

## Tax Credits for retirement plans

Thanks to the SECURE Act (Setting Every Community Up for Retirement Enhancement Act), starting a new retirement plan for small businesses became affordable. Now with the Secure Act 2.0 – the credits are even better. Beginning with the 2023 tax year, 3 new and improved tax credits are available for small businesses.

### **START-UP PLAN TAX CREDIT**

#### **Additional Requirements**

- Employer must start a new qualified retirement plan (includes 401(k) Plans, 403(b) Plans, Profit Sharing Plans, Cash Balance Plans, SIMPLE IRAs, and SEP IRAs)
- Employer did not maintain a plan covering the same employees in the previous three tax years immediately before the first year the credit is claimed.
- "Employees" are defined as those who received at least \$5,000 of compensation from the employer for the *preceding* calendar year.
- Must have at least 1 participant who was not an owner or a Highly Compensated Employee during the plan year.

#### What are start-up expenses?

Expenses must be directly related to plan establishment, administration, and/or participant education

1 to 50 employees	51 to 100 employees	
An amount equal to <b>100%</b> of the qualified start-up costs for the year. The credit cannot exceed the greater of the following:	An amount equal to <b>50%</b> of the qualified start-up costs for the year. The credit cannot exceed the greater of the following:	
• \$500 <i>OR</i>	• \$500 <i>OR</i>	
• The lesser of:	• The lesser of:	
a) \$250 multiplied by the number of non-highly compensated employees eligible for plan participation b) \$5,000.	a) \$250 multiplied by the number of non-highly compensated employees eligible for plan participation b) \$5,000.	
How long can we receive the credit?		

Up to 3 years after starting a new qualified plan

AUTO ENROLLMENT TAX CREDIT		
Additional Requirements		
• Plan must include an EACA (Eligible Automatic Contribution Agreement) or a QACA that meets EACA requirements. Plans with ACA do not qualify. EACA must be added to the plan no later than the 2025 plan year.		
1 to 50 employees	51 to 100 employees	
\$500.00	\$500.00	
How long can we receive the credit?		
Up to 3 years beginning with the first tax year the employer included an EACA in an existing or new qualified plan.		

# **Tax Credits** FOR RETIREMENT PLANS Continued...

#### **Additional Requirements**

- Credit only applies to employees whose compensation is less than \$100,000 for the year in which the credit applies.
- "Employees" are defined as those who received at least \$5,000 of compensation from the employer for the preceding calendar year.

1 to 50 employees	51 to 100 employees
<ul> <li>Up to 100% employer contribution for the first 2 years after plan adoption</li> <li>75% in 3<sup>rd</sup> year after plan adoption</li> <li>50% in 4<sup>th</sup> year after plan adoption</li> <li>25% in 5<sup>th</sup> year after plan adoption</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Up to 100% employer contribution minus 2% times the number of employees over 50 for the first 2 years after plan adoption</li> <li>75% in 3rd year after plan adoption minus 1.5% times the number of employees over 50</li> <li>50% in 4th year after plan adoption minus 1% times the number of employees over 50</li> <li>25% in 5th year after plan adoption minus 0.5% times the number of employees over 50</li> </ul>
Maximum Credit	
Lesser of actual employer contribution or \$1000 for each employee making \$100,000 or less in FICA wages	
How long can we receive the credit?	
Available for the first 5 years the plan is maintained.	

PLEASE SPEAK WITH YOUR TAX ACCOUNTANT TO LEARN IF YOU QUALIFY AND HOW TO CLAIM YOUR CREDIT(S).