

# SAVING FOR RETIREMENT THE EASY WAY-2015

## Universal Notice of Availability

Now is the time to plan your tax savings/retirement savings. Why? Retirement is expensive and if you participate, the state retirement plan and social security will provide only a part of what you will need. The rest must come from other savings.

Benefit eligible TTUHSC employees are required to be in a mandatory state retirement plan, however many employees are not aware that **all employees, regardless of classification, may also participate in the Texas Tech Voluntary TDA (403)b plan or the state's TexaSaver (457) plan.**

Why should you do this?

- It's an easy way to accumulate additional savings you will need to supplement your retirement income.
- Your contributions reduce your current taxable income. You save on taxes while saving money for retirement!
- Both your principal and your earnings grow, on a tax-deferred basis.
- You can opt for a ROTH Account option with either the TDA 403(b) or the 457 Plan.
- It is a flexible, low-cost program with a wide array of investment options.
- It's portable. You can take your savings with you if you move to a different employer.

You can contribute 100% of compensation up to **\$18,000** for tax year **2015**, and an additional **\$6,000** if you are age 50 or over. (Some employees in the Optional Retirement Program may not be able to contribute the maximum voluntary limit to the TDA plan.) ORP/TDA participants cannot exceed a maximum allowable of **\$53,000** per year. Education employees who are at least 50 can contribute the **\$24,000** maximum amount to **both** their Tax Deferred Account and the 457 TexaSaver. An employee over age 50 cannot exceed **\$59,000** for all 403b accounts combined (ORP & TDA).

**Remember that these plans are designed to be long-term savings vehicles to be used for retirement. IRS regulations limit the access you have to these accounts.**

How to enroll:

### **Tax Deferred Account Program (403b) – Tax Deferred or ROTH options**

- Choose your investment company from the TTUS approved list. Access list from Benefits on the Human Resources Home Page [www.ttuhschool.edu/HR/](http://www.ttuhschool.edu/HR/)
- Establish a 403(b) account with the company (many have representatives to assist you).
- Log on to Texas Tech Retirement Manager at <https://www.myretirementmanager.com/?ttu> and enroll with your chosen vendor for your deduction. No other paperwork necessary! OR
- Complete a TTUS TDA Salary Reduction Agreement. Form is available online from the Human Resources Benefits Page <http://www.ttuhschool.edu/hr/benefits.aspx>
- Return completed Salary Reduction Form to Human Resources/Benefits Office (HSC 1B211).

### **TexaSaver Plan (457) – Tax Deferred or ROTH options**

- Obtain information from the TexaSaver website at <https://texasaver.gwrs.com/login.do> to choose your investment funds
- Contact Great West at 1-800-634-5091 to enroll
- Your enrollment will be electronically sent to the TTUS payroll system for payroll deduction.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact your local HSC Benefits Office.