## Retirement Plans – 2021 – 1 of 2



## **Options When You Are Self-Employed and Have No Employees**

Retirement Plan	Maximum Employee Contribution	Maximum Employer Contribution
SEP-IRA	N/A	Up to 20% of your net self-employment income <sup>1</sup> but not to exceed \$58,000. <sup>2</sup>
401(k)	\$19,500 (\$26,000 if 50 or older) <sup>3</sup>	20% of your net self-employment income, <sup>4</sup> but not more than \$58,000 considering both your employee and employer contributions (\$64,500 if 50 or older) <sup>5</sup>
SIMPLE-IRA	\$13,500 (\$16,500 if 50 or older)	Plus either:  1. A matching contribution equal to the lesser of 3 percent of your defined self-employment income or the amount of your elective deferral; or  2. A nonelective contribution of 2 percent of your defined self-employment income limited to no more than \$290,000.
Traditional IRA	\$6,000 (\$7,000 if 50 or older) <sup>8</sup>	N/A
Roth IRA	\$6,000 (\$7,000 if 50 or older) <sup>9</sup>	N/A
Defined Benefit Plan		Actuarially determined amount needed to fund annual retirement benefit of up to \$230,000 <sup>10</sup>



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> IRC Sections 401(c)(2); 402(h)(2); 404(h); 408(k)(7)(B); 414(s); 415(c)(1)(A); 415(c)(3)(B).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Notice 2020-79.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> IRC Section 401(g); IR 2020-244.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> IRC Section 402(i).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Notice 2020-79.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> IRC Sections 408(p)(2)(A)(iii); 408(p)(2)(C)(ii)(I).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> IRC Sections 408(p)(2)(B); 401(a)(17); Notice 2020-79.

<sup>8</sup> IR 2020-244.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Ibid.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> IRC Sections 404(a)(1); 404(a)(8); 415(b); IRC Section 415(b)(1)(A); Notice 2020-79.

## Retirement Plans – 2021 – 2 of 2 BRADFORD TAX INSTITUTE



## **Options When You Are the Only Employee**

Retirement Plan	Maximum Employee Contribution	Maximum Employer Contribution
SEP-IRA	N/A	25% of your wages, <sup>11</sup> but not more than \$58,000 <sup>12</sup>
401(k)	\$19,500 (\$26,000 if 50 or older) <sup>13</sup>	25% of your wages, <sup>14</sup> but not more than \$58,000 considering both your employee and corporate (employer) contributions (\$64,500 if 50 or older) <sup>15</sup>
SIMPLE-IRA	\$13,500 (\$16,500 if 50 or older)	Plus either:  1. A matching contribution of 3 percent <sup>16</sup> of your employee deferral up to 3 percent; or  2. A nonelective contribution of 2 percent of compensation <sup>17</sup> to all eligible employees (you) <sup>18</sup> whether or not you make a salary deferral.
Traditional IRA	\$6,000 (\$7,000 if 50 or older) <sup>19</sup>	N/A
Roth IRA	\$6,000 (\$7,000 if 50 or older) <sup>20</sup>	N/A
Defined Benefit Plan		Actuarially determined amount needed to fund annual retirement benefit of up to \$230,000 <sup>21</sup>

<sup>11</sup> IRC Section 404(h)(1)(C).



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> Notice 2020-79.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> IRC Section 401(g); IR 2019-179.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> IRC Section 402(i).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> Notice 2020-79.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> IRC Sections 408(p)(2)(A)(iii); 408(p)(2)(C)(ii)(I)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> IRC Section 408(p)(2)(B)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup> IRC Section 408(p)(4)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup> IR 2020-244.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup> Ibid.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>21</sup> IRC Sections 404(a)(1); 404(a)(8); 415(b); IRC Section 415(b)(1)(A); Notice 2020-79.