

# Plan Participation Guide

It's your future. Own it.



# Plan Participation Guide

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Dear Employee,

Our goal at TSA Consulting Group, Inc. (TSACG) is to make your life easier by ensuring your employer's supplemental retirement plan is administered properly and by ensuring that you have the resources you need to take full advantage of the opportunity to participate.

Your employer has placed the administration of their plan(s) in our hands, and this is not a responsibility we take lightly. It is our promise to you that no matter where you are at in life - actively working, nearing retirement, or retired - we will dedicate the time and effort to simplify how you access your account and manage your contributions.

This Plan Participation Guide was developed to provide resource information, but as you dive deeper into the management of your retirement accounts, you may find that you still have questions. Don't worry. We are here to help. Our Customer Service Representatives are available to assist with distribution submission and approval questions as well as salary reduction agreement submission questions. The contact information for our teams can be found later in this document.

Welcome to your benefits plan. We are happy you are here.

Sincerely,  
TSA Consulting Group



# Meet TSA Consulting Group

Making sure you receive the **financial wellness resources you deserve.**

At our core, we are a group of people helping people achieve their retirement planning and wellness goals. We are just like you. We work hard so that one day we, too, can have a secure financial future.

We understand that financial preparedness should be stress-free, so we are here to make sure your plan is administered properly. We take care of the administrative details of your plan, such as remitting contributions, authorizing distribution requests, and answering everyday questions.

Since 1996, TSACG has grown dramatically while remaining focused on what truly matters most: people. Whether it is you, your employer, our employees, or our community, we focus on connecting people with financial wellness solutions that lead to a more fulfilled life.

Many of these solutions can be found in our Financial Wellness Center. The center program contains planning modules that allow you to watch, read, or plan utilizing numerous planning calculators, videos, and educational articles. Center resources can be accessed 24/7.

Financial Wellness Center: <https://fwc.tsacg.com>

The screenshot displays the TSA Consulting Group website's Financial Wellness Center. At the top left is the TSA Consulting Group logo. To its right, the text "Jump to:" is followed by three blue buttons: "Just Starting Out", "Mid-Career Guidance", and "Near & In Retirement". Below these buttons is a large banner image showing four young adults in an office setting, appearing energetic and engaged. To the right of the image, the heading "Just Starting Out" is followed by a paragraph: "When you're young and looking ahead toward a bright future, it's hard to think about saving for a future that is years and years away. But as you build your career, it's important to start planning for all the life events that await you." Below this paragraph is another line of text: "We have assembled a collection of videos, calculators and articles to help you get on your way!". At the bottom of the page, there is a row of six dark blue buttons: "Paycheck & Benefits", "Budgeting", "Debt Elimination", "Retirement", and "Insurance". The TSA Consulting Group logo is also present in the bottom right corner of the page.

# Getting Started

An introduction to your plan.



## Understanding Your Plan

A 403(b) or 457(b) plan allows you to save for retirement on a tax-deferred basis. Your contributions are voluntary, and you can choose the amount based on your retirement goals. For more specific information on your employer's plan design, please reference the **Meaningful Notice**, which can be accessed by searching for your employer forms and information at <https://www.tsacg.com/individual/plan-sponsor/>.



## Why Wait?

Simply put, waiting could cost you. You might ask: What difference could ten years make? Let's say you wanted to build a \$500,000 nest egg to help bridge the gap of your current retirement savings plan. If you start at age 25, you will need to contribute at least \$1,500 annually to a plan earning 10% in order to meet your goal; however, if you were to wait ten years to start, you will need to contribute at least \$4,400 annually to earn the same amount. The earlier you start, the more potential earnings you can enjoy later in life.



## Online Resources

Once enrolled in the plan, you have 24/7 access to a variety of educational tools and plan resources online. Available in the FORMS or INDIVIDUAL sections at <https://www.tsacg.com>, your online access allows you to obtain plan forms, access guides and videos on how to use the website, view the plan's authorized investment providers, and so much more.



## Submitting Distributions

Within just a few minutes, distribution requests can be submitted and approved using our Online Distribution System. This online system allows participants and advisors alike to gain immediate approval certification for eligible distributions. Further, all distribution requests may be submitted in this manner -- even those that require supporting documentation. TSACG's Online Distribution System can be found on the homepage at <https://www.tsacg.com>, and is available 24/7. For more information on submitting distributions, please visit our website.



## Submitting Salary Reduction Agreements

If this service is being utilized by your employer, you also have the ability to start, change, or stop a deduction at your convenience via our online Salary Reduction Agreement system. This system, which is available 24/7, will provide an immediate confirmation when the request has been submitted. The system also permits your financial advisor/representative to assist you in this process. Your employer's page on <https://www.tsacg.com> houses both a link to the online system and step-by-step instructions.

# Enrollment

You have decided to participate in the plan. Now what?

After reviewing your employer's 403(b) or 457(b) plan, you will likely want to take advantage of saving for retirement on a tax-deferred basis. Here are some tips on how to get started.

## Pick Your Investment Provider

You will want to review your employer's list of authorized investment providers and determine where you want to invest your money. A complete list of your investment providers is available to you when you visit your employer's page on <https://www.tsacg.com/individual/plan-sponsor/>. Not sure which investment provider to choose? Review company marketing materials, consult with your financial advisor, or ask a trusted colleague or mentor if they work with an advisor or investment provider they would recommend.

## Contact Your Chosen Investment Provider

Once you have decided on an investment provider or providers, be sure to contact them and establish an account.

## Complete a Salary Reduction Agreement

Next, you simply complete a Salary Reduction Agreement (SRA) via the process defined by your employer. Your employer's page at <https://www.tsacg.com/individual/plan-sponsor/> will either reflect the instructions to submit an SRA via TSACG's online SRA system, and/or house an SRA which can be completed and submitted via the instructions provided by your employer.

## What Happens Next?

Once you have submitted your SRA request, your employer will begin deducting your contribution amount from your paycheck and send the funds to your chosen investment provider or providers.



**Questions?**

**(888) 796-3786**  
Distribution Team: Option 4  
SRA Team: Option 5

**Customer Service Hours:**

Monday through Thursday,  
7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. CT

Friday,  
7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. CT

