an Inherited Roth IRA, rather a Roth IRA owned by the nonspouse beneficiary. The Inherited Roth IRA is subject to the same required minimum distributions that apply to beneficiaries under the employer's plan and carries over to the Inherited Roth IRA. The Roth IRA must be established and titled in a manner that identifies it as a Roth IRA with respect to a deceased individual and also identifies the deceased individual and the beneficiary, for example, "Tom Smith as beneficiary of John Smith".

For these purposes, a nonspouse beneficiary includes an individual beneficiary and a trust beneficiary that meets the special "look through" rules under the IRS regulations. A nonindividual beneficiary (such as an estate or charity) or a non-look through trust is not eligible for direct rollover. Any required minimum distributions applicable to the employer's plan for the year in which the direct rollover occurs and any prior year is not eligible for direct rollover.

Conversion from a Traditional IRA or an Employer Plan to a Roth IRA – Prior to 2010, you are permitted to make a qualified rollover contribution from a traditional IRA or an employer plan to a Roth IRA if your Modified AGI (not including the taxable amount converted) for the year during which the distribution is made does not exceed \$100,000 and you are not a married person filing a separate tax return. This is called a "conversion" and may be done at any time without waiting the usual 12 months. After 2009, the conversion eligibility requirements are eliminated. For conversions that occurred no later than 12/31/2017, you are also permitted to recharacterize a conversion made to a Roth IRA if the amount plus earnings is transferred back to a traditional IRA before your tax filing deadline including extensions for the year the amount was distributed from the traditional IRA that was converted to the Roth IRA. Recharacterizations were repealed beginning with conversions that occur in 2018 and subsequent years.

Taxation in Completing a Conversion from a Traditional IRA or an Employer Plan to a Roth IRA - If you complete a conversion from a traditional IRA or an employer plan to a Roth IRA, the conversion amount (to the extent taxable) is generally included in your gross income for the year during which the distribution is made that is converted to a Roth IRA. However, the 10% additional income tax for premature distributions does not apply. For taxable conversions made during 1998, you may include the taxable amount of the traditional IRA distribution in income "ratably" over a four-tax-year period beginning in 1998, or include the entire taxable amount of the traditional IRA distribution in income the year of the conversion. Any taxable conversions from a traditional IRA to a Roth IRA after 1998 will be fully includible in income the year in which you receive the distribution that is converted to a Roth IRA. If a taxpayer converts an eligible plan to a Roth IRA in 2010, the entire taxable amount of the conversion can be either: (a) included in gross income for the year of the conversion or (b) included in gross income by including only ½ of the taxable amount the year following the conversion and the remaining ½ of the taxable amount the next year.

Reconversions - Once an amount has been properly converted and then is recharacterized back to a traditional IRA, any subsequent conversion of that amount is called a "reconversion". Effective January 1, 2000 through 2017, an IRA owner who converts an amount from a traditional IRA to a Roth IRA during any taxable year and then recharacterizes that amount back to a traditional IRA may not reconvert that amount from the traditional IRA to a Roth IRA before the later of: (a) the taxable year following the taxable year in which the amount was first converted to a Roth IRA; or, (b) the end of the 30-day period beginning on the day on which the IRA owner recharacterizes the amount from the Roth IRA back to a traditional IRA. Any amount previously converted is adjusted for subsequent net income in determining the amount subject to the limitation on subsequent reconversions. Since adverse tax consequences could arise, it is recommended that you seek the advice of your own tax advisor. Beginning in 2018, since recharacterizations of conversions no longer apply, reconversions will also no longer apply.

Death of Taxpayer - With respect to 1998 conversions to which the 4-year income spread applied, if the taxpayer dies before including the taxable amounts in income over a 4-year period, all remaining taxable amounts will be included in gross income on the return filed on behalf of the decedent for the taxable year of death. However, if the surviving spouse of such deceased Roth IRA participant is the sole beneficiary of all of the decedent's Roth IRAs, the surviving spouse may elect to continue including the remaining amount in income over the 4-year period as if the surviving spouse were the Roth IRA owner. Conversions in 2010 that are subject to the 2-year income spread are treated in this same manner.

Income Acceleration - If a distribution is deemed from a 1998 conversion amount and the taxpayer is spreading the distribution over four years, a special rule applied. If such distribution occurred before all taxable conversion amounts have been included in income, such distribution is accelerated in gross income for that year in addition to that year's one-fourth amount until the original taxable conversion amount has been includible in gross income. These same rules applied to 2010 conversions subject to the 2-year income spread.

Change in Status - A change in filing status or a divorce does not affect the application of the 4-year spread for 1998 conversions. Thus, if a married Roth IRA participant who is using the 4-year spread and who was married in 1998 subsequently files separately or divorces before the full taxable conversion has been included in gross income, the remainder of the taxable conversion must be included in the owner's gross income over the remaining years in the 4-year period, unless accelerated due to a distribution or death. These same rules apply to 2010 conversions subject to the 2-year income spread.

Substantially Equal Payments - If a taxpayer converts a traditional IRA to a Roth IRA where the traditional IRA was subject to the substantially equal periodic payment exception, the same periodic payments must continue from the Roth IRA. However, for 1998 conversions where the taxpayer is using the 4-year spread rule, the payments from the Roth IRA will be subject to the income acceleration rule. Thus, in addition to the normal 1/4th amount, the substantially equal amount is also includible in the participant's gross income for each year until the full taxable conversion has been so included. This rule also applies to 2010 conversions subject to the 2-year income spread.

Types of Plans Permitted to be Converted - Traditional regular IRAs, Rollover "conduit" IRAs, and SEP IRAs may be converted to a Roth IRA, so long as the taxpayer meets the eligibility requirements until 2010 when the conversion eligibility rules were eliminated. A SIMPLE IRA may also be converted to a Roth IRA, but only after such SIMPLE IRA is no longer subject to the 2-year holding period applicable to SIMPLE IRAs. Also, qualified plans, §403(b) plans and governmental §457(b) plans may be converted to a Roth IRA.

Required Minimum Distributions - Any required minimum amount must first be distributed before any of the remaining amount can be converted to the Roth IRA.

DISTRIBUTIONS FROM A ROTH IRA

Taxation of Distributions - "Qualified distributions" are neither subject to Federal income tax nor the 10% additional income tax for premature distributions. Nonqualified distributions are taxable to the extent such distribution is attributable to the income earned in the account. When you start withdrawing from your Roth IRA, you may take the distributions in regular payments, random withdrawals or in a single sum payment.

Qualified Distributions - A Qualified Distribution is one that is both made:

1. on or after you attain age 59½;
2. to a beneficiary after your death;
3. on account of you becoming disabled (defined under Section 72(m)(7) IRC); or
4. for qualified first time homebuyer expenses.

AND made after the end of the five year period beginning with the taxable year for which you first make any contribution to a Roth IRA.

If your first contribution is a conversion from a traditional IRA to a Roth IRA, the five year period begins with the year in which the conversion was made from the first IRA. If your first contribution is a regular contribution, the five year period begins with the year for which the contribution was made. You may maintain only one Roth IRA plan which accepts regular contributions and conversions. Additional contributions or conversions in subsequent years will not start the running of another five year period for purposes of determining whether or not you have received a "Qualified Distribution". If the entire Roth IRA account balance is distributed before any other Roth IRA contributions are made, the 5-year aging period does not start over when future contributions are made.

However, if any of the following situations occur, the 5-year aging period has not yet started:

1. the initial Roth IRA contribution is revoked within its first 7-day period;
2. the initial Roth IRA contribution is recharacterized to a traditional IRA; or
3. an excess contribution, plus earnings, is timely distributed in accordance with section 408(d)(4), by the tax filing deadline including extensions, unless other eligible contributions were made.

Nonqualified Distributions - Distributions from a Roth IRA which are made as a nonqualified distribution are treated as made from contributions to the Roth IRA to the extent that such distribution, when added to all previous distributions from the Roth IRA (whether or not they were qualified distributions), and reduced by the taxable amount of such previous distributions, does not exceed the aggregate amount of contributions to the Roth IRA.

In other words, nonqualified distributions are treated as taken from the nontaxable portion first (the contributions) until the aggregate distributions exceed the aggregate contributions. When the aggregate distributions exceed the aggregate contributions, then the earnings will be treated as part of the distribution for taxation purposes. The portion of the nonqualified distribution that represents earnings will be taxable and subject to the 10% additional income tax for premature distributions, unless an exception applies. You are responsible for keeping records on the contributions you make to your Roth IRA and for figuring any taxable, nonqualified distributions from your Roth IRA.

Distributions Made Before the End of the Five Year Period - Distributions taken before the end of the five year period are taxable (to the extent you receive the earnings attributable) and are subject to the 10% additional income tax if the participant is not age 59½. However, the 10% additional income tax is avoided if the distribution meets any one of the exceptions under Section 72(t).

Recapture of the 10% Additional Tax - The 10% additional tax on early distributions will apply to conversions if the taxpayer is deemed to withdraw any portion of the taxable conversion amount before the end of the five year period commencing the year of conversion contribution, unless an exception under Section 72(t) applies. This is true even if none of the distribution is otherwise taxable.

Basis Recovery Rules for Distributions from Different IRA Plans - The taxation of distributions from a Roth IRA shall be treated separately from the taxation of a distribution from other IRA plans. In other words, nondeductible contributions made to your traditional IRA will continue to be recovered tax-free on a ratable basis.

Ordering Rules - Distributions from any of your Roth IRAs are to be "deemed" withdrawn in the following order: first from Roth IRA contributions (other than conversions); second from converted amounts on a first-in, first-out basis (with the taxable conversion amount first and then the nontaxable conversion amount); and last from the earnings. In determining these ordering rules, any amount distributed from an individual's Roth IRA is determined as of the end of a taxable year and exhausting each category before moving to the next category. The taxpayer will be required to keep track of these ordering provisions by using IRS Form 8606.

Multiple Beneficiaries - At the Roth IRA owner's death and where multiple beneficiaries are named, each type of contribution must be allocated to each beneficiary on a pro-rata basis. Thus, for example, if a Roth IRA owner dies when the Roth IRA contains a regular contribution of \$2,000, a conversion contribution of \$6,000 and earnings of \$1,000, and the owner leaves his Roth IRA equally to four children, each child will receive one quarter of each type of

contribution. Pursuant to the ordering rules, an immediate distribution of \$2,000 to one of the children will be deemed to consist of \$500 of regular contributions, and \$1,500 of conversion contributions.

For purposes of the ordering rules upon distribution, a beneficiary's inherited Roth IRAs may not be aggregated with any other Roth IRAs maintained by such beneficiary, except for other Roth IRAs that the beneficiary inherited from the same decedent. However, if the surviving spouse is the sole beneficiary of a Roth IRA and such surviving spouse elects to treat the Roth IRA as his or her own Roth IRA, the spouse can aggregate contributions with his or her other Roth IRAs for purposes of determining the ordering rules when distributions are taken. The term "spouse as sole beneficiary" means either the only primary beneficiary of the entire plan, or the only primary beneficiary of a segregated portion of the plan.

Premature Distributions - If you are under age 59½ and receive a "nonqualified" distribution from your Roth IRA, a 10% additional income tax will apply to the taxable portion (generally the earnings portion) of the distribution unless the distribution is received due to death; disability; a qualifying rollover distribution; the timely withdrawal of the principal amount of an excess; substantially equal periodic payments; certain medical expenses; health insurance premiums paid by certain unemployed individuals; qualified higher education expenses; qualified first time homebuyer expenses; due to an IRS levy; qualified disaster distributions (QDDs); qualified disaster recovery assistance distributions; or qualified reservist distributions.

Required Distributions - Unlike a traditional IRA, you are not required to begin distributions when you attain age 70½. Also, the incidental death benefit requirements (referred to as MDIB) do not apply to the Roth IRA.

Death Distributions - If you die and you have a designated beneficiary, the balance in your Roth IRA will be distributed to your beneficiary over the beneficiary's single life expectancy. These distributions must commence no later than December 31st of the calendar year following the calendar year of your death. However, if your spouse is your sole beneficiary, these distributions are not required to commence until the December 31st of the calendar year you would have attained the age of 70½, if that date is later than the required commencement date in the previous sentence. If you die and you do not have a designated beneficiary, the balance in your Roth IRA must be distributed no later than the December 31st of the calendar year that contains the fifth anniversary of your death.

PROHIBITED TRANSACTIONS WITH A ROTH IRA

If you or your beneficiary engage in a prohibited transaction (as defined under Section 4975 of the Internal Revenue Code) with your Roth IRA, it will lose its tax exemption and you must include the taxable portion of your account in your gross income for that taxable year and may also be subject to the 10% additional tax. If you pledge any portion of your Roth IRA as collateral for a loan, the amount so pledged will be treated as a distribution and the taxable portion will be included in your gross income for that year and may also be subject to the 10% additional tax.

ADDITIONAL TAXES AND PENALTIES

If you are under age 59½ and receive a nonqualified premature distribution from your Roth IRA, an additional 10% income tax will apply on the taxable amount of the distribution (generally the earnings portion only), unless an exception under Section 72(t) applies. A 10% additional tax will be assessed if you are under age 59½ if you are deemed to withdraw any portion of a conversion that you made to your Roth IRA before five years have lapsed from the conversion year, even if such distribution is otherwise nontaxable. If you make an excess contribution to your Roth IRA and it is not corrected on a timely basis, an excise tax of 6% is imposed on the excess amount. This tax will apply each year to any part or all of the excess which remains in your account.

If you should die, and the appropriate required death distributions are not made from your Roth IRA, an excise tax of 50% is assessed to your beneficiary based upon the difference between the amount that should have been distributed and the amount that was actually distributed. You may be required to file IRS Form 5329 with the Internal Revenue Service for any year an additional tax is due.

INCOME TAX WITHHOLDING

All withdrawals from your Roth IRA (except the earnings attributable to a return of excess contributions) are not subject to Federal income tax withholding.

TRANSFERS

A direct transfer of all or a portion of your funds is permitted from this Roth IRA to another Roth IRA or visa versa. Transfers do not constitute a distribution since you are never in receipt of the funds. The monies are transferred directly to the new trustee or custodian. Transfers are neither subject to the 12-month restriction nor the 60 day rollover period usually associated with rollovers.

If you should transfer all or a portion of your Roth IRA to your former spouse's Roth IRA under a divorce decree (or under a written instrument incident to divorce) or separation instrument, you will not be deemed to have made a taxable distribution, but merely a transfer. The portion so transferred will be treated at the time of the transfer as the Roth IRA of your spouse or former spouse.

If your spouse is the beneficiary of your Roth IRA, in the event of your death, your spouse may "assume" your Roth IRA. The assumed Roth IRA is then treated as your surviving spouse's Roth IRA.

Qualified Charitable Distributions - If a Roth IRA owner is exactly age 70½ or over, the Roth IRA owner may direct the Roth IRA trustee or custodian to transfer up to \$100,000 per year from the Roth IRA to a qualified charity. Such transfer will not be subject to Federal income taxes. Qualified Charitable Distributions may also be made by a beneficiary who is exactly age 70½ or over. Qualified Charitable Distributions are not subject to Federal income tax withholding. On-going SEP IRAs or SIMPLE IRAs are not permitted to be transferred under this rule.

The amount transferred will be treated as coming from the taxable portion of the Roth IRA and will be an exception to the ordering rules applicable to distributions from Roth IRAs. The tax-free transfer to a qualified charity applies only if the Roth IRA owner could otherwise receive a charitable deduction with respect to the transferred amount. In other words, it must be made to a qualified charitable organization that the taxpayer would have otherwise been able to take a tax deduction for making the charitable contribution. However, since such transfer will be tax-free, the taxpayer may not also take a charitable deduction on his or her tax return.

This provision is effective with respect to distributions transferred directly to a qualified charity beginning in 2006 through the end of 2009. The Tax Relief, Unemployment Compensation Reauthorization, and Job Creation Act of 2010 extended Qualified Charitable Distributions for 2010 and 2011 under the same rules that originally applied. Eligible taxpayers who make a Qualified Charitable Distribution during January 2011 may elect to treat such Qualified Charitable Distribution as made on December 31, 2010. On January 2, 2013, the President signed the American Taxpayer Relief Act of 2012 ("ATRA") which extended

QCDs through the end of 2013 and on December 16, 2014, the President signed the Tax Increase Prevention Act of 2014 to extend QCDs through the end of 2014 only. On December 18, 2015, the Protecting Americans from Tax Hikes Act of 2015 ("PATH") was signed into law and extended QCDs permanently retroactively for the 2015 year.

Although the Roth IRA trustee or custodian must pay the Qualified Charitable Distribution directly to the qualified charity, the taxpayer is responsible for substantiating and reporting the Qualified Charitable Distribution on his or her Federal income tax return. The trustee or custodian of the Roth IRA will report the amount transferred on IRS Form 1099-R as if the Roth IRA owner withdrew the money. After the Roth IRA trustee or custodian issues the payment in the name of the charity, the trustee or custodian may deliver the payment to the Roth IRA owner, who then would deliver the payment to the charity.

Qualified HSA Funding Distribution - Beginning for contributions made for 2007 and thereafter, a special one-time, tax-free transfer from a Roth IRA to an HSA is permitted. This one-time transfer counts toward the eligible individual's HSA contribution limit for the year of the transfer.

Prior to 2007, if a Roth IRA owner wanted to use the money in a Roth IRA to make an annual HSA contribution, any nonqualified distribution from the Roth IRA was taxable (to the extent attributable to the earnings) and subject to the 10% additional tax if the individual was under the age of 59½. Prior law did not provide for a tax-free transfer from a Roth IRA to an HSA.

Beginning for annual HSA contributions made for 2007 or thereafter, an HSA-eligible individual may make an irrevocable once-in-a-lifetime, tax-free "qualified HSA Funding distribution" from a Roth IRA to an HSA, subject however to strict requirements. The amount of the HSA funding distribution must be made in the form of a Custodian-to-Custodian transfer from the IRA to the HSA. The amount of the transfer cannot exceed the maximum HSA contribution limit for the year that the amount is transferred. Consequently, this one-time transfer from a Roth IRA to an HSA counts toward the individual's total HSA contribution limit for the year depending upon the type of coverage under the HDHP (self-only or family).

FEDERAL ESTATE AND GIFT TAXES

Generally there is no specific exclusion for Roth IRAs under the Federal estate tax rules. Therefore, in the event of your death, the value of your Roth IRA will be includible in your gross estate for Federal estate tax purposes. However, if your surviving spouse is the beneficiary of your Roth IRA, the value of your Roth IRA may qualify for the marital deduction available under Section 2056 of the Internal Revenue Code. A transfer of property for Federal gift tax purposes does not include an amount which a beneficiary receives from a Roth IRA plan.

IRS APPROVAL AS TO FORM

This Roth IRA Custodial Agreement has been approved by the Internal Revenue Service as to form. This is not an endorsement of the plan in operation or of the investments offered.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

You may obtain further information on Roth IRAs and traditional IRAs from your District Office of the Internal Revenue Service. In particular, you may wish to obtain IRS Publication 590-A, Contributions to Individual Retirement Arrangements (IRAs), and 590-B, Distributions from Individual Retirement Arrangements (IRAs).

ROTH IRA FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE

In General - IRS regulations require the Custodian to provide you with a financial projected growth of your Roth IRA account based upon certain assumptions.

Growth in the Value of Your Roth IRA - Growth in the value of your Roth IRA is neither guaranteed nor projected. The value of your Roth IRA will be computed by totaling the fair market value of the assets credited to your account. At least once a year the Custodian will send you a written report stating the current value of your Roth IRA assets. The Custodian shall disclose separately a description of:

1. the type and amount of each charge;
2. the method of computing and allocating earnings, and
3. any portion of the contribution, if any, which may be used for the purchase of life insurance.

Custodian Fees - The Custodian may charge reasonable fees or compensation for its services and it may deduct all reasonable expenses incurred by it in the administration of your Roth IRA, including any legal, accounting, distribution, transfer, termination or other designated fees. Any charges made by the Custodian will be separately disclosed on an attachment hereto. Such fees may be charged to you or directly to your custodial account. In addition, depending on your choice of investment vehicles, you may incur brokerage commissions attributable to the purchase or sale of assets.

BELOW ARE THE COMBINED DISCLOSURES FOR LEGISLATION CHANGES UNDER THE SECURE ACT AND SECURE 2.0 ACT

SECURE Act – Setting Every Community Up for Retirement Enhancement Act of 2019

Repeal of maximum age for traditional IRA contributions

- Individuals will be able to make contributions to their IRA even after attaining the age of 70 ½ (72/73), if income is earned.
- Effective for taxable years beginning after December 31, 2019.

Increase in age for required beginning date for mandatory distributions

- The required beginning date for mandatory distributions has been amended from age 70 ½ to age 72 (and under SECURE 2.0 to age 73).
- This only applies to persons turning 70 ½ after December 31, 2019. Anyone who turned 70 ½ prior to 2020 must begin taking, and continue to take, distributions under pre-SECURE Act rules.

<p>Modification of required distribution rules for designated beneficiaries</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Upon the death of an IRA account owner, distributions of the entire account balance to anyone other than an “eligible designated beneficiary” must generally be made within 10 years of the account owner’s death. An eligible designated beneficiary includes the surviving spouse, a child of the IRA account owner who has not yet reached the age of majority (age 21 as defined in IRS regulations), a disabled individual, a chronically ill individual, or an individual who is not more than 10 years younger than the decedent. This change eliminates the ability to have “stretch IRAs” by limiting the distribution period for certain beneficiaries. Effective for distributions on behalf of IRA account owners who die after December 31, 2019.
<p>Penalty-free withdrawals from retirement plans for individuals in case of birth of child or adoption</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Distributions from a retirement plan, in the case of a qualified birth or adoption, are exempt from the 10% early withdrawal penalty. The child must be under 18 years of age, the distribution must be made within the 1-year period after the birth or adoption date of the child, and the distribution exception is capped at \$5,000 per child, per parent. These funds may be repaid to the plan by a rollover, and the repayment would be treated as a nontaxable direct rollover (reported as a “repayment”). Effective for distributions made after December 31, 2019.
<p>Tax-exempt “difficulty of care payments”, a type of qualified foster care payment to individual care providers under a state Medicaid Home and Community-Based Services waiver program (Medicaid Waiver payments), may be treated as compensation for purposes of making an IRA contribution.</p>
<p>For tax years beginning after December 31, 2019, certain taxable non-tuition fellowship and stipend payments are treated as compensation for the purpose of IRA contributions. Compensation will include any amount included in gross income and paid to aid in pursuit of graduate or postdoctoral study.</p>
<p>CARES Act – Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act of 2020</p>
<p>The CARES Act provided assistance to the American people from the public health and economic impact of COVID-19. The provisions under the CARES Act were mostly available during 2020, but the highlights are listed here:</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coronavirus-related distributions - a coronavirus-related distribution (CRD) is a distribution made on or after January 1, 2020, and before December 30, 2020 to a qualified individual from an IRA, qualified plan, 403(b), or governmental 457(b) of up to \$100,000 in the aggregate for any taxable year. A CRD was directly repaid (i.e., rolled over) to any IRA or other eligible plan that accepts rollovers ratably within 3 years. Amounts not repaid could be taxed over a 3-year period. The CARES Act provides for 2 special coronavirus-related loan conditions to qualified individuals: 1) increases the amount that can be borrowed; and 2) extends the time to repay an existing loan. Loans are not permitted from individual retirement accounts, however.
<p>Waiver of Required Minimum Distribution (RMD)</p>
<p>All Required Minimum Distributions were waived for the calendar year 2020 under the CARES Act, including for a participant whose required beginning date is in 2020 (e.g. Initial year 2019 RMDs due by April 1, 2020). Beneficiaries required to take RMDs from inherited IRAs were included in the waiver.</p>
<p>The 2020 RMD waiver applied to all IRA owners, not only to qualified individuals affected by COVID-19.</p>
<p>RMDs taken at any point during 2020 could have been rolled back into an eligible plan. IRS notice 2020-51 provided an extension to roll back any RMD taken on or after January 1, 2020 by August 31, 2020 without regard to the 60-day deadline that applies to IRA to IRA rollovers, or the one rollover in a 12-month period restriction.</p>
<p>RMD amounts that were received after August 31st were still eligible for ROLLOVER BUT were subject to the normal rollover restrictions.</p>
<p>Qualified Charitable Distributions are not affected by the CARES Act. As it relates to the change in RMD age under the SECURE Act mentioned previously, an IRA owner or beneficiary who was age 70½ could still request a QCD even if they did not have a 2020 RMD. Those individuals continue to remain QCD eligible despite the increase in RMD age to 72. See Appendix D in IRS Publication 590-B to determine the correct amount of the QCD.</p>
<p>SECURE 2.0 Act of 2022 (SECURE 2.0)</p>
<p>Continuing the initiatives of the SECURE Act of 2019, SECURE 2.0 Act of 2022 (SECURE 2.0), Division T of the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2023, was signed into law on December 29, 2022 (date of enactment). Some changes became effective on the date of enactment - or even retroactively, but the Internal Revenue Service and the Department of Labor must provide technical guidance to practitioners and taxpayers for them to be practicable.</p>
<p>Increase in Age for Required Beginning Date for Mandatory Distributions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The required beginning date for Required Minimum Distributions (RMDs) has been increased from age 72 to age 73 starting on January 1, 2023. The Act further increases the RMD age, starting January 1, 2033, from 73 to 75.
<p>Indexing IRA Catch-Up Limit</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Indexes the current \$1,000 age 50 catch-up limit. Effective for taxable years beginning after December 31, 2023.

<p>Withdrawals for Certain Emergency Expenses</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides an exception for certain distributions used for emergency expenses, which are unforeseeable or immediate financial needs relating to personal or family emergency expenses. Only one distribution is permissible per year of up to \$1,000, and a taxpayer has the option to repay the distribution within 3 years. No further emergency distributions are permissible during the 3-YEAR repayment period unless repayment occurs. Effective for distributions made after December 31, 2023.
<p>Special Rules for Certain Distributions from Long-Term Qualified Tuition Programs to Roth IRAs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> SECURE 2.0 amended the Internal Revenue Code to allow for tax and penalty free rollovers, up to \$35,000 over the course of a taxpayer's lifetime, from any 529 account in their name to their Roth IRA. These rollovers are subject to Roth IRA annual contribution limits, but not the income threshold for contributions. To qualify, the 529 account must have been open for 15 years or more.
<p>Remove Required Minimum Distribution Barriers of Life Annuities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> An actuarial test related to certain commercial lifetime annuities in qualified plans and IRAs in the required minimum distribution regulations is eliminated. This will reinstitute certain guarantees for the benefit of individuals who are otherwise unwilling to elect a life annuity under a defined contribution plan or IRA. This provision is effective for calendar years ending after the date of enactment of the Act.
<p>Qualifying Longevity Annuity Contracts</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To preserve the intended longevity protection, the 25% limit is eliminated, and the dollar limit is increased to \$200,000. In addition, QLACs with spousal survival rights are available, and free-look periods are permitted up to 90 days with respect to contracts purchased or received in an exchange on or after July 2, 2014.
<p>Eliminating a Penalty on Partial Annuitization</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A participant that holds an annuity contract in their retirement account may elect to calculate the Required Minimum Distribution (RMD) by aggregating the value of the annuity with the value of the non-annuitized portion of the account. The annuity contract payments for the year can then be deducted from the combined RMD amount. This became effective on the date of enactment of the ACT; however, the Treasury Secretary is to update the relevant regulations accordingly. Until then, taxpayers may rely on a GOOD FAITH INTERPRETATION OF THE LAW.
<p>Reduction in Excise Tax on Certain Accumulations in Qualified Retirement Plans</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The penalty for failure to take Required Minimum Distributions (RMD) is reduced from 50% to 25%. In addition, if a failure to take the RMD is corrected within a 2-year correction period, the excise tax on the failure is further reduced from 25% down to 10% percent. This correction window begins on the tax filing due date for the year the excess OCCURRED AND ends on the earlier of the last day of the second taxable year following such deadline or when the taxpayer is audited. Effective for taxable years beginning after the date of enactment of the Act.
<p>Updating Dollar Limit for Mandatory Distributions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Under current law, employers may automatically roll over former employees' retirement accounts from a workplace retirement plan into an IRA if their balances are between \$1,000 and \$5,000. The limit is now increased from \$5,000 to \$7,000, effective for distributions made after December 31, 2023.
<p>One-Time Election for Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD) to Split-Interest Entity; Increase in Qualified Charitable Distribution Limitation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expands the Qualified Charitable Distribution provision to allow for a one-time, \$50,000 distribution to charities through charitable gift annuities, charitable remainder unitrusts, and charitable remainder annuity trusts. This is effective for distributions made in taxable years beginning after the date of enactment of the Act. In addition, the \$50,000 special distribution amount, as well as \$100,000 overall QCD limit, will be indexed for inflation for distributions made in taxable years ending after the date of enactment of the Act.
<p>Repayment of Qualified Birth or Adoption Distribution Limited to 3 Years</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The recontribution period for distributions made in the case of birth or adoption, a qualified birth or adoption distribution (QBAD), is restricted to 3 years. Effective to distributions made after the date of the enactment of the Act, and retroactively to the 3-year period beginning on the day after the date on which such distribution was received.
<p>Penalty-Free Withdrawal from Retirement Plans for Individual Case of Domestic Abuse</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Retirement plans may permit participants to self-certify that they experienced domestic abuse within the past year, allowing the participant to withdraw a small amount of money (the lesser of \$10,000, indexed for inflation, or 50% of the participant's account). This distribution is not subject to the 10% tax on early distributions. Additionally, a participant has the opportunity to repay the withdrawn money from the retirement plan over 3 YEARS AND will be refunded for income taxes on money that is repaid. Effective for distributions made after December 31, 2023.

Tax Treatment of IRA Involved in a Prohibited Transaction

- When an individual engages in a prohibited transaction with respect to their IRA, the IRA is disqualified and treated as distributed to the individual, irrespective of the size of the prohibited transaction.
- This provision clarifies that if an individual has multiple IRAs, only the IRA with respect to which the prohibited transaction occurred will be disqualified.
- Effective for taxable years beginning after the date of enactment of the Act.

Clarification of Substantially Equal Periodic Payment Rule

- Clarification of what does not constitute a modification of the additional tax on early distributions for the Substantially Equal Periodic Payment (SEPP) rule.
- The exception continues to apply in the case of a rollover of the account, an exchange of an annuity providing the payments, or an annuity that satisfies the Required Minimum Distribution rules.
- This provision is effective for transfers, rollovers, and exchanges after December 31, 2023; and effective for annuity distributions on or after the date of enactment of the Act.

Exception to Penalty on Early Distributions from Qualified Plans and IRAs to Individuals with a Terminal Illness

- Provides an exception to the 10% additional tax on early distributions made to individuals with a terminal illness.
- A physician must certify that the illness is reasonably expected to result in death within 84 months.
- These withdrawals currently have no dollar **LIMITATION AND** can be repaid to the account in a manner that is similar to qualified birth or adoption distributions.
- The exception is effective for distributions made after the date of enactment of the Act.

Special Rules for Use of Retirement Funds in Connection with Qualified Federally Declared Disasters

- Issues permanent rules that aim to standardize access to retirement funds in the event of a federally declared disaster.
- To be eligible, an individual must have their primary residence in the federally declared disaster **AREA AND** sustain an economic loss as a result of the disaster event.
- If eligible, up to \$22,000 can be considered a Qualified Disaster Distribution (or Qualified Disaster Recovery Distribution), taken no later than 180 days after the federal disaster was declared.
- The funds are exempt from the 10% excise tax on early distributions.
- There is a **3-YEAR** window following the date of distribution to repay all or a portion of the payment back to an eligible retirement plan. Alternatively, taxes can be spread ratably over a 3-year period.
- A list of federally declared disasters can be found on the Federal Emergency Management Agency website, [fema.org](https://www.fema.org).
- Effective retroactively for disasters occurring on or after January 26, 2021.

Elimination of Additional Tax on Corrective Distributions of Excess Contributions

- Earnings attributable to timely correction of an excess contribution is not subject to the 10% additional tax on early distributions.
- Effective for any determination made on or after the date of enactment of the Act, even if the correction **OCCURRED BEFORE** date of enactment.

Modification of Required Minimum Distribution Rules for Special Needs Trust

- In the case of a special needs trust established for a beneficiary with a disability, the trust may provide for a charitable organization as the remainder beneficiary.
- Effective for calendar years beginning after the date of enactment of the Act.

IRA & Roth IRA Contribution Limits - Cost of Living Adjustments (COLAs)		
	2024	2025
Traditional IRA regular contribution limit	\$7,000	\$7,000
Age 50 catch-up limit for traditional IRAs	\$1,000	\$1,000
<i>AGI phase-out ranges for determining traditional IRA deductions for active participants:</i>		
Unmarried taxpayers	\$77,000 - \$87,000	\$79,000 - \$89,000
Married taxpayers filing joint returns	\$123,000 - \$143,000	\$126,000 - \$146,000
Married taxpayers filing separate returns	\$0 - \$10,000	\$0 - \$10,000
Non-active participant spouse	\$230,000 - \$240,000	\$236,000 - \$246,000
Roth IRA regular contribution limit	\$7,000	\$7,000
Age 50 catch-up limit for traditional and Roth IRAs	\$1,000	\$1,000
<i>AGI phase-out ranges for determining Roth IRA regular contributions:</i>		
Unmarried taxpayers	\$146,000 - \$161,000	\$150,000 - \$165,000
Married taxpayers filing joint returns	\$230,000 - \$240,000	\$236,000 - \$246,000
Married taxpayers filing separate returns	\$0 - \$10,000	\$0 - \$10,000