



STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
Franchise Tax Board

FTB Publication

**1005**

# 2025 Pension and Annuity Guidelines



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# 2025 Pension and Annuity Guidelines

## What's New

**Military Retirement Exclusion** – For taxable years beginning on or after January 1, 2025, and before January 1, 2030, California law allows an exclusion from gross income for a qualified taxpayer that received retirement pay from the federal government for service in the uniformed services or annuity payments pursuant to a United States Department of Defense Survivor Benefit Plan during the taxable year, not to exceed \$20,000. For more information, get the instructions for Schedule CA (540), California Adjustments – Residents, or Schedule CA (540NR), California Adjustments – Nonresidents or Part-Year Residents, Pub. 1032, Tax Information for Military Personnel, and see California Revenue and Taxation Code (R&TC) Sections 17132.9 and 17132.10.

**Qualified Higher Education Expenses of IRC Section 529 Accounts** – Enacted on July 4, 2025, the federal One Big Beautiful Bill Act (OBBBA), expands qualified higher education expenses eligible for tax-exempt distributions from Internal Revenue Code (IRC) Section 529 accounts by including additional expenses in connection with enrollment or attendance at an elementary or secondary public, private, or religious school. The OBBBA also allows tax-exempt distributions from IRC Section 529 accounts to be used for qualified postsecondary credentialing expenses, as defined in IRC Section 529(f). California law does not conform to these federal provisions. For California purposes, the earnings portion of a non-qualified distribution from an IRC Section 529 account is includable in California taxable income and subject to an additional tax of 2½%. For more information, get the instructions for Schedule CA (540) or Schedule CA (540NR) and form FTB 3805P, Additional Taxes on Qualified Plans (Including IRAs) and Other Tax-Favored Accounts.

**Conformity to Federal Act Provisions** – For taxable years beginning on or after January 1, 2025, California law conforms to the following:

- Provision under the federal Setting Every Community Up for Retirement Enhancement (SECURE) Act that repealed the maximum age of 70½ for traditional Individual Retirement Arrangement (IRA) contributions.
- Provision under the federal Consolidated Appropriations Act (CAA), 2021, that allows disaster-related plan loans for qualified individuals.
- Provision under the federal Consolidated Appropriations Act (CAA), 2023, that provides for the indexing for the \$1,000 catch-up contribution to an IRA for individuals age 50 or older.
- Provision under the CAA, 2023, IRC Section 414(v)(2) relating to the increased catch-up contribution limit for simple plans.
- Provision under the CAA, 2023, IRC Section 414(v) relating to higher catch-up limit to apply at 60 to 63 years of age, inclusive.

The above lists are not intended to be all-inclusive of the federal and state conformities and differences. For more information, refer to the R&TC.

## General Information

In general, for taxable years beginning on or after January 1, 2025, California law conforms to the IRC as of January 1, 2025. However, there are continuing differences between California and federal law. When California conforms to federal tax law changes, we do not always adopt all of the changes made at the federal level. For more information, go to [ftb.ca.gov](http://ftb.ca.gov) and search for **conformity**. Additional information can be found in FTB Pub. 1001, Supplemental Guidelines

to California Adjustments, the instructions for California Schedule CA (540) or Schedule CA (540NR), and the Business Entity tax booklets.

The instructions provided with California tax forms are a summary of California tax law and are only intended to aid taxpayers in preparing their state income tax returns. We include information that is most useful to the greatest number of taxpayers in the limited space available. It is not possible to include all requirements of the R&TC in the instructions. Taxpayers should not consider the instructions as authoritative law.

California law conforms to certain provisions of the IRC related to pension plans and deferred compensation, including amendments to the IRC that may be enacted in the future.

**Special Rules for Certain Distributions from Qualified IRC Section 529 Tuition Plans** – The CAA, 2023, allows qualified IRC Section 529 tuition plans that have been maintained for 15 years to rollover to a Roth IRA without a tax or penalty. Under the federal law, rollover distributions from an IRC Section 529 plan to a Roth IRA after December 31, 2023, will be treated in the same manner as the earnings and contributions of a Roth IRA. California law does not conform to this federal provision. Rollover distributions from an IRC Section 529 plan to a Roth IRA is includable in California taxable income and subject to an additional tax of 2½%. For more information, get the instructions for Schedule CA (540) or Schedule CA (540NR) and form FTB 3805P.

**Federal CAA, 2023** – The CAA, 2023, was enacted on December 29, 2022, and it includes the SECURE 2.0 Act of 2022. In general, California R&TC conforms to the changes to the retirement provisions under the SECURE 2.0 Act. For more general information, refer to the federal act and California R&TC.

**SECURE Act** – The SECURE Act was enacted on December 20, 2019. In general, California R&TC does not conform to the changes. For more information, refer to the federal act and California R&TC.

**Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act** – The federal CARES Act was enacted on March 27, 2020. In general, California R&TC does not conform to the changes. For more information, refer to the federal act and California R&TC.

**Consolidated Appropriations Act (CAA), 2021** – The CAA, 2021, was enacted on December 27, 2020. In general, California R&TC does not conform to the changes. California law conforms to the federal provision that amends the minimum age for certain multiemployer plans for individuals who were participants in the plan on or before April 30, 2013, and for distributions made before, on, or after December 27, 2020. For more information, refer to the federal act and California R&TC.

**American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) of 2021** – The federal ARPA of 2021 was enacted on March 11, 2021. In general, California law conforms to the changes to the retirement provisions under the ARPA. For more information, refer to the federal act and California R&TC.

**Expanded Definition of Qualified Higher Education Expenses** – For taxable years beginning on or after January 1, 2021, California law conforms to the expanded definition of qualified higher education expenses associated with participation in a registered apprenticeship program and payment on the principal or interest of a qualified education loan under the federal Further Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2020.

**Retirement Income** – Federal law prohibits states from taxing the retirement income of nonresidents. It also includes a prohibition on taxing retirement income paid by a partnership to a nonresident retired partner under any written plan, program, or arrangement in effect immediately before retirement begins. California does not impose tax on retirement income received by a nonresident after December 31, 1995. This includes military pensions, IRA distributions, Roth IRA conversions, Roth IRA distributions, Simplified Employee Pension (SEP), and self-employed retirement plans (Keoghs).

## Introduction

This publication provides information on the California tax treatment of the distributions you receive from your pension plans, annuity plans, or IRAs, and how to report these amounts on your California income tax return.

The California treatment of pensions, annuities, and IRAs is generally the same as the federal treatment of such income. However, there are some differences between California and federal law that may cause the amount of your California distribution income to be different than the amount reported for federal purposes. This publication identifies the most common differences and explains how to report these differences on your California tax return.

## Important Reminders

**California generally conforms to federal law.** The California treatment of pension and annuity income is generally the same as the federal treatment. For example, California and federal law are the same regarding:

- The “General Rule.”
- The “Simplified General Rule” (sometimes called the “Safe Harbor Method”).
- IRA rollovers.
- Roth IRAs.
- Archer Medical Savings Accounts (MSAs).
- Coverdell Education Savings Accounts (ESAs).
- Current-year IRA deductions.
- Lump-sum credit received by federal employees.
- California Achieving a Better Life Experience (ABLE) accounts.

**Differences between California and federal law.** There are differences between California and federal law for:

- Social security and railroad retirement benefits.
- Retirees using the “Three-Year Rule” whose annuity date was after July 1, 1986, and before January 1, 1987.
- Some prior-year IRA deductions.
- Health Savings Accounts (HSAs).

**Pensions invested in U.S. Government Securities.** If your pension plan invested in U.S. Government securities or in mutual funds that invested in U.S. Government securities, you may not reduce the taxable portion of your pension distribution by the amount of interest attributable to the U.S. Government securities.

## Common Terms Used in this Publication

AGI	Adjusted Gross Income
California Adjustment	An adjustment to your federal adjusted gross income (an addition or subtraction) to arrive at your California AGI
Form 540	California Resident Income Tax Return

Form 540NR	California Nonresident or Part-Year Resident Income Tax Return
Schedule CA (540)	California Adjustments — Residents
Schedule CA (540NR)	California Adjustments — Nonresidents or Part-Year Residents
Traditional IRA	Any IRA that is not a Roth IRA or SIMPLE IRA

## Figuring Your California Pension, Annuity, and IRA Amounts

Complete your federal tax return before starting your California tax return. If you need information on how to report your pension, annuity, or IRA income on your federal tax return, refer to federal forms, instructions, and publications.

Once you have completed your federal tax return, compute the California amounts of your pension, annuity, or IRA income. If the California amount is different than the federal amount, you will need to make a California adjustment.\* Depending on the California form you file, report your California adjustment on one of the following forms:

- Schedule CA (540) for Form 540 filers.
- Schedule CA (540NR) for Form 540NR filers.

\*A California adjustment is an addition to or subtraction from your federal AGI. Your federal pension, annuity, or IRA income is included in the federal AGI figure that you list on your California tax return (Form 540 or 540NR, line 13).

**Maximum Contribution Amounts to Traditional and Roth IRAs.** Taxpayers may contribute the following amounts to a traditional and/or Roth IRA:

Age	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
Under 50	\$6,000	\$6,000	\$6,500	\$7,000	\$7,000	\$7,500
50 & Over	\$7,000	\$7,000	\$7,500	\$8,000	\$8,000	\$8,600

**Maximum Contribution Amounts to 401(k), 403(b), and 457 Plans.** Taxpayers may contribute the following amounts to a deferred compensation plan:

Age	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
Under 50	\$19,500	\$20,500	\$22,500	\$23,000	\$23,500	\$24,500
50 & Over	\$26,000	\$27,000	\$30,000	\$30,500	\$31,000	\$32,500

**Maximum Contribution Amounts to Savings Incentive Match Plan for Employees (SIMPLE).** Taxpayers may contribute the following amounts to a Simple IRA and Simple 401(k):

Age	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
Under 50	\$13,500	\$14,000	\$15,500	\$16,000	\$16,500	\$17,000
50 & Over	\$16,500	\$17,000	\$19,000	\$19,500	\$20,000	\$21,000

**Maximum Contribution Amounts to Keogh.** The maximum contribution amount a taxpayer can make to a Keogh plan per year is as follows:

- 2026, the amount is \$72,000
- 2025, the amount is \$70,000
- 2024, the amount is \$69,000
- 2023, the amount is \$66,000
- 2022, the amount is \$61,000
- 2021, the amount is \$58,000

**Maximum Deduction and Contribution Amounts to a Simplified Employee Pension (SEP).** The maximum deduction and contribution amounts per plan year to an SEP are as follows:

- 2026, the lesser of \$72,000 or 25% of compensation (compensation is limited to \$360,000)
- 2025, the lesser of \$70,000 or 25% of compensation (compensation is limited to \$350,000)
- 2024, the lesser of \$69,000 or 25% of compensation (compensation is limited to \$345,000)
- 2023, the lesser of \$66,000 or 25% of compensation (compensation is limited to \$330,000)
- 2022, the lesser of \$61,000 or 25% of compensation (compensation is limited to \$305,000)
- 2021, the lesser of \$58,000 or 25% of compensation (compensation is limited to \$290,000)

**Rollovers.** Section 457 plans can be rolled over to other qualified plans. In addition, distributions from a Section 457 plan can be used to purchase permissive service credit for other retirement plans.

A surviving spouse can roll over distributions from a deceased spouse's qualified retirement plan to a Section 457 plan in which the surviving spouse participates.

## Social Security and Railroad Retirement Benefits

California law differs from federal law in that California does not tax:

- Social security benefits.
- Tier 1 railroad retirement benefits.
- Tier 2 railroad retirement benefits reported on federal Form RRB-1099-R, Annuities or Pensions by the Railroad Retirement Board.\*\*
- Sick pay benefits under the federal Railroad Unemployment Insurance Act.

Make an adjustment to exclude any of this income if it was included in your federal AGI. See the instructions for Schedule CA (540), Part I or Schedule CA (540NR), Part II, Section A, lines 1z, 5a, 5b, and 6b, for more information.

The information listed applies only to United States social security and railroad retirement. Foreign social security is taxable by California as annuity income. A tax treaty between the United States and another country which excludes the foreign social security from federal income or which treats the foreign social security as if it were United States social security does not apply for California purposes.

\*\* Railroad benefits paid by individual railroads **are** taxable by California. These benefits are reported on federal Form 1099-R, Distributions From Pensions, Annuities, Retirement or Profit-Sharing Plans, IRAs, Insurance Contracts, etc.

## Three-Year Rule

The "Three-Year Rule" was repealed for retirees whose annuity starting date is after December 31, 1986. However, if your annuity starting date was before January 1, 1987, and you elected to use the "Three-Year Rule," continue to use this method.

Under the "Three-Year Rule," amounts you receive are not taxed until your after-tax contributions are recovered. Once your contributions are recovered, your pension or annuity is fully taxable.

Generally, the California and federal taxable amounts are the same. If the California and federal taxable amounts are different, enter the difference on Schedule CA (540), Part I, or Schedule CA (540NR), Part II, Section A, line 5b, column C.

## California Residents Receiving an Out-of-State Pension In General

California residents are taxed on ALL income, including income from sources outside California. Therefore, a pension attributable to services performed outside California but received after you became a California resident is taxable in its entirety by California. See Examples 1 through 4.

### Examples:

**Example 1** – You worked 10 years in Texas, moved to California and worked an additional 5 years for the same company. You retired in California and began receiving your pension, which is attributable to your services performed in both California and Texas.

**Determination:** You are a full-year resident of California. As a California resident, you are taxed on all your income, regardless of its source. **Do not** make an adjustment on Schedule CA (540) to exclude any of the pension income.

**Example 2** – You worked in New York for 20 years. You retired and moved permanently to California on January 1. While living in California, you begin receiving your pension attributable to the services performed in New York.

**Determination:** You are a full-year resident of California. As a California resident, you are taxed on all your income, regardless of its source. **Do not** make an adjustment on Schedule CA (540) to exclude any of the pension income.

**Example 3** – In December 2024, you retired and moved permanently to California. Prior to your move, you elected to receive your pension as a lump-sum distribution. Your pension is attributable solely to services you performed in Washington prior to your move. You received the lump-sum distribution in February 2025, after you became a California resident.

**Determination:** You are a full-year California resident in 2025. As a California resident, you are taxed on all income, regardless of its source. **Do not** make an adjustment on Schedule CA (540) to exclude any portion of the Washington pension income.

**Example 4** – You worked in Georgia for 20 years. You retired and began receiving your monthly pension on January 1, 2025, while you were still living in Georgia. Your pension is \$2,000 a month. Because you did not contribute to the plan, your pension is fully taxable. On May 1, 2025, you moved permanently to California.

**Determination:** You are a part-year resident of California. While you are a nonresident, only your California-source income is taxable by California. While you are a resident, all of your income, regardless of its source, is taxable by California. Because your pension is attributable to services you performed in Georgia, your pension has a Georgia source. None of the pension received while you were a nonresident of California is taxable by California. However, the pension received during the period that you are a California resident (May 1 through December 31) is taxable by California. Therefore, \$16,000 (\$2,000 x 8 months) is the taxable portion of the pension to enter on Schedule CA (540NR), Part II, Section A, line 5b, column E. **Do not** make an adjustment on Schedule CA (540NR), column B, to exclude any of the Georgia pension income.

## Military Pension

If you are a California resident, your military pension is taxable by California, regardless of where the service was performed.

## Nonresidents of California Receiving a California Pension In General

California does not impose tax on retirement income received by a nonresident after December 31, 1995. For this purpose, retirement income means any income from any of the following:

- A qualified plan described in IRC Section 401.
- A qualified annuity plan described in IRC Section 403(a).
- A tax-sheltered annuity described in IRC Section 403(b).
- A governmental plan described in IRC Section 414(d).
- A deferred compensation plan maintained by a state or local government or an exempt organization described in IRC Section 457.
- An IRA described in IRC Section 7701(a)(37), including Roth IRA and SIMPLE.
- A simplified employee pension described in IRC Section 408(k).
- A trust described in IRC Section 501(c)(18).
- A military pension, even if the military service was performed in California.
- A private deferred compensation plan program or arrangement described in IRC Section 3121(v)(2)(C) **only** if the income is either of the following:
  1. Part of a series of substantially equal periodic payments (not less frequently than annually) made over the life or life expectancy of the participant or those of the participant and the designated beneficiary or a period of not less than 10 years.
  2. A payment received after termination of employment under a plan program or arrangement maintained solely to provide retirement benefits for employees in excess of the limitations on contributions or benefits imposed by the IRC.
- Any retirement or retainer pay received by a member or former member of a uniform service computed under Chapter 71 of Title 10, United States Code.

## Individual Retirement Arrangements (IRAs)

The California treatment of IRAs is generally the same as the federal treatment. For information on the federal treatment of IRAs, get federal Pub. 590-A, Contributions to Individual Retirement Arrangements (IRAs), federal Pub. 590-B, Distributions from Individual Retirement Arrangements (IRAs), and federal Pub. 560, Retirement Plans for Small Business (SEP, SIMPLE, and Qualified Plans).

### IRA Deduction

#### Limit if Covered by Employer Plan

If you are covered by an employer's retirement plan or if you file a joint tax return with your spouse who is covered by such a plan, you may be entitled to only a partial deduction or no deduction at all, depending on your income. See the federal instructions for more information. You can elect to designate otherwise deductible contributions as nondeductible. However, you do not have to elect the same treatment for California purposes that you did for federal purposes.

To take the election on the Schedule CA (540 or 540NR), the federal deduction is taken on Section C, line 20, column A. The election for California will be on Section C, line 20, column B or C.

Following is a summary of the California IRA deduction allowed. To calculate any adjustments to your IRA deduction, see Schedule CA (540 or 540NR) instructions.

#### 2005 through 2025

California law is generally the same as federal law. For a SIMPLE IRA, an elective deferral may be made for up to the amount listed in the chart on this page. For a traditional IRA, the most that can be contributed is the smaller of:

- The amount listed in the chart on this page or
- 100% of your compensation.

#### IRA

Age	2005	2006-2007	2008-2012	2013-2018
Under 50	\$4,000	\$4,000	\$5,000	\$5,500
50 & Over	\$4,500	\$5,000	\$6,000	\$6,500

Age	2019-2022	2023	2024-2025
Under 50	\$6,000	\$6,500	\$7,000
50 & Over	\$7,000	\$7,500	\$8,000

#### SIMPLE IRA

Age	2005-2006	2007-2008	2009-2012	2013-2014
Under 50	\$10,000	\$10,500	\$11,500	\$12,000
50 & Over	\$12,500	\$13,000	\$14,000	\$14,500

Age	2015-2018	2019	2020-2021	2022
Under 50	\$12,500	\$13,000	\$13,500	\$14,000
50 & Over	\$15,500	\$16,000	\$16,500	\$17,000

Age	2023	2024	2025
Under 50	\$15,500	\$16,000	\$16,500
50 & Over	\$19,000	\$19,500	\$20,000

#### 2002 through 2004

California law was the same as federal law. For a SIMPLE IRA, an elective deferral may be made for up to the amount listed in the chart below. For a traditional IRA, the most that can be contributed is the smaller of:

- The amount listed in the chart below or
- 100% of your compensation.

Age	IRA	SIMPLE IRA		
	2002 - 2004	2002	2003	2004
Under 50	3,000	7,000	8,000	9,000
50 or Older	3,500	7,500	9,000	10,500

#### 1987 through 2001

California law was the same as federal law. The IRA deduction is the lesser of \$2,000 or 100% of your compensation. For a SIMPLE IRA, an elective deferral may be made for up to \$6,500 for 2001 and \$6,000 for 1997 through 2000.

#### 1982 through 1986

California law was different from federal law. The maximum federal deduction for an individual was \$2,000, and was available to active participants in qualified or government retirement plans and to persons who contributed to tax-sheltered annuities. The California IRA deduction was the lesser of \$1,500 or 15% of compensation with an additional deduction for a nonworking spouse, for a maximum deduction of \$1,750. An IRA deduction was not allowed if you were an active participant in a qualified or government retirement plan or contributed to a tax-sheltered annuity.

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## 1976 through 1981

California law was the same as federal law. The IRA deduction for an individual was the lesser of \$1,500 or 15% of compensation. An IRA deduction was not allowed if you were an active participant in a qualified or government retirement plan or contributed to a tax-sheltered annuity.

## 1975

California law was different from federal law. California did not allow an IRA deduction. Therefore, income earned in 1975 and 1976 on the 1975 contribution was taxable.

Differences in the amount of IRA deduction you could claim may have occurred prior to January 1, 1996 if there was a difference between your federal self-employment income and your California self-employment income.

## Form 540NR Filers

If you file Form 540NR, your IRA deduction on Schedule CA (540NR), Part II, Section C, line 20, column E, is limited to the lesser of:

- The IRA deduction allowed on your federal tax return.
- The compensation reported on your Schedule CA (540NR), column E.

**Example:** You are a nonresident of California who is under 50 years of age. During the year, you worked temporarily in California. Your California compensation is \$1,000, which you reported on Schedule CA (540NR), column E. Your federal compensation is \$10,000. Your allowable IRA deduction on your federal tax return is \$7,000.

**Determination:** Your allowable California IRA deduction that you report on Schedule CA (540NR), column E, is \$1,000. This is the lesser of (1) the \$7,000 IRA deduction allowed on your federal tax return, or (2) the \$1,000 of compensation you reported on Schedule CA (540NR), column E.

## IRA Distribution

### Residents of California

Your IRA distribution is fully taxable if your IRA contributions were fully deductible. If your IRA contributions were partially or fully nondeductible, then the nondeductible contributions are not taxed when they are distributed to you. Your basis is the amount of your nondeductible contributions. How you recover your basis depends on when your nondeductible contributions were made.

### Nondeductible Contributions Made After 1986

If you made nondeductible contributions after 1986, a part of each distribution is considered a return of your basis and is not taxable. The California taxable amount will generally be the same as the federal taxable amount, and you should not make an adjustment to your federal AGI on Schedule CA (540 or 540NR).

However, if you elected to treat a contribution differently for federal purposes than for California purposes, the taxable amounts will differ. Compute the California taxable amount using the instructions for federal Form 8606, Nondeductible IRAs. When making this computation for the recovery of nondeductible contributions made after 1987, make sure you **do not** include nondeductible contributions made before 1987. The nondeductible contributions made before 1987 will be recovered as explained in the following paragraph.

Compute the adjustment to federal AGI by comparing your federal taxable amount with the California taxable amount.

- If the federal amount is more than the California amount, enter the difference on Schedule CA (540), Part I or Schedule CA (540NR), Part II, Section A, line 4b, column B.
- If the federal amount is less than the California amount, enter the difference on Schedule CA (540), Part I or Schedule CA (540NR), Part II, Section A, line 4b, column C.

## Nondeductible Contributions Made Before 1987

If you made nondeductible contributions before 1987, none of your distribution is taxed until you have recovered your pre-1987 basis. Because there was a difference between federal and California contribution limits before 1987, there may be a difference in the California and federal taxable amounts. If there is a difference, make an adjustment to reduce your federal AGI to the correct taxable amount for California.

Your adjustment is the lesser of your pre-1987 California basis or IRA distribution included in federal AGI.

Use Worksheet I — Part A on page 14 to compute your pre-1987 California basis. Use Worksheet I — Part B to compute your adjustment to federal AGI and your remaining pre-1987 California basis. See Example 1 and Example 2 on page 8. Use Worksheet II on page 14, as a summary of your California basis and its recovery.

If you have more than one IRA account, combine all your IRAs to complete the worksheet. If both you and your spouse/registered domestic partner (RDP) have IRAs, you each must complete a separate worksheet based on your own IRA contributions, deductions, and distributions.

## Nonresidents of California

### Change of Residency

#### From resident to nonresident

For IRA distributions received while you were a California resident, see “Residents of California” on this page for the taxability of your distributions.

#### From nonresident to resident

For IRA distributions received while you were a California resident, see “2002 Law Changes IRA Basis of Former Nonresidents” to determine your nontaxable IRA basis.

### 2002 Law Changes IRA Basis of Former Nonresidents

The law changed for taxable years beginning on or after January 1, 2002. If you are a California resident who was a former nonresident, the new law may affect the taxation of your IRA income. The law affects not only individuals who became California residents in 2002, but also individuals who became California residents prior to 2002. Under prior law, when you became a resident, you received a stepped-up basis in your IRA equal to your annual contributions made while a nonresident, plus the earnings on your IRA while a nonresident. You were allowed to carry over this IRA basis until it was fully recovered. Beginning in 2002, you no longer have this stepped-up basis.

The law treats a former nonresident as though the individual were a resident for all prior years for all items of deferred income, including IRAs. Accordingly, a former nonresident will be allowed an IRA basis only for contributions which would not have been allowed as a deduction under California law had the taxpayer been a California resident. For a summary of IRA deductions allowed under California law, see “IRA Deduction” on page 6.

**Do not** include in California basis any rollover contributions from an employer sponsored or self-employed retirement plan, including a tax-sheltered annuity.

If you became a California resident prior to 2002 and you have an unrecovered stepped-up IRA basis that you were carrying into 2002, restate your IRA basis using the new law. See Example 3 and Example 4 on page 9.

**Example 1** – You were a California resident in 2025, and you received an IRA distribution of \$800. The only other distribution received from your IRA was in 2024. The amount of the 2024 distribution was \$700. You made the following contributions and deductions in prior years:

Year	Contributions	Federal Deductions	California Deductions
1981	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$1,500
1982	2,000	2,000	1,500
1983	2,000	2,000	1,500
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$5,500</b>	<b>\$5,500</b>	<b>\$4,500</b>

**Worksheet I — Figuring California Basis and Adjustment to Federal AGI**

**Part A Pre-1987 California Basis**

**Example 1**

(If you have already computed your California basis as of 12/31/24; skip to Part B.)

1	Enter your total federal deductions claimed prior to 1987 . . . . .	1	\$5,500
2	Enter your total California deductions claimed prior to 1987 . . . . .	2	4,500
3	Total California basis. Subtract line 2 from line 1 . . . . .	3	1,000
4	Enter your California basis previously recovered . . . . .	4	700
5	California basis as of 12/31/24. Subtract line 4 from line 3 . . . . .	5	\$300

**Part B Adjustment to Federal AGI and Remaining Pre-1987 California Basis**

**Example 1**

1	Enter your taxable distribution from your federal Form 1040 or Form 1040-SR, line 4b (or line 5b) . . . . .	1	\$800
2	Enter your California basis as of 12/31/24 <sup>a)</sup> . . . . .	2	300
3	Enter the smaller of line 1 or line 2. Enter this amount on Schedule CA (540), Part I or Schedule CA (540NR), Part II, Section A, line 4b or line 5b, column B . . . . .	3	300
4	Remaining California basis as of 12/31/25. Subtract line 3 from line 2 . . . . .	4	\$0

Included in your federal AGI is the \$800 IRA distribution. Only \$500 (\$800 – \$300) of the distribution is taxable by California in 2025. Your adjustment to federal AGI is \$300. Your California basis has now been fully recovered. When you receive a distribution in later years, the amount of the distribution taxable for federal purposes will also be the amount taxable by California. No adjustment to federal AGI will be necessary.

a) A nonresident or former nonresident will no longer receive a stepped-up basis for annual contributions and earnings attributable to periods of nonresidency.

**Example 2** – You were a California resident in 2025, and you received your first IRA distribution. The distribution was \$1,000. For federal purposes, you included \$800 in income and \$200 was treated as the nontaxable recovery of your federal basis. You made the following contributions and deductions in prior years:

Year	Contributions		Federal Deductions	California Deductions	
	Before 1987	After 1986		Before 1987	After 1986
1984	\$2,000		\$2,000	\$0	
1985	2,000		2,000	0	
1986	2,000		2,000	0	
1987		\$2,000	0		\$0
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$6,000</b>	<b>\$2,000</b>	<b>\$6,000</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

**Worksheet I — Figuring California Basis and Adjustment to Federal AGI**

**Part A Pre-1987 California Basis**

(If you have already computed your California basis as of 12/31/24; skip to Part B.)

**Example 2**

1	Enter your total federal deductions claimed prior to 1987 . . . . .	1	\$6,000
2	Enter your total California deductions claimed prior to 1987 . . . . .	2	0
3	Total California basis. Subtract line 2 from line 1 . . . . .	3	6,000
4	Enter your California basis previously recovered . . . . .	4	0
5	California basis as of 12/31/24. Subtract line 4 from line 3 . . . . .	5	\$6,000

**Part B Adjustment to Federal AGI and Remaining Pre-1987 California Basis**

**Example 2**

1	Enter your taxable distribution from your federal Form 1040 or Form 1040-SR, line 4b (or line 5b) . . . . .	1	\$800
2	Enter your California basis as of 12/31/24 . . . . .	2	6,000
3	Enter the smaller of line 1 or line 2. Enter this amount on Schedule CA (540), Part I or Schedule CA (540NR), Part II, Section A, line 4b or line 5b, column B . . . . .	3	800
4	Remaining California basis as of 12/31/25. Subtract line 3 from line 2 . . . . .	4	\$5,200

Because your California basis is more than the distribution, none of your IRA distribution will be taxed by California in 2025. Your adjustment to federal AGI is \$800. You have a remaining California IRA basis of \$5,200. You will recover your remaining California basis in later years. Use Worksheet II, on the next page, to keep track of your California basis and its recovery.

**Worksheet II — Summary of California Basis**

Taxable Year	Pre-1987 Contributions	Deduction Federal	Deduction California	California Basis in Contribution	Total Distribution	Federal Taxable Amount	California Basis Recovered	Remaining California Basis
1984	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$0	\$2,000				\$2,000
1985	2,000	2,000	0	2,000				4,000
1986	2,000	2,000	0	2,000				6,000
2025					\$1,000	\$800	\$800	\$5,200

**Example 3** – You became a California resident on January 1, 2001. The fair market value of your IRA on January 1, 2001, was \$9,000. Your contributions in excess of California deduction limits during 1982-1986 were \$2,500. You received IRA distributions of \$1,500 in 2001; \$3,000 in 2002; and \$2,000 in 2003.

**Determination:**

**Taxable year 2001 (prior law):**

California IRA basis, January 1, 2001	(fair market value on 1/1/01)	\$9,000
Less: IRA distribution		<u>1,500</u>
California IRA basis, December 31, 2001		<u>\$7,500</u>

**Taxable year 2002 (new law):**

IRA distribution, 2002		\$3,000
Less: California IRA basis		
Contributions in excess of California deduction limits	\$2,500	
Less: California IRA basis recovered in 2001	<u>1,500</u>	
California IRA basis available in 2002		<u>1,000</u>
Taxable IRA income		<u>\$2,000</u>

California IRA basis, December 31, 2002, is \$-0-.

**Taxable year 2003:**

IRA distribution, 2003	\$2,000
Less: California IRA basis available in 2003	<u>-0-</u>
Taxable IRA income	<u>\$2,000</u>

**Example 4** – You became a California resident on January 1, 2002. In 2001, while you were a nonresident of California, you received a \$50,000 lump-sum distribution from your employer’s retirement plan and rolled over the distribution to an IRA. The earnings on your IRA in 2001 were \$2,000. You received your first distribution from your IRA in 2002. The distribution was \$4,000, all of which was taxable for federal purposes. Your California basis is determined as follows:

**Determination:**

**Taxable year 2001 (prior law):**

California IRA basis, January 1, 2001	(earnings while a nonresident)	\$2,000
Less: IRA distribution in 2001		<u>-0-</u>
California IRA basis, December 31, 2001		<u>\$2,000</u>

**Taxable year 2002 (new law):**

IRA distribution:		\$4,000
Less: California IRA basis		
Contributions in excess of California deduction limits	\$ -0-	
Less: Basis recovered in prior years	<u>-0-</u>	
California IRA basis		<u>-0-</u>
Taxable IRA income		<u>\$4,000</u>

California IRA basis, December 31, 2002, is \$-0-.

A nonresident or former nonresident will no longer receive a stepped-up basis for annual contributions and earnings attributable to periods of nonresidency.

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## Coverdell Education Savings Accounts (ESAs)

Under a Coverdell ESA, contributions are not deductible, earnings are excludable, and distributions are not taxable if used for qualified educational expenses. In general, California conforms to the federal rules regarding contribution limits, income phaseout limits and the treatment of distributions. Get federal Pub. 970, Tax Benefits for Education, for more information. If you have a taxable distribution from a Coverdell ESA, get form FTB 3805P, to figure the additional tax.

## Expanded Use of IRC Section 529 Accounts Funds

California does not conform to the federal Tax Cuts and Jobs Act (TCJA) regarding account funding for elementary and secondary education or to the new federal rules relating to the maximum distribution amount.

## Archer Medical Savings Accounts (MSAs)

An MSA is a tax-exempt trust or custodial account set up in the United States exclusively for paying the qualified medical expenses of the account holder or the account holder's spouse or dependent(s) in conjunction with a high deductible health plan (HDHP). Get federal Form 8853, Archer MSAs and Long-Term Care Insurance Contracts, for more information.

Use federal Form 8853 to report general information about new MSAs, to figure your MSA deduction, and to figure your taxable distribution for MSAs. In general, California law is the same as federal law regarding MSA contributions and deductions, but is different regarding the amount of additional tax on MSA distributions not used for qualified medical expenses. The additional tax is 12.5% for California.

Therefore, for California purposes, there is no separate form to file to report general information about new MSAs or to figure your MSA deduction. However, if you have a taxable MSA distribution, file form FTB 3805P.

After December 31, 2007, contributions cannot be made to an Archer MSA for you unless either of the following applies:

- You were an active MSA participant before January 1, 2008.
- You become an active MSA participant after December 31, 2007 because you are covered by an HDHP of an MSA participating employer.

## Health Savings Accounts (HSAs)

An HSA is a tax-exempt trust or custodial account that you set up with a U.S. financial institution (such as a bank or an insurance company) in which you can save money exclusively for future medical expenses in conjunction with an HDHP.

California does not conform to federal legislation that enacted HSAs beginning January 1, 2004.

Because California does not conform to federal legislation for HSAs, a contribution to an HSA is not deductible. Interest and other earnings of an HSA are not tax-deferred and must be included in taxable income.

A rollover from an MSA to an HSA constitutes an MSA distribution not used for qualified medical expenses. Therefore, the distribution is subject to California income tax and the additional 12.5% tax under R&TC Section 17215.

Effective for taxable years beginning on or after January 1, 2007, the IRS allows a one-time rollover from an IRA to an HSA. California does not conform to this provision. Under California law, any distribution from an IRA to an HSA must be added

to AGI on the taxpayer's California tax return and would be subject to a 2½% additional tax under the rules for premature distributions under R&TC Section 17085.

## California Achieving a Better Life Experience (ABLE) Accounts

A California ABLE account is a tax-exempt trust established in California exclusively for paying the qualified disability expenses of the designated beneficiary. The residency requirement for a designated beneficiary of the California Qualified ABLE Program was expanded to include residents of the United States. Get federal Form 5329, Additional Taxes on Qualified Plans (Including IRAs) and Other Tax-Favored Accounts, for more information.

Federal Form 5329 is used to figure additional taxes on tax-favored accounts for distributions not used for qualified disability expenses. If distributions from your ABLE account during a year are not more than your qualified disability expenses for that year, no amount is taxable for that year. If the total amount distributed during a year is more than your qualified disability expenses for that year, the earnings portion of the distribution is included in your income for that year and subject to additional tax.

California law is the same as federal law regarding distribution rules but is different regarding the amount of additional tax on ABLE distributions not used for qualified disability expenses. The additional tax is 2.5% for California.

If you have a taxable distribution from an ABLE account, you must file form FTB 3805P to figure the additional tax.

For taxable years beginning on or after January 1, 2019, California conforms to certain provisions of the TCJA relating to ABLE accounts. The TCJA increases the limit on contributions made by the designated beneficiary to ABLE accounts up to the federal poverty level and allows IRC Section 529 plan accounts to rollover to ABLE accounts without penalty.

## Roth IRA In General

A Roth IRA is an individual retirement plan that differs from a traditional IRA in the way contributions and distributions are taxed. Contributions to a Roth IRA are never deductible, and, if you meet the requirements, qualified distributions are not taxed.

California law conforms to federal law regarding Roth IRAs. All Roth IRA transactions must be treated the same way for California purposes as they are for federal purposes and no California adjustment will be necessary unless you converted a traditional IRA into a Roth IRA and the California basis of the converted IRA was different from the federal basis. The following paragraphs provide information about calculating the California adjustment if one is necessary.

## Roth IRA Distributions

In general, the taxable amount of your Roth IRA distribution will be the same for California and federal purposes. However, the taxable portion of your distribution may be different for California purposes than for federal purposes if:

- You made a 1998 conversion from a traditional IRA to a Roth IRA.
- You elected to report the taxable portion of the conversion over 4 years.
- The federal basis of the traditional IRA was different from the California basis.



# Simplified Employee Pension (SEP)

## Deduction

Beginning with taxable year 1996, the allowable California SEP deduction is the same as the federal deduction.

Prior to January 1, 1996, there may have been a difference in the amount of the SEP deduction you claimed if there was a difference between your federal self-employment income and your California self-employment income (residents, part-year residents, or nonresidents of California).

**Form 540NR filers.** Your SEP deduction on Schedule CA (540NR), column E is based upon the percentage of self-employment income from Schedule CA (540NR), column E to total self-employment income computed according to California law on Schedule CA (540NR), column D.

Multiply the SEP deduction from Schedule CA (540NR), column D by the ratio of California source self-employment income to total self-employment income. Enter this figure on Schedule CA (540NR), Part II, Section C, line 16, column E.

Self-employment income from Schedule CA (540NR), column E

X

Schedule CA (540NR), Part II, Section C, line 16, column D

Self-employment income from Schedule CA (540NR), column D

## Distribution

**Residents of California.** The distribution of an SEP is treated the same as the distribution of an IRA. If you have a California basis for contributions made before 1987, your distribution is first considered a nontaxable return of your California basis. Once your California basis is recovered, your distribution will be reported the same as federal.

If you have a California basis from contributions made after 1986 and before 1996 due to differences in the amounts of net income from self employment you reported for federal and California purposes, your California basis will be recovered on a pro-rata basis in the same manner as post 1986 nondeductible IRA contributions under federal law.

Use Worksheet I — Part A on page 14 to compute your pre-1987 California basis. Then use Worksheet I — Part B to compute your adjustment to federal AGI and your remaining pre-1987 California basis. Use Worksheet II as a summary of your California basis and its recovery.

**California Basis.** Your California basis is the amount of your SEP contributions that were not allowed as a deduction on your California tax return prior to 1987. A nonresident or former nonresident will no longer receive a stepped-up basis for annual contributions and earnings attributable to periods of nonresidency.

# Self-Employed Retirement Plans (Keoghs)

The California treatment of Keoghs is generally the same as the federal treatment. For information on the federal treatment of Keoghs, refer to federal Pub. 560.

## Deduction

Beginning with taxable year 1996, your allowable California Keogh deduction is generally the same as your federal Keogh deduction.

Prior to January 1, 1996, there may have been a difference in the amount of the Keogh deduction you claimed if there was a difference between your federal self-employment income and your California self-employment income (residents, part-year residents, or nonresidents of California).

**Form 540NR filers.** Your Keogh deduction on Schedule CA (540NR), column E is based upon the percentage of self-employment income from Schedule CA (540NR), column E to total self-employment income computed according to California law on Schedule CA (540NR), column D.

Multiply the Keogh deduction from Schedule CA (540NR), column D by the ratio of California source self-employment income to total self-employment income. Enter this figure on Schedule CA (540NR), Part II, Section C, line 16, column E.

Self-employment income from Schedule CA (540NR), column E

X

Schedule CA (540NR), Part II, Section C, line 16, column D

Self-employment income from Schedule CA (540NR), column D

**Example 1** — You are a part-year resident of California. Your total self-employment income for the year is \$300,000, and the amount to be reported on Schedule CA (540NR), Part II, Section B, line 3, column E, is \$100,000. Your Keogh deduction for federal purposes is \$15,000. Your Keogh deduction to be reported on Schedule CA (540NR), Part II, Section C, line 16, column E is computed as follows:

$$\frac{\$100,000}{\$300,000} \times \$15,000 = \$5,000$$

Report \$5,000 on Schedule CA (540NR), Part II, Section C, line 16, column E.

## Distribution

**Residents of California.** The taxable amount of your Keogh distribution for California will be different from the federal taxable amount if you have a California basis to recover.

**California Basis.** Your California basis is the amount of Keogh contributions in excess of California deduction limits in effect prior to 1996. For taxable years 1963 to 1970, California did not allow a deduction for contributions to defined contribution Keogh plans. For taxable years 1971 through 1986, California limited deductions for contributions to defined contribution Keogh plans to the lesser of 10% of earned income or \$2,500. For years after 1986 but before 1996, California conformed to federal law regarding deduction limits, but did not necessarily adopt federal earned income figures for computing the deduction limitation. Accordingly, a self-employed individual has a California basis for any amounts contributed during these years for which the individual did not receive a California deduction.

A nonresident or former nonresident does not have a California basis in a Keogh for all contributions and earnings attributable to periods of nonresidency. Nonresidents and former nonresidents have a California basis only if they contributed more than would have been allowed as California deductions had they been residents of the state.

**Recovery of California Basis.** Your Keogh distribution is first considered to be a nontaxable return of your California basis. Therefore, when you receive your distribution, none of the distribution will be taxed until you have recovered your California basis. Once you have recovered your California basis, your distribution must be reported the same as for federal purposes.

If you have received a distribution and you have a California basis, make an adjustment on Schedule CA (540 or 540NR) to reduce your federal AGI to the correct taxable amount for California. Your Schedule CA (540 or 540NR) adjustment is the lesser of your pre-1987 California basis or Keogh distribution included in federal AGI.

Use Worksheet I — Part A on page 14 to compute your pre-1987 California basis. Then use Worksheet I — Part B to compute your adjustment to federal AGI and your remaining pre-1987 California basis. Use Worksheet II as a summary of your California basis and its recovery.

**Exception:** If you made voluntary contributions that were not deductible on your federal and California tax returns, **do not** include the amount of the voluntary contributions in your California basis. The recovery of the voluntary contributions for California is treated the same as the recovery for federal purposes. **Do not** make an adjustment on Schedule CA (540 or 540NR) to recover your voluntary contributions.

## Lump-Sum Distribution

If you received a qualified lump-sum distribution and are using the special averaging method on Schedule G-1, Tax on Lump-Sum Distributions, follow the revised instructions below when completing Worksheet I — Part B:

- Line 1. Enter the taxable distribution from your federal Form 1099-R, box 2a.
- Line 3. Enter the smaller of line 1 or line 2. Compute the amounts to enter on Schedule G-1 as follows:

California taxable amount	=	Federal Form 1099-R, box 2a	–	Worksheet I Part B, line 3
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Enter the California taxable distribution on Schedule G-1, line 8 unless the capital gain election was made. If the capital gain election was made:

Schedule G-1, line 6	=	California taxable amount	X	Federal Form 1099-R, box 3
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Schedule G-1, line 8	=	California taxable amount	–	Schedule G-1, line 6
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## Change in Residency

**California Resident.** A California resident is taxed on all income, regardless of its source. If you are a California resident and receive a Keogh distribution attributable to your non-California self-employment income, your distribution minus your California basis is taxable by California.

## Tax on Early Distributions

California has a tax on early distributions from IRAs, any qualified retirement plans, annuities, and modified endowment contracts. This tax is generally the same as federal except the California tax rate is 2½% rather than 10%, except for early distributions from SIMPLE plans during the two-year period beginning on the date the taxpayer first began participation in the plan. In that case, the tax rate is 6% rather than 25%. California does not have taxes similar to the federal tax on excess accumulations, tax on excess contributions, or tax on excess distributions.

**Early Distributions.** Early distributions are amounts you withdraw from your qualified retirement plan, annuity, or modified endowment contract before you are age 59½. For a list of qualified retirement plans, get form FTB 3805P. The tax on early distributions is 2½% of the amount of the distribution included in income or 6% in the case of an early distribution from a SIMPLE plan during the first two-year period beginning on the date the taxpayer first began participation in the plan. The tax on early distribution is imposed in addition to any regular California income tax on the distribution. Figure this tax on form FTB 3805P.

**Exceptions:** The tax on early distributions does not apply to:

- The portion of the distribution that is a return of basis.
- Distributions made due to total and permanent disability.
- Distributions made as part of a series of substantially equal periodic payments (made at least annually) for your life (or life expectancy) or the joint lives (or joint life expectancies) of you and your designated beneficiary (if from an employer plan, payments must begin after separation from service). Distributions received as periodic payments on or after December 29, 2022, will not fail to be treated as substantially equal merely because they are received as an annuity. And, these distributions received as periodic payments will be deemed to be substantially equal if they are payable over a period that satisfies the section 401(a)(9) requirements relating to annuity payments.
- Distributions due to death (does not apply to modified endowment contracts).
- Distributions made to you to the extent you have medical expenses deductible under IRC Section 213 (does not apply to modified endowment contracts).
- Distributions made to unemployed individuals for health insurance premiums (applies only to IRAs).
- Distributions made for qualified higher education expenses (applies only to IRAs).
- Distributions of up to \$10,000 made for first home purchases (applies only to IRAs).
- Qualified retirement plan distributions (does not apply to IRAs) you received after separation from service when the separation from service occurs in or after the year you reach age 55 (age 50 for qualified public safety employees and private sector firefighters) or 25 years of service under the plan, whichever is earlier.
- Distributions made to an alternate payee under a qualified domestic relations order (applies only to qualified retirement plans, does not include IRAs).
- Distributions due to an IRS levy on the qualified retirement plan.
- Distributions due to a Franchise Tax Board notice to withhold on a qualified retirement plan.
- Distributions made after September 11, 2001, to reservists while serving on active duty for at least 180 days.
- Distributions made after August 17, 2006, to public safety employees after separation from service after age 50.

Get form FTB 3805P for additional exceptions.

**Prohibited Transactions.** You may also owe tax on early distributions from an IRA or SEP if you enter into a prohibited transaction. If you enter into a prohibited transaction, your IRA ceases to be an IRA on the first day of the taxable year and you are considered to have received a distribution of the entire value of your IRA. If you are under age 59½ on the first day of the taxable year, you are subject to the tax on early distributions. Get form FTB 3805P for more information.



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## Additional Information

### Where To Get Tax Forms and Publications

**By Internet** – You can download, view, and print California tax forms, instructions, and publications at [ftb.ca.gov/forms](https://ftb.ca.gov/forms).

**By phone** – Use our automated service to order California tax forms, publications, and booklets. Call 800.338.0505, and follow the recorded instructions. This service is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Allow two weeks to receive your order. If you live outside of California, allow three weeks to receive your order.

**In person** – Many libraries and post offices provide free California tax booklets during the filing season. Employees at libraries and post offices cannot provide tax information or assistance.

**By mail** – Write to:

TAX FORMS REQUEST UNIT MS D120  
FRANCHISE TAX BOARD  
PO BOX 307  
RANCHO CORDOVA CA 95741-0307

### Letters

If you write to us, be sure to include your social security number or individual taxpayer identification number, your daytime and evening telephone numbers, and a copy of the notice with your letter. Send your letter to:

FRANCHISE TAX BOARD  
PO BOX 942840  
SACRAMENTO CA 94240-0040

We will respond to your letter within ten weeks. In some cases, we may need to call you for additional information.

### Franchise Tax Board Privacy Notice on Collection

Our privacy notice can be found in annual tax booklets or online. Go to [ftb.ca.gov/privacy](https://ftb.ca.gov/privacy) to learn about our privacy policy statement, or go to [ftb.ca.gov/forms](https://ftb.ca.gov/forms) and search for **1131** to locate FTB 1131 EN-SP, Franchise Tax Board Privacy Notice on Collection - Aviso de Privacidad del Franchise Tax Board sobre la Recaudación. To request this notice by mail, call 800.338.0505 and enter form code **948** when instructed.

## General Phone Service

Telephone assistance is available year-round from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m. Monday through Friday, except holidays. Hours are subject to change.

Telephone: 800.852.5711 from within the United States  
916.845.6500 from outside the United States

California

Relay

Service: 711 or 800.735.2929 for persons with hearing or speaking limitations

IRS: 800.829.1040 for federal tax questions

### Asistencia En Español

Asistencia telefónica está disponible durante todo el año desde las 8 a.m. hasta las 5 p.m. de lunes a viernes, excepto días feriados. Las horas están sujetas a cambios.

Teléfono: 800.852.5711 dentro de los Estados Unidos  
916.845.6500 fuera de los Estados Unidos

Servicio de

Retransmisión

de California: 711 o 800.735.2929 para personas con limitaciones auditivas o del habla

IRS: 800.829.1040 para preguntas sobre impuestos federales