

# OMNI Updates

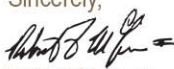
4th Quarter 2017

Providing a Better Understanding of Your Tax Deferred Retirement Benefit

## Happy Holidays

2017 has been an exciting year at U.S. OMNI. We have continued to expand our services including our West Coast offices and many new website features to assist participants with making educated financial decisions. On behalf of myself and all of OMNI's staff, we all wish you and your loved ones a lovely holiday season filled with joy and meaning and a Happy New Year. For those of you who have not yet taken advantage of the 403(b) benefit, a resolution to contribute in the 2018 calendar year will be a resolution that provides a financial benefit in the years to come. We look forward to continuing to service all of your retirement needs in 2018.



Sincerely,  
  
 Robert McLean  
 President & CEO



## 2018 Maximum Allowable Contribution Limits

The IRS has recently announced the 2018 Maximum Allowable Contribution (MAC) limits. While the catch-up contribution limits remain unchanged from previous years, the elective deferral limits for 403(b) and 457(b) contributions as well as the limits governing employer contributions have both increased from their 2017 levels as described below.

Limits	2017	2018
403(b)/457(b) Elective Deferrals	\$18,000.00	\$18,500.00
Catch-Up Contribution	\$6,000.00	\$6,000.00
Non-elective/Employer Contributions (Section 415(c))	\$54,000.00	\$55,000.00

Additionally, individuals with at least 15 years of service with their current employer may still be entitled to contribute up to an additional \$3,000 above their age-based limit, potentially increasing the limit to \$27,500 for a participant utilizing both the age based and the full amount of the service based catch-up provisions. Participants who are 50 years old or older and who receive non-elective contributions have the opportunity to defer a "combined maximum" of \$61,000 in 2018. Please note that the amount of non-elective employer contributions is reduced by employee elective deferrals.

**if you have any questions concerning the 2018 contribution limits, or any other 403(b)/457 concern, please contact OMNI at 877-544-6664.**



## Looking for help in learning about your investment options?

OMNI is pleased to introduce a new feature of our website for participants seeking to learn more about the specific investment options offered by each company in their employer's plan. The employer plan detail page now features a short contact form for you to complete and submit to OMNI who will then forward it to the selected service provider. A representative of the selected provider will then contact you directly to provide more detailed information.

The screenshot shows a web form titled "Looking to learn more about your investment options?". It includes a "Service Providers" section with checkboxes for AXA Equitable Life Insurance Company, PlanMember Services Corp., RiverSource Life Insurance Co of NY, and Voya Financial (Nat'l NY). There are also radio buttons for investment types: (F), (FI), (VA), (RIA), and (MF). A "SUBMIT" button is visible. On the right, there is a sidebar for "Investment Types" with radio buttons for Fixed Annuity (F), Fixed Index Annuity (FI), Variable Annuity (VA), Investment Advisory Services (RIA), and Mutual Funds (MF). A small image of a woman on a phone is also present.



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## Blaine School Dist.

New accounts may be opened with the following approved service providers:

AMERICAN FIDELITY ASSURANCE CO.  
 AMERIPRISE FINANCIAL SERVICES, INC.  
 ASSET ADVISORS - RICHARD DONAHUE - CPI  
 AXA EQUITABLE LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY  
 GLOBAL ATLANTIC FINANCIAL GROUP  
 GREAT AMERICAN INSURANCE GROUP  
 OPPENHEIMER SHAREHOLDER SVCS.  
 SECURITY BENEFIT  
 THRIVENT FINANCIAL FOR LUTHERANS  
 VALIC  
 VANGUARD FIDUCIARY TRUST CO.  
 WADELL & REED INC.

## Required Minimum Distribution - RMD's

It is the time of year when many retired participants who have reached age 70 ½ in 2017 must take a minimum withdrawal from their 403(b) or 457(b) accounts. If you have more than one 403(b) or 457(b) account, you must calculate the RMD amount for each account but may take the total calculated amount from one account. Please note, however, that you must take a separate RMD from each type of plan (i.e., a 403(b) or 457(b) plan account).

The above rules are demonstrated in the following example.

403(b)	RMD Calculation
Sally's 403(b) Account #1	\$1,000.00
Sally's 403(b) Account #2	\$5,000.00
<b>Total 403(b) RMD Amount</b>	<b>\$6,000.00</b>

457(b)	RMD Calculation
Sally's 457(b) Account #1	\$2,000.00
<b>Total 457(b) RMD Amount</b>	<b>\$2,000.00</b>



As indicated in the above chart, Sally has 2 separate accounts in her employer's 403(b) plan requiring her to take an RMD in the total amount of \$6,000. She can choose to take the total RMD from account #1 or account #2, or may split the RMD total amount between the two accounts. Since Sally also has 457(b) account, she must take a separate RMD in the amount of \$2,000 in addition to the RMD she is required to take out of her 403(b) accounts.

While your 403(b) or 457(b) service provider can generally calculate the amount of your RMD, you also have the ability to calculate your RMD by following IRS guidelines. It is extremely important to withdraw your RMD in full and by the deadline since any required RMD not withdrawn by the deadline will be taxed at 50%. Moreover, it is important to note that RMD amounts must be withdrawn as cash and cannot be rolled over into another tax-deferred account.

To obtain approval from OMNI on behalf of your employer, please complete the online RMD withdrawal form located on your employer's plan detail page or on the "Forms" tab of the OMNI website. OMNI will email a Certificate of Approval, which should be printed and submitted to the applicable service provider with any required paperwork.

## Financial Wellness Center



Our Financial Wellness Center serves as an educational resource providing a variety of tools to assist in learning more about retirement savings and managing personal finances. Each section of the wellness center has informational articles, videos, and multiple calculators to educate and assist participants and retirees.



- Retirement Planning
- Saving for College
- Personal Finances
- Insurance & Protection
- Social Security & Medicare

To learn more contact **U.S. OMNI**, M-F 7:30am - 8:00pm EST, 877.544.6664 or visit [www.omni403b.com](http://www.omni403b.com)