

FORM TSP-25, INSTRUCTIONS

Federal employees who have been automatically enrolled in the TSP may use this form to request a refund of those contributions attributable to the automatic enrollment. Your request must be made within 90 days of your first automatic enrollment contribution. Your refund deadline date may be found in the Welcome Letter sent to you by the TSP or you may contact the TSP using the ThriftLine number at the end of these instructions.

Refunds include automatic enrollment Employee Contributions, as well as accrued earnings. The TSP will only refund your employee contributions associated with the automatic enrollment period.

Important Note: If you are a FERS employee, when the refund is paid, Agency Matching Contributions (including earnings) associated with the refunded contributions will be forfeited to the TSP. Agency Automatic (1%) Contributions will remain in your TSP account.

Rehired Participants. Under the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) rules for rehires, the refund deadline established during your first automatic enrollment period remains in effect unless you have satisfied a waiting period of one full calendar year (January through December) since your last automatic enrollment contribution. Refer to the welcome letter you received when your TSP account was established for the date of your 90-day refund period. If you have passed that date, you are no longer eligible for a refund. If you are within that 90-day refund period, you can use this form to request a refund, but only of the automatic employee contributions from your latest period of employment.

Separated Participants. If you separate from service within the first 90 days of becoming automatically enrolled, and your balance is \$200 or more, you can request a refund of your automatic enrollment contributions or a withdrawal from your account:

CSRS Participants. Use this form to request your refund. You'll receive your own contributions (and earnings), there will be 10% withholding for Federal income tax, and you'll pay no tax penalty.

FERS Participants. You can use Form TSP-70, Request for Full Withdrawal, instead of this form to obtain your refund. You'll receive your own contributions (and earnings) and all Agency Matching Contributions (and earnings). There will be 20% tax withholding and you may be subject to the 10% IRS early withdrawal tax penalty. You will forfeit your Agency Automatic (1%) Contributions, unless you were "vested" (entitled to keep them).

Before completing your refund request, you should read the booklet *Summary of the Thrift Savings Plan* and the TSP tax notice "Important Tax Information About Payments From Your TSP Account." You can download these materials from the TSP website (www.tsp.gov) or ask your agency for a copy.

Section I. Complete Items 1-9. If you are currently employed, the TSP will mail your refund to the address on file in your TSP account. To update your mailing address, you must contact and submit the update through your employing agency. If you are separated from Federal service, the address provided on this form will be used to update your TSP account and pay the refund to you.

If you have a foreign address, check the box in Item 5 and enter the foreign address as follows in Items 6 - 7:

First address line: Enter the street address or post office box number, and any apartment number.

Second address line: Enter the city or town name, other principal subdivision (e.g., province, state, county), and postal code, if known. (The postal code should precede the city or town.)

City/State/Zip Code fields: Enter the entire country name in the City field; leave the State and Zip Code fields blank.

If you use an **Air/Army Post Office (APO) or Fleet Post Office (FPO)** address, enter that address in the two available address lines (include the unit designation). Enter APO or FPO, as appropriate, in the City field. In the State field, enter AE as the state abbreviation for Zip Codes beginning with 090-098, AA for Zip Codes beginning with 340, and AP for Zip Codes beginning with 962-966. Then enter the appropriate Zip Code.

Section II. This section is optional. You may request a waiver of the automatic 10% withholding for Federal income tax by checking the box after the first statement in Item 10, **or** you may request additional withholding for Federal income tax by filling in the amount you want withheld in the boxes provided after the second statement in Item 10. The refund paid is considered ordinary income earned in the year paid to you. It is not subject to the IRS 10% early withdrawal penalty tax. Read the TSP tax notice "Important Tax Information About Payments From Your TSP Account" for detailed tax rules.

Section III. Complete this section only if you want the TSP to send your refund directly to your checking or savings account by means of a direct deposit (electronic funds transfer (EFT)). Provide all of the requested information in this section. If you do not know the 9-digit ACH Routing Number or your checking or savings account number, contact your financial institution for this information. Direct deposits will be made only to financial institutions in the United States.

Section IV. Read the certification carefully and sign and date the form. By signing the certification, you are certifying that the information you have provided is true and complete to the best of your knowledge. Your signature (Item 15) must also be notarized (Item 17); otherwise, your request cannot be processed. Because the form will be filed with a Federal agency in Washington, D.C., the notary must complete the notarization in Item 17. No other acknowledgement is acceptable.

After completing your refund request, make a copy for your records.

Mail the original to:

**Thrift Savings Plan
P.O. Box 385021
Birmingham, AL 35238.**

Or fax to: 1-866-817-5023

Note: Do **not** mail and fax your request. The TSP will automatically cancel the second request it receives. If you need to make a change or correction on your form, call the TSP to cancel your first request.

If you have questions, call the (toll-free) Thriftline at 1-TSP-YOU-FRST (1-877-968-3778) or the TDD at 1-TSP-THRIFT5 (1-877-847-4385). Outside the U.S. and Canada, please call 404-233-4400 (not toll free).