

2026 Cost of Living Adjustments

Indexed Figures for 2026

The IRS and other relevant agencies have released 2025 indexed amounts, adjusted for inflation, for health savings account contribution limits and deductibles, out-of-pocket (OOP) maximums for high-deductible health plans (HDHPs), Healthcare Spending Accounts (health FSAs) and others. Please use these figures to prepare benefit guides and other employee communication materials and to determine benefit plan designs.

	2025	2026
Employee Benefits		
401(k) & 403(b) Limit	\$23,500	\$24,500
457(b)(2) Limit	\$23,500	\$24,500
401(k), 403(b), 457(b) Catch-up for those turning 50-59 or 64+	\$ 7,500	\$ 8,000
401(k) & 403(b) Catch-up for those turning age 60-63	\$11,250	\$11,250
Prior Year FICA Threshold for Roth Catch-up mandate	N/a	\$150,000
SIMPLE Deferral Limit	\$16,500	\$17,000
SIMPLE Catch-Up for those turning 50-59 or 64+	\$ 3,500	\$ 4,000*
SIMPLE Catch-Up for those turning 60-63	\$ 5,250	\$ 5,250
Annual Compensation Limit	\$350,000	\$360,000
Highly Compensated Employee Salary Amount	\$160,000	\$160,000
Annual Compensation for Key Employee	\$230,000	\$235,000
Defined Benefit Plan Limit	\$280,000	\$290,000
Defined Contribution Plan Limit	\$ 70,000	\$ 72,000
Qualified Transportation Fringe Benefits		
Parking (monthly)	\$325	\$340
Mass Transit Passes (monthly)	\$325	\$340
FICA Taxable Wage Base		
Social Security	\$176,100	\$184,500
Medicare	Unlimited	Unlimited
FICA Tax Rate		
Social Security	6.20%	6.20%
Medicare	1.45%	1.45%
Health Care Flexible Spending Account Maximum	\$ 3,300	\$ 3,400
Health Care FSA Carryover Maximum (for following year)	\$ 660	\$ 680
Dependent Care Spending Account Maximum	\$ 5,000	\$ 7,500
Adoption Assistance Plans	\$17,280	\$17,670
Non-grandfathered Plan Out-of-Pocket Limits		
Self-only Coverage	\$ 9,200	\$10,600
Family Coverage	\$18,400	\$21,200
Health Savings Account		
Maximum Individual Contribution	\$ 4,300	\$ 4,400
Maximum Family Contribution	\$ 8,550	\$ 8,750
Catch-up Contribution	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000
High Deductible Health Plans		
Minimum Annual Deductible (Individual)	\$ 1,650	\$ 1,700
Minimum Annual Deductible (Family)	\$ 3,300	\$ 3,400
Maximum Out-of-Pocket Limit (Individual)	\$ 8,300	\$ 8,500
Maximum Out-of-Pocket Limit (Family)	\$16,600	\$17,000
Individual Mandate Penalty		
	\$0	\$0
Employer Shared Responsibility Penalty		
Failure to offer MEC to 95% of FT employees (IRC 4980H(a))	\$2,900	\$3,340
Failure to offer MEC that is affordable and/or minimum value	\$4,350	\$5,010
Affordability threshold for employee only coverage	9.02%	9.96%

*Note that the SIMPLE Catch-Up for those turning 50-59 or 64+ is \$4,000 for employers with 25 or fewer employees who received at least \$5,000 in compensation in the prior year or employers between 26 and 100 employees who elected to have the higher limit apply. Otherwise, the limit is \$3,850.