Atwood Heights School District 125, IL

MEANINGFUL NOTICE / PLAN SUMMARY INFORMATION 2024

403(b) PLAN

The 403(b) Plan is a valuable retirement savings option. This notice provides a brief explanation of the provisions, policies and rules that govern the 403(b) Plan offered.

Plan administration services for the 403(b) plan are provided by U.S. OMNI & TSACG Compliance Services. Visit the U.S. OMNI & TSACG Compliance Services' website *(https://www.tsacg.com)* for information about enrollment in the plan, investment product providers available, distributions, enrollment, exchanges or transfers, 403(b) loans, and rollovers.

ELIGIBILITY

Most employees, with the exception of private contractors, appointed/elected trustees and/or school board members are eligible to participate in the 403(b) plan immediately upon employment. Please verify if your employer allows student workers to participate in the 403(b) plan. Eligible employees may make voluntary elective deferrals to the 403(b) plan. Participants are fully vested in their contributions and earnings at all times.

EMPLOYEE CONTRIBUTIONS

Traditional 403(b)

Upon enrollment, participants designate a portion of their salary that they wish to contribute to their traditional 403(b) account up to their maximum annual contribution amount on a pre-tax basis, thus reducing the participant's taxable income. Salary deferral contributions to the participant's 403(b) account are made from income paid through the employer's payroll system. Taxes on contributions and any earnings are deferred until the participant withdraws their funds.

Roth 403(b)

Contributions made to a Roth 403(b) account are after-tax deductions from your paycheck. Income taxes are not reduced by contributions you make to your account. All qualified distributions from Roth 403(b) accounts are tax-free. Any earnings on your deposits are not taxed as long as they remain in your account for five years from the date that your first Roth contribution was made. Distributions may be taken if you are 59½ (subject to plan document provisions) or at separation from service.

The Internal Revenue Service regulations limit the amount participants may contribute annually to tax-advantaged retirement plans and imposes substantial penalties for violating contribution limits. U.S. OMNI & TSACG Compliance Services monitors 403(b) plan contributions and notifies the employer in the event of an excess contribution.

THE BASIC CONTRIBUTION LIMIT FOR 2024 IS $23,000.

Additional provisions allowed:

AGE-BASED ADDITIONAL AMOUNT

Participants who are age 50 or older any time during the year qualify to make an additional contribution of up to $7,500.

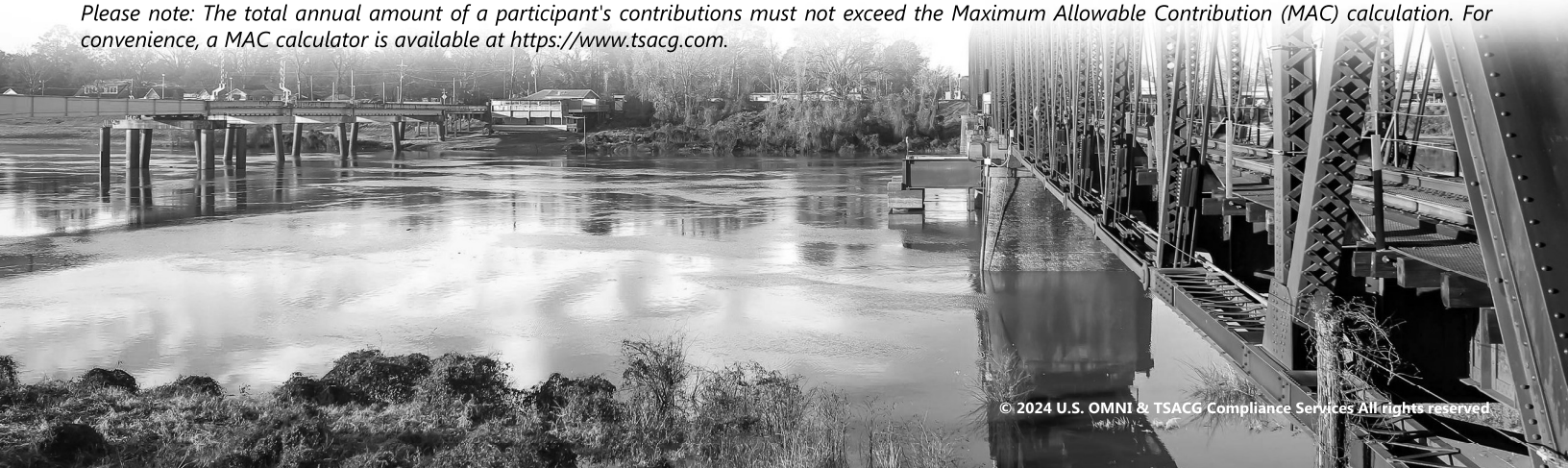
THE SERVICE-BASED CATCH UP AMOUNT

The special catch-up provision allows participants to make additional contributions of up to $3,000 if, as of the preceding calendar year, the participant has completed 15 or more full years of employment with the current employer, not averaged over $5,000 per year in annual contributions, and has not utilized catch-up contributions in excess of the aggregate of $15,000. For a detailed explanation of this provision, please visit *https://www.tsacg.com.*

ENROLLMENT

Employees who wish to enroll in the 403(b) plan must first select the provider and investment product best suited for their 403(b) account. Upon establishment of the account with the selected provider, a "Salary Reduction Agreement" (SRA) form and any disclosure forms must be completed and submitted to the employer. This form authorizes the employer to withhold 403(b) contributions from the employee's pay and send those funds to the Investment Provider on their behalf. A SRA must be completed to start, stop or modify contributions to a 403(b) account. Unless otherwise notified by your employer, you may enroll and/or make changes to your current contributions anytime throughout the year.

Please note: The total annual amount of a participant's contributions must not exceed the Maximum Allowable Contribution (MAC) calculation. For convenience, a MAC calculator is available at https://www.tsacg.com.



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INVESTMENT PROVIDER INFORMATION
A current list of authorized 403(b) Investment Providers and current employer forms are available on the employer's specific Web page at *https://www.tsacg.com.*

PLAN DISTRIBUTION TRANSACTIONS
Distribution transactions may include any of the following depending on the employer's Plan Document: loans, transfers, rollovers, exchanges, hardships, withdrawals or distributions. Participants may request these distributions by completing the necessary forms obtained from the provider and plan administrator as required. All completed forms should be submitted to the plan administrator for processing. Prior to taking a loan, participants should consult a tax advisor.

PLAN-TO-PLAN TRANSFERS
A plan-to-plan transfer is defined as the movement of a 403(b) account from a previous plan sponsor's plan and retaining the same account with the authorized investment provider under the new plan sponsor's plan.

ROLLOVERS
Participants may move funds from one qualified plan account, i.e. 403(b) account, 401(k) account or an IRA, to another qualified plan account at age 59½ or when separated from service. Rollovers do not create a taxable event.

DISTRIBUTIONS
Retirement plan distributions are restricted by IRS regulations. A participant may not take a distribution of 403(b) plan accumulations unless they have attained age 59½ or separated from service. In most cases, any withdrawals made from a 403(b) account are taxable in full as ordinary income.

EXCHANGES
Participants may exchange account accumulations from one 403(b) investment provider to another 403(b) investment provider that is authorized under the plan; however, there may be limitations affecting exchanges, and participants should be aware of any charges or penalties that may exist in individual investment contracts prior to exchange.

403(b) PLAN LOANS
Participants may be eligible to borrow their 403(b) plan accumulations depending on the provisions of their 403(b) account contract and provisions of the employer plan. If loans are available, they are generally granted for a term of five years or less (general-purpose loans). Loans taken to purchase a principal residence can extend the term beyond five years depending on the provisions of their 403(b) account contract and provisions of the employer. Details and terms of the loan are established by the provider. Participants must repay their loans through monthly payments as directed by the provider.

HARDSHIP WITHDRAWALS
Participants may be able to take a hardship withdrawal in the event of an immediate and heavy financial need. To be eligible for a hardship withdrawal according to IRS Safe Harbor regulations, you must certify and may be asked to provide evidence that the distribution is being taken for specific reasons. These eligibility requirements to receive a Hardship withdrawal are provided on the Hardship Withdrawal Disclosure form at *https://www.tsacg.com*.

EMPLOYEE INFORMATION STATEMENT
Participants in defined contribution plans are responsible for determining which, if any, investment vehicles best serve their retirement objectives. The 403(b) plan assets are invested solely in accordance with the participant's instructions. The participant should periodically review whether his/her objectives are being met, and if the objectives have changed, the participant should make the appropriate changes. Careful planning with a tax advisor or financial planner may help to ensure that the supplemental retirement savings plan meets the participant's objectives.

PLAN ADMINISTRATOR CONTACT INFORMATION

Transactions
P.O. Box 4037 | Fort Walton Beach, FL 32549
Toll-free: 1-888-796-3786 | *https://www.tsacg.com*

For overnight deliveries
73 Eglin Parkway NE, Suite 202 | Fort Walton Beach, FL 32548
Toll-free: 1-888-796-3786 | *https://www.tsacg.com*

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