



AGF SOUND CHOICES

## 2026 Registered Plans Guide



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# Understanding Different Types of Investment Accounts

You have many account options to choose from when saving for your future, with each offering plenty of advantages ... as well as some restrictions.

## Know Your Options

When you open a bank account, you'll be asked to choose between a chequing and a savings account. Both come with distinct advantages, as well as certain restrictions.

Similarly, when creating a plan for your financial future, you'll be able to choose between a few different types of accounts, each with their own features.

Some of these features are very important for you to know, including tax deferral and withdrawal restrictions, and can impact your ability to grow your savings over longer periods of time.

Your two main account options are non-registered and registered accounts.

## 1. Registered Accounts

- Include First Home Savings Account (FHSA), Registered Retirement Savings Plans (RRSPs), Registered Retirement Income Funds (RRIFs) and Registered Education Savings Plans (RESPs).
- Usually have some restrictions in terms of the amounts you can contribute each year and how much you can withdraw but tend to offer attractive tax deferral or savings incentives that are important to consider.
- Registered accounts also have a number of additional features you should be aware of. For instance, with RRSPs you have the ability to take money out (tax free) under certain conditions, including programs related to buying your first home or funding an education. RRSPs also allow you to defer paying tax on the amount you contribute, as well as on any income payments or investment growth achieved within your RRSP, until withdrawal.
- Tax-Free Savings Accounts (TFSA), which can be used to help meet any financial goal, are funded using after-tax dollars. When you withdraw funds from this account, the amount is not taxable.

## 2. Non-Registered Accounts

Non-registered accounts don't offer the same tax-deferral or tax-reduction benefits as registered accounts but have few or no restrictions in terms of how much you can deposit or how often you can access your savings.

Features	Non-Registered Accounts
<b>Annual contribution limit</b>	No limits
<b>Tax-deductible contribution</b>	No
<b>Contribution carry-forward</b>	N/A
<b>Taxable consequences</b>	Fully taxable earnings growth
<b>Capital loss on investment</b>	Can be used to offset capital gains (three preceding tax years, carried forward indefinitely)
<b>Maximum age for contribution</b>	No
<b>Recontribution of withdrawals</b>	Yes
<b>Overcontribution penalty</b>	N/A

# Keep More to Grow More

One of the best ways to maximize your savings is to take advantage of tax-sheltered plans.

## Tax Treatment

### Registered

If you hold an investment in a registered plan:

- Distributions on funds held in a tax-sheltered plan do not need to be reported as taxable income and they are automatically reinvested
- However, you are required to report on your Canadian income tax return\* when money is withdrawn from a registered plan (the exception being a TFSA – because you're investing with after-tax dollars, the amount withdrawn is not taxable)

### Non-Registered

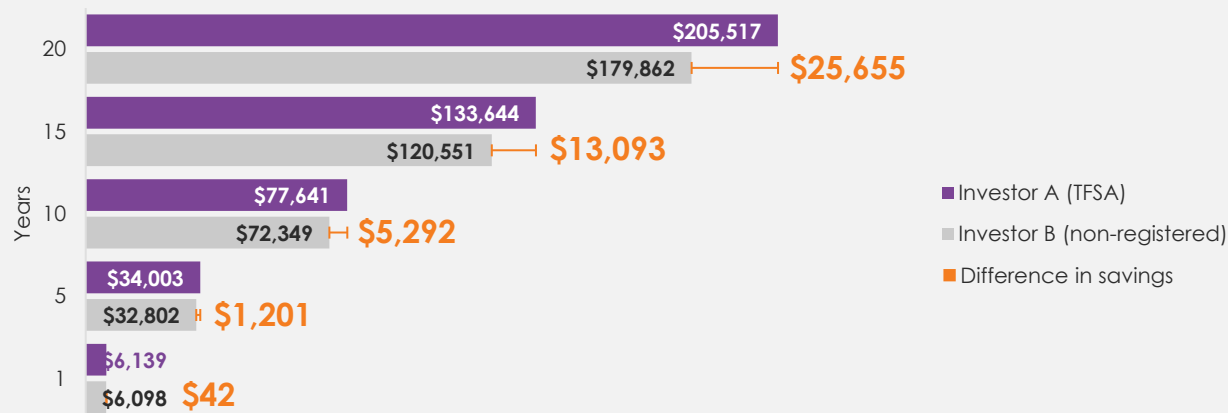
If you held an investment outside of a tax-deferred plan, you are required to report on your Canadian income tax return\*:

- Distributions in the form of interest, dividends or capital gains paid to you by any fund, including those reinvested
- Gains (or losses) realized when selling or redeeming units or shares of your fund

\$500/month invested in a hypothetical investment with a 5% annual return

**Investor A** in a TFSA account (which can be used for any financial goal)

**Investor B** in a non-registered account



Source: AGF Investments Inc. **Performance returns presented are hypothetical and for illustrative purposes only. It does not represent actual performance.** Assumptions were made in the calculation of these returns including \$500 invested at the beginning of each month in a hypothetical investment with a rate of return of 5%. Of the 5% return, distribution yield of 2.0% (distribution composed of 50% interest and 50% capital gain). Interest taxed in the year received, while unrealized capital gains were taxed at the end of the holding period. Marginal tax rate of 50% for interest and 25% for capital gains, distributions reinvested. Taxes paid from out of pocket (not from sale of shares). Trading costs and other fees associated with the portfolios are not included and trading prices and frequency implicit in the hypothetical performance may differ from what may have actually been realized at the time given prevailing market conditions. This performance simulation is for illustrative purposes only and does not reflect actual past performance nor does it guarantee future performance. \* For more detailed information on the tax treatment of income received by an individual from Canadian mutual funds, visit [Tax treatment of mutual funds - Canada.ca](http://www.agf.com/Canada/canada-ca).

# 2026 Fast Facts for Registered Plans

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## Contributions

Plan	2025	2026	Deadline
<b>RRSPs</b> The lesser of 18% of earned income from your previous tax year or:	\$32,490	\$33,810	60 days into next calendar year
<b>TFSAs</b>	\$7,000	\$7,000	4pm on the last business day of the year
<b>FHSAs</b>	\$8,000	\$8,000	

## Withholding Tax Rates

Amount withdrawn from RRSP or RRIF	All provinces except Quebec	Quebec
Up to \$5,000	10%	19%
\$5,000.01 to \$15,000	20%	24%
Over \$15,000	30%	29%

## Spousal Plans

<b>RRSPs</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Contributor receives a tax deduction, but their spouse or common-law partner is the registered owner (annuitant).</li> <li>Once a plan is designated as spousal, it can only be changed to a non-spousal plan upon death or marriage breakdown. Certain conditions must be met</li> </ul>
<b>RRIFs</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>When a spousal RRSP converts to a RRIF, it's based on the age of the annuitant, not the contributor</li> </ul>
<b>TFSAs</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Spouses and common-law partners can give each other an amount to contribute to their own TFSA without triggering attribution rules.</li> </ul>
<b>FHSAs</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There isn't a spousal FHSA, but you can gift funds to your spouse (or child) for them to contribute to their own FHSA.</li> <li>As the owner of the FHSA, they will also claim the tax deduction.</li> </ul>

## RESP Highlights

<b>Eligibility</b>	Beneficiary must: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>be a Canadian resident at the time the RESP is opened</li> <li>have a SIN</li> </ul>
<b>Lifetime Contribution Limit</b>	\$50,000 per beneficiary
<b>Canada Education Savings Grant (CESG) Limit</b>	Per beneficiary: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>\$500 annually (\$1,000 if there is unused grant room from a previous year)</li> <li>\$7,200 maximum total</li> </ul>
<b>CESG Rate</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Basic:</b> 20% of the RESP contribution up to \$500</li> <li><b>Additional based on net annual household income:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>\$100 if \$53,374 or less</li> <li>\$50 if \$53,375–\$114,750</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>Canada Learning Bond (CLB)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>\$500 initial bond plus \$100 per eligible year</li> <li>\$2,000 maximum total</li> <li>No contribution required</li> </ul>

## RRIF Minimum Withdrawal Rates

**Age:** at the beginning of the calendar year  
**Required Minimum Payment:** as a % of the market value as of Dec. 31 of the previous calendar year

Age	%	Age	%
<71	1/(90-age)	83	7.71%
71	5.28%	84	8.08%
72	5.40%	85	8.51%
73	5.53%	86	8.99%
74	5.67%	87	9.55%
75	5.82%	88	10.21%
76	5.98%	89	10.99%
77	6.17%	90	11.92%
78	6.36%	91	13.06%
79	6.58%	92	14.49%
80	6.82%	93	16.34%
81	7.08%	94	18.79%
82	7.38%	95 or older	20.00%

Registered vs Non-Registered Accounts – the Key Differences

	RRSP	TFSA	FHSA	Non-Registered
<b>Eligibility</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Canadian SIN</li> <li>Filed an income tax return &amp; declared earned income</li> <li>Cdn. employment or business income or unused contribution room</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A Canadian SIN</li> <li>Age of majority in that province or territory</li> <li>Canadian resident</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Canadian resident</li> <li>Age of majority in that province or territory</li> <li>First-time home buyer*</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Age of majority in that province or territory</li> </ul>
<b>Maximum age for contribution</b>	Yes (71 years old)	No	Yes (71 years old)	No
<b>Maximum Contribution Limit</b>	Annual contribution limit plus unused contribution room	Annual contribution limit plus unused contribution room	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>\$40,000 per person</li> <li>\$80,000 per couple if both qualify</li> </ul>	N/A
<b>Tax-Deductible Contribution</b>	Yes	No	Yes	No
<b>Contribution Carry-Forward</b>	Yes	Yes	Yes – capped at \$16,000	N/A
<b>Taxable Consequences</b>	No tax on growth. Withholding tax when withdrawn; the amount withdrawn is added to taxable income	No tax on growth or on withdrawals	No tax on growth or on withdrawals if being used towards the purchase of a qualifying home and the investor qualifies as a first-time home buyer when making the withdrawal	Fully taxable earnings growth
<b>Capital loss on investment</b>	Cannot claim	Cannot claim	Cannot claim	Can be used to offset capital gains (three preceding tax years, carried forward indefinitely)
<b>Recontribution of withdrawals</b>	No (except for Home Buyers' Plan and Lifelong Learning Plan)	Yes (in subsequent calendar year)	Contributions made to an FHSA following a qualified withdrawal would not be tax-deductible	Yes
<b>Overcontribution penalty</b>	Yes, 1% per month if you exceed the \$2,000 lifetime over-contribution amount	Yes, 1% per month on over-contribution amounts (even if contribution was withdrawn subsequently in same tax year)	Penalty tax of 1% per month (or part month) on the highest amount of the excess in that month.	N/A

\* You, or your spouse or common-law partner ("spouse")\*\* did not own a qualifying home that you lived in as a principal place of residence at any time in the year the account is opened or the preceding four calendar years\*\*\*

\*\* For the purposes of the first-time home buyer's test, a home owned by your spouse in which you lived during the relevant period will only put you offside of the test if that person is still your spouse when the FHSA is opened.

\*\*\* The principal residence in the current year or preceding four years need not be in Canada. An immigrant to Canada may have to wait five years if they sold their principal residence before coming to Canada.

## Government Retirement Programs

	CPP & QPP	OAS	GIS	Allowances
<b>Eligibility</b>	Employees & self-employed	Canadian citizens & residents	Low-income OAS recipients	Spouse / Widow / widower of OAS recipient
<b>Monthly Maximum Amount for 2026</b>	\$1,507.65	<b>65 - 74:</b> \$742.31 <b>75+:</b> \$816.54	<b>Single* or Spouse doesn't receive OAS:</b> \$1,108.74 <b>Spouse receives OAS:</b> \$667.41	<b>Spouse:</b> <b>Survivor:</b>
<b>Taxable</b>	Yes	Yes	No	No
<b>Indexed for Inflation</b>	Yes, adjusted annually	Yes, adjusted quarterly	Yes, adjusted quarterly	Yes, adjusted quarterly
<b>Full Benefit Age</b>	65	65	65	Paid only if 60 to 64
<b>Earliest Eligibility</b>	60 (reduced amount)	65	65	Paid only if 60 to 64
<b>Clawback</b>	No	Yes <b>Clawback starts at:</b> net income (inc. OAS) >\$93,454 Clawback = 15% of the amount over \$93,454 <b>Full repayment:</b> net income >\$152,062 (\$157,923 for 75+)	Yes <b>Single:</b> Cut off at \$22,488 <b>Spouse doesn't receive OAS:</b> \$53,904 (combined income) <b>Spouse receives full OAS:</b> \$29,712 (combined income)	Yes <b>Spouse:</b> Cut off at \$41,616 (combined income) <b>Survivor:</b> Cut off at \$30,312
<b>Payable Outside Canada</b>	Yes	Under certain conditions	6 months maximum	6 months maximum

\* Single, widowed or divorced

## Canada Pension Plan (CPP) / Quebec Pension Plan Payments (QPP)

Type of pension or benefit	Average monthly amount for new beneficiaries Oct. 2025 (CPP)	Monthly maximum amount 2025 (CPP)	Monthly maximum amount 2025 (QPP)
<b>CPP</b> (at age 65)	\$803.76	\$1,507.65	\$1,507.65
<b>Post-retirement benefit</b> (at age 65)	\$8.57	\$54.69	—
<b>Disability benefit</b>	\$1,191.72	\$1,741.20	\$1,737.67
<b>Survivor's pension</b> (younger than 65)	\$533.55	\$803.54	Note 1*
<b>Survivor's pension</b> (65 and older)	\$320.39	\$904.59	\$881.48
<b>Death benefit</b> (one-time payment)	\$2,581.18	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00
<b>Combined survivor's and retirement pension</b> (at age 65)	\$1,028.92	\$1,531.56	—
<b>Combined survivor's pension and disability benefit</b>	\$1,296.90	\$1,756.14	—

### Note 1 – QPP Maximum Monthly Survivor Benefit – Younger Than 45

<b>Not disabled, no dependent children</b>	\$719.50
<b>Not disabled, with dependent children</b>	\$1,129.95
<b>Disabled</b>	\$1,173.58
<b>QPP survivor – age 45-64</b>	\$1,173.58

Sources: canada.ca, <https://www.rrq.gouv.qc.ca>



**A Registered Retirement Savings Plan (RRSP) enables investors to save money on a tax-deferred basis until you retire – a tax-efficient way to build your retirement savings.**

**To Open an RRSP, an Investor Needs:**

- A Canadian Social Insurance Number
- To have filed an income tax return the previous year and declared earned income
  - Can also contribute to an RRSP if investor has Canadian employment or business income or unused contribution room

**RRSP Contributions Reduce Taxes Now**

- Canadians can enjoy immediate tax savings because an RRSP allows you to deduct from your income on your tax return the amount of the contribution made in the same tax year and/or the first 60 days of the following year.
- RRSP contributions can defer and potentially lower the amount of income tax you pay because, when you withdraw the money from a RRIF and pay income tax on it, you're likely to be in a lower tax bracket than today.

**Example**

- \$5,000 RRSP contribution made at different marginal tax rates
- The actual cost of the contribution is reduced because of lower taxes

Marginal tax rate <sup>1</sup>	32%	39%	46%
<b>RRSP Contribution</b>	<b>\$5,000</b>	<b>\$5,000</b>	<b>\$5,000</b>
Reduced Taxes	\$1,600	\$1,950	\$2,300
<b>Actual cost of contribution<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>\$3,400</b>	<b>\$3,050</b>	<b>\$2,700</b>

<sup>1</sup> Source: Canada Revenue Agency; this is a hypothetical example to be used for illustrative purposes only.

<sup>2</sup> Excludes taxes to pay upon withdrawing the money from the RRSP (e.g. RRIF).

**Key Reasons to Invest in an RRSP:**

1. Immediate tax savings as RRSPs allow the holder to deduct the amount of their contribution from their income on their tax return.
2. Savings are tax-deferred and grow until they are withdrawn, when the holder is potentially in a lower tax bracket.
3. Benefit from the power of compounding growth. A pre-authorized contribution (PAC) can help build retirement savings with minimal effort.
4. Government retirement programs may not be enough.

**Contribution Deadline**

- March 2, 2026 – for tax year 2025
- Contributions made during the first 60 days of 2026 can be applied against either the 2025 or 2026 taxation year

**Contribution Limit**

- The lesser of \$32,490 for 2025 / \$33,810 for 2026 and 18% of earned income from your previous tax year, minus any pension adjustments\*, plus unused contribution room from previous years
- To find your contribution limit:
  - See your latest Notice of Assessment from the Canada Revenue Agency (CRA)
  - Access your information online using the My Account feature on the CRA website
- If you are unable to maximize your RRSP contribution, your unused contribution room can be "carried forward" to a subsequent year

\* Pension Adjustment (PA) represents the value of any pension benefits accruing from participation in a registered pension plan or deferred profit-sharing plan. A Past Service Pension Adjustment (PSPA) arises in rare instances when a pension plan has benefits for a post-1989 year of service upgraded retroactively.

## Over-contributions

- \$2,000 lifetime over-contribution limit
- Penalty tax of 1% per month on the amount over the \$2,000 limit may apply until withdrawn from the plan

## Age Limits

- No minimum age for contributing to an RRSP
- If you turn 71 this year, by Dec. 31 you:
  - Must convert your RRSP to a Registered Retirement Income Fund (RRIF) or an annuity or cash it in
  - Can contribute to your RRSP if you have unused contribution room or earned income last year and filed a tax return\*

## Spousal RRSP

- Contributor receives a tax deduction, but their spouse or common-law partner is the registered owner (annuitant)
- With a Spousal RRSP, couples can split income and reduce their combined tax rate. The spouse with the higher income makes the contribution and takes the immediate tax deduction. The money in the RRSP is taxed to the other spouse when it is withdrawn – often at a lower rate
- All or a portion of RRSP contributions can be contributed to an RRSP in a spouse's name.
- The spouse does not need to have earned income or their own contribution room
- An annuitant can have a spousal plan and a non-spousal plan
- Once a plan is designated as spousal, it can only be changed to a non-spousal plan upon death or marriage breakdown. Certain conditions must be met
- After 71, if you continue to have earned income, you can contribute to a spousal RRSP up until December 31 of the year your spouse / partner turns 71 (subject to contribution room)

## Withdrawals

RRSP withdrawals are subject to withholding taxes.\*\* The amount withdrawn would be taxed at your personal marginal tax rate when added to your tax return.

RRSP Withdrawn Amount	All provinces except Quebec	Quebec
Up to \$5,000	10%	19%
\$5,000.01 to \$15,000	20%	24%
Over \$15,000	30%	29%

## Home Buyers' Plan (HBP)

- Allows Canadian residents to take up to \$60,000 (\$120,000 per couple) out of their RRSP to put towards the down payment on their first qualifying home – or a home for a related person with a disability
- Multiple withdrawals need to be made within the same calendar year
- Qualifying withdrawals won't be taxed or have any withholding tax taken on the amount withdrawn and must be paid back into the RRSP over a 15-year period
- There is a one tax-year grace period, so repayments must start by the end of the second tax year following the withdrawal

## Lifelong Learning Plan (LLP)

- Use your RRSP to finance full-time training or education for you and/or your spouse
- Withdraw up to \$10,000 in a calendar year up to a \$20,000 maximum per person
- Eligible withdrawals are not added to your income and your RRSP issuer will not withhold tax on the amounts withdrawn
- You must repay these withdrawals within 10 years or add the proportionate annual repayment amount to your income

## Visit [AGF.com/RRSP](https://www.agf.com/RRSP) for more information on retirement saving.

\*The amount of the final contribution is calculated in the same way as a regular RRSP contribution – the lesser of \$32,490 for 2025 / \$33,810 for 2026 or 18% of earned income from your previous tax year, minus any pension adjustments, plus unused contribution room from previous years.

\*\* These rates do not apply to qualifying redemptions for the Home Buyers' Plan or the Lifelong Learning Plan or for transfers to another registered plan.

Publication date: January 26, 2026.

# TFSA Fast Facts

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**A Tax-Free Savings Account (TFSA) enables you to invest after-tax money into an account where any subsequent earnings growth (interest, capital gains or dividend income) is not subject to further taxation. Neither are withdrawals.**

## To Open a TFSA, You Need:

- A Canadian Social Insurance Number
- To be 18 years of age or over
- To be a Canadian resident

NOTE: You do not need to have earned income or be filing an income tax and benefit return.

## RRSP vs TFSA

If an investor's tax rates are the same when contributing and withdrawing, they will end up with the same results from either an RRSP or TFSA, given the same rate of return.

	TFSA	RRSP
<b>Pre-tax income</b>	\$1,000	\$1,000
<b>Income tax paid</b> (at a hypothetical marginal tax rate of 43.41%)	\$434	\$0
<b>Amount invested</b>	\$566	\$1,000
<b>Total in each plan after 20 years</b> (assuming hypothetical rate of return of 5% compounded annually)	\$1,502	\$2,653
<b>Tax due when the money is withdrawn</b> (at a hypothetical marginal tax rate of 43.41%)	\$0	\$1,152
<b>Cash in hand after 20 years</b>	\$1,502	\$1,502

Source: AGF Investments Inc. Based on a marginal tax rate of 43.41% (2025 Ontario Marginal Tax Rate for interest and regular income for a taxable income of \$150,000). **This chart is a hypothetical example to be used for illustrative purposes only.**

## Key Reasons to Invest in a TFSA:

1. An additional plan to accumulate savings, where investment income is tax free, for things like a rainy day, down payment or renovations on a home, education expenses, vacation, car, wedding or parental leave.
2. The potential to earn more tax-free investment income over the long term than if you had invested in a high-interest savings account or GIC.
3. Since TFSA withdrawals are not considered income for tax purposes, there is no impact on taxes and income-tested credits/benefits such as: Guaranteed Income Supplement (GIS), Old Age Security benefits (OAS), Canada Child Benefit, Employment Insurance benefits (EI).
4. To bridge the gap for newcomers to Canada, as they may not be able to file an income tax return or have declared earned income – to be eligible to invest in a Registered Retirement Savings Plan (RRSP).

## Contributions

### Deadline

- Last business day of the year

### Limit

Year	TFSA Annual Limit	TFSA Cumulative Limit
2009	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000
2010	\$ 5,000	\$ 10,000
2011	\$ 5,000	\$ 15,000
2012	\$ 5,000	\$ 20,000
2013	\$ 5,500	\$ 25,500
2014	\$ 5,500	\$ 31,000
2015	\$ 10,000	\$ 41,000
2016	\$ 5,500	\$ 46,500
2017	\$ 5,500	\$ 52,000
2018	\$ 5,500	\$ 57,500
2019	\$ 6,000	\$ 63,500
2020	\$ 6,000	\$ 69,500
2021	\$ 6,000	\$ 75,500
2022	\$ 6,000	\$ 81,500
2023	\$ 6,500	\$ 88,000
2024	\$ 7,000	\$ 95,000
2025	\$ 7,000	\$ 102,000
2026	\$ 7,000	\$ 109,000

NOTE: This applies to investors aged 18 and older in 2009. An investor born in 1992 (and therefore turned 18 in 2010) would have a cumulative limit of \$104,000 in 2026.

- Unused contribution room can be carried forward to future years
- Any amount withdrawn from a TFSA can be re-contributed in future years without reducing contribution room
- Spouses and common-law partners can give each other an amount to contribute to their own TFSA without triggering attribution rules. TFSA assets can be transferred to a spouse tax-free upon death

## Overcontributions

- Penalty tax of 1% per month on the over-contribution amounts (even if contribution was withdrawn subsequently in same tax year)

## Withdrawals

- May be taken at any time without tax penalty
- No limit on the amount of each withdrawal
- Funds may be withdrawn for any purpose
- Any amount withdrawn is added back to your contribution room the following year

## Tax Features

- Earnings growth in plan is tax-sheltered
- Since TFSA withdrawals are not considered income for tax purposes, there is no impact on taxes and income-tested credits / benefits such as:
  - Guaranteed Income Supplement (GIS)
  - Canada Child Benefit
  - Working Income Tax Benefit
  - Goods and Services Tax credit (GST)
  - Old Age Security benefits (OAS)
  - Employment Insurance benefits (EI)

For more information, contact your financial advisor or visit [AGF.com/TFSA](https://www.agf.com/TFSA)

Publication date: January 26, 2026.

# RRIF Fast Facts

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**A Registered Retirement Income Fund (RRIF) is designed to give investors an income flow in retirement.**

## RRSPs vs RRIFs

Think of a RRIF as a Registered Retirement Savings Plan (RRSP) in reverse – RRSPs allow you to accumulate tax-sheltered savings for retirement, while your RRIF generates a taxable retirement income stream from these savings.

In other words, you make tax-deductible contributions to a RRSP and make taxable income withdrawals from a RRIF.

RRSPs	RRIFs
Allow investors to accumulate tax-sheltered savings for retirement	Generate a taxable retirement income stream from these savings
Tax-deductible contributions	Taxable income withdrawals

## Options for Converting an RRSP

By December 31 of the year that the investor turns 71, they need to either:

- Transfer the RRSP to a RRIF
- Purchase an annuity
- Cash out the RRSP and pay income tax on the full withdrawal

## Opening a RRIF

- An RRSP can be converted to a RRIF at any time
- To convert an RRSP to a RRIF:
  - A RRIF account needs to be set up first
  - Then the RRSP assets can be transferred over without incurring a taxable transaction

## Key Reasons to Invest in a RRIF:

1. Can deliver a continuous stream of income during retirement.
2. The investor chooses how the money within the RRIF is invested.
3. Investments can continue to grow on a tax-free basis within the plan.
4. Income tax on the amount transferred from the investor's RRSP is deferred until a withdrawal is made from their RRIF.

## Continuing to Contribute to an RRSP

An investor can still make an RRSP contribution:\*

- The year that the investor turns 71, provided it's done before December 31
- To a Spousal RRSP up to, and including, the year in which the spouse turns 71

## Annual Minimum Amounts

- Each year (beginning the year following when the RRIF was opened), a taxable "annual minimum amount" must be withdrawn from your RRIF
- You may start receiving withdrawals from the RRIF as soon as the account is set up, but the annual minimum payment must be taken by December 31 of the year following the one in which the RRIF was established and then each year thereafter
  - For example, if the RRIF is opened in August 2025, the first withdrawal must occur by December 31, 2026

\*The amount of the final contribution is calculated in the same way as a regular RRSP contribution – the lesser of \$32,490 for 2025 / \$33,810 for 2026 or 18% of earned income from your previous tax year, minus any pension adjustments, plus unused contribution room from previous years.

## RRIF Minimum Withdrawal Rates

- The minimum is based on a set formula that takes into consideration:
  - Your age (or your spouse's age) and
  - The market value of the account on January 1 of the withdrawal year
- If your spouse is younger than you, you can use their age to calculate the annual minimum amount

**NOTE:** The decision to use the younger spouse's age must be made before the first minimum withdrawal is received and cannot be revoked afterwards.

Age	%	Age	%
<71	1/(90-age)	83	7.71%
71	5.28%	84	8.08%
72	5.40%	85	8.51%
73	5.53%	86	8.99%
74	5.67%	87	9.55%
75	5.82%	88	10.21%
76	5.98%	89	10.99%
77	6.17%	90	11.92%
78	6.36%	91	13.06%
79	6.58%	92	14.49%
80	6.82%	93	16.34%
81	7.08%	94	18.79%
82	7.38%	95 or older	20.00%

**Age:** at the beginning of the calendar year

**Required Minimum Payment:** as a % of the market value as of Dec. 31 of the previous calendar year

\* Source: Canada Revenue Agency, October 10, 2025.

## Upon Death

In general, the market value of the RRIF at the time of death is included in the annuitant's taxable income for the year of death. The annuitant's taxable income may be reduced in the following scenarios:

- The annuitant's spouse or common-law partner is named as a successor annuitant and takes ownership of the continuing RRIF.
- The annuitant's spouse or common-law partner is the sole beneficiary of the RRIF, which is fully transferred to their registered plan or eligible annuity by December 31 of the year following the year of death.
- A qualifying survivor\* and the annuitant's legal representative can elect to treat some or all of the market value of the RRIF paid to the annuitant's estate as a designated benefit paid to the qualifying survivor.

If the annuitant designates a beneficiary (or successor), the market value of the RRIF at death may not be included in the annuitant's estate for determining probate fees or estate administration tax. If the annuitant does not designate a beneficiary, the market value of the RRIF at death will be included in the annuitant's estate.

\*A qualifying survivor is the deceased's spouse, common-law partner, or a financially dependent child or grandchild.

To find out more, contact your financial advisor and visit [AGF.com/RRIF](https://www.agf.com/RRIF).

Publication date: January 26, 2026

# RESP Fast Facts

AGF SOUND CHOICES

**A Registered Education Savings Plan (RESP) is a tax-sheltered investment plan that can help families save for their children's post-secondary education.**

## Key Facts

To open an RESP, the beneficiary must:

- be a Canadian resident at the time the RESP is opened
- have a Social Insurance Number
- Lifetime contribution limit for each beneficiary is \$50,000.<sup>1</sup> There is no annual limit
- Contributions made to an RESP are not tax-deductible but grow tax free
- The beneficiary, who will typically have little income as a student, will likely pay minimal or no tax on the withdrawal
- Contributions remain the property of the subscriber

## Key Terms

**Beneficiary.** The student using the RESP for funding their post-secondary education

**Subscriber.** The person who opens an RESP on behalf of the beneficiary

## Plan Types

### Individual RESP

- Can only have one beneficiary who does not have to be related to the subscriber
- No age limit for the beneficiary to be added to the plan
- Recommended for:
  - Single-child families
  - Families with large age differences between children
  - Subscribers who want to set up an RESP for themselves or someone they're not related to

## Key Reasons to Save Through an RESP:

- 1. Investing in education pays off** – university graduates aged 25-34 earned an average \$18,868 each year over high school graduates.
- 2. Get ahead of rising costs.** One year of postsecondary education for a Canadian student costs about **\$23,500** including tuition<sup>2</sup>, accommodation, transportation, food and other expenses.<sup>3</sup> Assuming a 3% rate of inflation, that equates to **\$40,007**<sup>4</sup> in 2043 and **\$167,375** for four years of education.
- 3. Take advantage of government incentives.** The federal government, through the CESG, matches 20% of every dollar the subscriber contributes, up to a maximum of \$500 per year and a lifetime limit of \$7,200.
- 4. Benefit by starting early** and taking advantage of compounding growth.

## Family RESP

- Can have one or more beneficiaries who are related by blood or adoption to the subscriber(s)
- Beneficiary must be under age 21 to be added to the plan
- CESG and income are shared by all beneficiaries in the plan
- Recommended for:
  - Families with more than one child – or planning to have more than one child – as the government grants and income are shared by all beneficiaries in the plan<sup>5</sup>



AGF does not charge account opening or administration fees<sup>6</sup> on RESPs.

<sup>1</sup> Payments made to an RESP under the Canada Education Savings Act or under a designated provincial program are not included when determining if the lifetime contribution limit has been exceeded. <sup>2</sup> Average tuition for a Canadian undergraduate program for the 2025/26 academic year at a Canadian university. Source: Statistics Canada. Table 37-10-0045-01 Canadian and international tuition fees by level of study (current dollars). <sup>3</sup> Source for living costs: <https://www.educanada.ca/live-work-vivre-travailler/prepare-budget-preparer.aspx?lang=eng>. <sup>4</sup> \$23,500 with 3% inflation for 18 years = \$40,007.18. <sup>5</sup> Additional CESG, CLB and certain provincial incentives can only be paid if all beneficiaries of the Family Plan are siblings. <sup>6</sup> Regular fees applicable to investment funds still apply.

## Why Invest Inside an RESP vs. a Non-Registered Account

When you save within an RESP, the Government of Canada will match a percentage of your own contributions by depositing the Canada Education Savings Grant (CESG) directly into the RESP.

### Tale of two families saving for their child's education

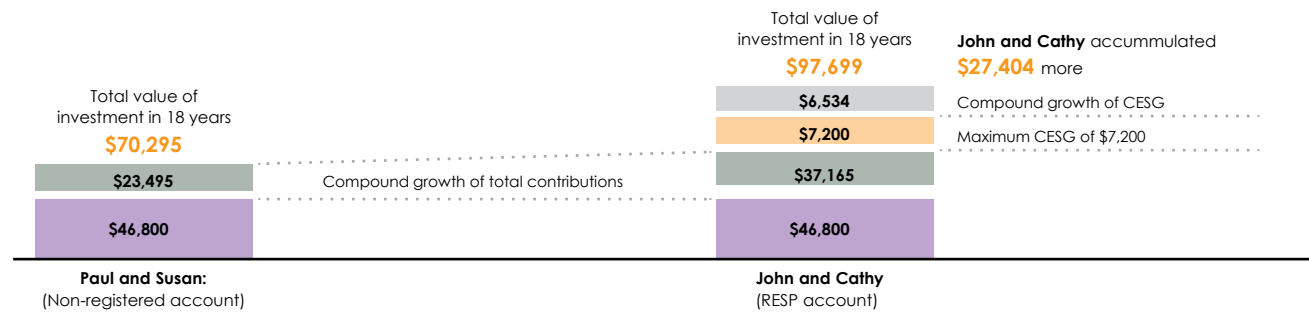
#### Paul and Susan: (Non-registered account)

- Invested \$100 bi-weekly into a non-registered account
- This investment doesn't qualify for the CESG

#### John and Cathy: (RESP account)

- Invested \$100 bi-weekly into an RESP
- This investment qualifies for the CESG (20% of their monthly contributions)

**\$27,404 more**



Source: AGF Investments Inc. Performance returns presented are hypothetical and for illustrative purposes only. It does not represent actual performance nor does it guarantee future performance. The rate of return shown is used only to illustrate the effects of the compound growth rate and is not intended to reflect future values or returns. Assumptions were made in the calculation of these returns including that both examples are based on bi-weekly contributions of \$100 (for a total of \$2,600 over 12 months) and exclude fees. For the RESP example, John and Cathy received the Canada Education Savings Grant of 20% of contributions to a maximum of \$500 per year. Paul and Susan invested in a non-registered account that consisted of only interest earnings and assumes a marginal tax rate of 40%. Paul and Susan paid taxes on their non-registered investment at the beginning of the 17<sup>th</sup> week each year except the first year. Growth of investments for both families is based on the assumption of a 6% average annual compound rate of return over 18 years. Any taxes due, trading costs and other fees associated with the portfolios are not included and trading prices and frequency implicit in the hypothetical performance may differ from what may have actually been realized at the time given prevailing market conditions.

## Government Grants

### Canada Education Savings Grant (CESG)

Net Annual Household Income	Basic grant	Additional grant	Annual maximum grant
\$57,374 or less	20% up to \$500	20% or \$100	\$600
\$57,375 - \$114,750	20% up to \$500	10% or \$50	\$550
\$114,751 or more	20% up to \$500	N/A	\$500

- Annual maximum of \$1,000 if carry-forward room is available
- \$7,200 lifetime maximum per beneficiary
- Beneficiaries are eligible up to the end of the calendar year in which they turn 17 (special rules apply to beneficiaries ages 16 and 17)

### Canada Learning Bond (CLB)

- Eligibility is based, in part, on the number of qualified children and the adjusted income of the primary caregiver
- No contributions required
- \$500 initial bond plus \$100 per eligible year up to age 15 of the beneficiary (\$2,000 Lifetime)
- Must apply before the beneficiary turns 21
- Canadians 18-20 can apply for their own CLB
- Cannot be used by other beneficiaries in a Family RESP



### Reasons for not Receiving Grant/Bond Monies

Even if all the eligibility criteria has been met for the grant/bond, reasons you may not have been paid the full amount owing on your contributions include:

1. Missing/incomplete grant/bond application form(s)
2. Missing/invalid beneficiary, subscriber and/or primary caregiver information or this information does not match government records
3. Lifetime grant/bond or contribution limits exceeded
4. Grant/bond paid to another RESP for the same beneficiary
5. Not all beneficiaries in a Family RESP are siblings

Notify us immediately if you notice that you have not been paid the full grant/bond amount expected. Please note that if the error is not corrected within 3 years of the contribution date, the government will not pay the grant/bond money owing on the contribution in question.

## When the Child Goes to Post-Secondary Education:

### RESP total account value



There are two types of withdrawal options:

#### 1. Education Assistance Payment (EAP)

- Consists of earnings or “accumulated income” plus the grants
- When withdrawn, this money is taxed as income of the beneficiary. A T4A tax slip is issued in the beneficiary’s name and must be included as income for the year that the beneficiary receives it
- Proof of enrolment in a qualifying post-secondary education program is required (see AGF.com/RESP for required documents)
- EAP withdrawal amounts:
  - (a) full-time students – \$8,000 for the first 13 weeks
  - (b) part-time students – \$4,000 every 13 weeks

#### 2. Post-secondary Education (PSE) Withdrawal

- Consists only of contributions (investment principal)
- Not taxed since contributions were made with after-tax dollars
- As the beneficiary is pursuing a post-secondary education (and eligible to receive EAPs), the subscriber may withdraw their contributions without repaying any grant amounts



**NOTE:** If the beneficiary isn’t enrolled in postsecondary studies at the time of the withdrawal:

- Subscriber can still choose to withdraw all their contributions and use them in any way
- Grants received will be repaid to the government

**Provincial grants are also available. To find out if your province has education grants, contact your financial advisor or visit AGF.com/RESP.**

Publication date: February 9, 2026.

## What Happens to Unused RESP Money

### Other Programs are Eligible

The definition of post-secondary education includes more than just college or university. The beneficiary may still qualify for an Education Assistance Payment (EAP) withdrawal if their career college, technical or vocational school, apprenticeship or distance learning program is eligible.



**NOTE:** RESPs offered by “scholarship plans” work differently and each plan will have its own rules and restrictions.

### If the Beneficiary Delays Post-Secondary Education

If the beneficiary does not immediately pursue a post-secondary education, the money invested in the RESP can continue to grow tax-sheltered. An RESP can remain open for 35 years.

### If the beneficiary decides not to pursue a post secondary education

The subscriber has several options, including:

#### Name a new beneficiary

- The CESG will not have to be repaid if:
  - (a) The new beneficiary is under 21 years of age and brother/sister of the former beneficiary or
  - (b) If both the new and old beneficiaries are under 21 years of age and related to the subscriber
- In a Family Plan, contributions, earnings and grants are shared by all beneficiaries

#### Transfer the Accumulated Income to an RRSP\*

- The subscriber may transfer up to \$50,000 of the earned income into an RRSP or a Spousal RRSP (if their contribution limit has room).
- All grant money is returned to the Government of Canada

#### Withdraw the Earnings

- If there are no other eligible beneficiaries, the subscriber can receive the income earned as an Accumulated Income Payment (AIP)
- AIPs are taxable income for the subscriber and are subject to withholding taxes as well as a 20% penalty tax
- All grant money must be returned to the Government of Canada



# FHSA Fast Facts

AGF SOUND CHOICES

The First Home Savings Account (FHSA) is a registered plan that enables investors to save on a tax-free basis for their first homes.

## To open an FHSA, you must be:

- An individual resident of Canada
- The age of majority in your province or territory up to age 71
- A first-time home buyer, which means you, or your spouse or common-law partner ("spouse")\* did not own a qualifying home that you lived in as a principal place of residence at any time in the year the account is opened or the preceding four calendar years\*\*

\* For the purposes of the first-time home buyer's test, a home owned by your spouse in which you lived during the relevant period will only put you offside of the test if that person is still your spouse when the FHSA is opened.

\*\* The principal residence in the current year or preceding four years need not be in Canada. An immigrant to Canada may have to wait five years if they sold their principal residence before coming to Canada.

## Key Reasons to Invest in an FHSA

1. Contributions are tax deductible.
2. Withdrawals to purchase a first home, including investment income and growth, are non-taxable.
3. Funds from an FHSA and the Home Buyers' Plan (HBP) can be combined toward the purchase of a first home in Canada for qualified first-time homebuyers.
4. Remaining amount can be transferred to an RRSP or RRIF penalty-free and tax-deferred with no impact to RRSP contribution limit.

For more information,  
please visit [AGF.com/FHSA](http://AGF.com/FHSA)

## Similarities with RRSPs and TFSAs



RRSPs



FHSAs



TFSAs

Tax-deductible contributions  
Tax-free growth

Tax-free growth  
Tax-free withdrawals†

† Qualifying withdrawals only.

## Contributions

### Deadline

- Contribution can be accepted until 4:00 p.m. ET on the last business day of the calendar year
- Contributions don't have to be claimed for the tax year in which the contribution is made

### Limit

- First-time homebuyers can contribute up to \$40,000 tax-free with an annual contribution limit of \$8,000
- Multiple FHSA accounts can be opened by one person individually, but the combined contributions may not exceed the annual or lifetime contribution limits



If you and your spouse both qualify, you can each have an FHSA and combine the funds accumulated to buy a qualifying home together.

### Carryforward

- Contribution room starts accumulating once the FHSA has been opened. Carryforward amounts accumulate from the year after the year the FHSA was opened.
- Unused contribution room can be carried forward to the maximum annual limit of \$8,000 – so contribution room is capped at \$16,000
- For example, if you opened an FHSA in 2025 but didn't contribute – in 2026, you can contribute up to \$16,000

### Over-Contributions

- Penalty tax of 1% per month (or part month) on the highest amount of the excess in that month
- When the investor's annual contribution limit resets at the beginning of each calendar year, the over-contributed amount is deducted from that year's contribution limit
- If you inadvertently made excess contributions, you could reduce penalties by:
  - withdrawing the excess as a designated amount
  - making a direct transfer of a designated amount to your RRSP or RRIF
  - making a taxable withdrawal



#### FHSA and HBP

Funds from an FHSA and Home Buyers' Plan (HBP) can be used combined toward the purchase of a first home in Canada for qualified first-time homebuyers. The FHSA provides greater flexibility than HBP withdrawals which are required to be repaid.



**There isn't a spousal FHSA**, but you can gift funds to your spouse (or child) for them to contribute to their own FHSA.

As the owner of the FHSA, they will also claim the tax deduction and any investment growth will not be attributed back to you.

When the spouse / child withdraws the money from the FHSA, they will need to include the withdrawn amount in their income, if applicable.

## Withdrawals

### Qualifying Withdrawals

- Non-taxable if being used towards the purchase of a qualifying home and the investor still qualifies as a first-time home buyer when making the withdrawal
- Are not taken into account in determining eligibility for income-tested benefits or credits (for example, the Canada Child Benefit, GST Tax Credit)

### Qualifying Homes

- Include a single-property purchase of a housing unit (or share in a co-operative housing corporation) located in Canada
- Must have written agreement to buy or build a qualifying home before October 1<sup>st</sup> of the year following the withdrawal
- The property must be used as a principal residence – not a leisure property – and occupied within one year of acquisition
- Investors can make qualifying withdrawals within 30 days of moving into a qualifying home

### Taxable Withdrawals

- Would be subject to withholding tax and the amount withdrawn included in the investor's income for that year
- Examples include:
  - Investor is no longer a Canadian resident at the time of the withdrawal and/or when the qualifying home is bought or built
  - Investor is no longer a first-time home buyer
  - Withdrawal is not used for purchasing a qualifying home
  - Money withdrawn to close an FHSA (and wasn't transferred tax-free to an RRSP or RRIF)

## Tax Features

### Contributions are tax-deductible

- You will receive a tax receipt and the amount can be claimed as a deduction to reduce taxable income
- NOTE: Contributions made to an FHSA following a qualifying withdrawal would not be tax-deductible

### Transfers

- Funds can be transferred:
  - From an RRSP to an FHSA subject to the FHSA annual and lifetime contribution limits OR
  - From an FHSA to an RRSP with no impact to the investor's RRSP contribution room

### How Long the Plan Can Stay Open

- The FHSA timeframe focuses on the individual and not the account
- The clock starts ticking as soon as the first account is opened.

- Maximum participation period for a qualifying individual ends at the earliest of the following events:
  - The end of the 15th year since the investor's first FHSA was opened OR
  - The end of the year the investor turns 71 years old OR
  - The end of the year after the year a qualifying withdrawal was made OR
  - The end of the year after the year of the investor's death
- Once any of these events take place, you couldn't open another FHSA, regardless of whether you otherwise fit the criteria for a qualifying individual

### What Happens to Unused FHSA Money

- Any savings not used to buy a home can be transferred tax-free to an RRSP or RRIF or withdrawn on a taxable basis
- If the FHSA remains open past any of the deadlines mentioned above, the FHSA becomes taxable

## Upon Death

What happens to the FHSA after the account holder dies depends on whether or not they've designated a successor account holder or beneficiary ahead of time. Here are the options available to each designation.

Options	Successor Account Holder (Qualifying Individual)	Successor Account Holder (Non-Qualifying Individual)	Beneficiary (Surviving Spouse)	Beneficiary (other than a Surviving Spouse)	No Designated Beneficiaries (either in the contract or the will)**
Become the New Holder of the FHSA: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Account maintains tax-exempt status</li> <li>No impact to surviving spouse's contribution limits</li> <li>Assumes surviving spouse's maximum participating period</li> </ul>	●				
Transfer full amount of the FHSA to their RRSP or RRIF*	●	●	●		
Transfer full amount of the FHSA to their FHSA*			●		
Withdraw the funds: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Taxable distribution</li> <li>Amount would be added to their income for tax purposes and subject to withholding tax</li> </ul>	●	●	●	●	● (Distributed to the estate)**

\* To be a direct transfer on a tax-deferred basis, it must be done during the exempt period (until the end of the calendar year following the FHSA holder's death).  
 \*\* An investor that has a beneficial interest in the estate may be able to fill out a prescribed form jointly with the legal representative of the estate to be considered a beneficiary as described above.

SOL244-01-26-E



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Publication date: February 9, 2026