

A warm, sepia-toned photograph of a family. A woman with long, wavy hair is sitting and reading a book. A young child is sleeping peacefully in her arms, holding a small stuffed animal. In the background, a man with a beard and glasses is visible, looking down. The scene is set indoors, likely in a living room, with soft lighting.

RRSP

Save on  
taxes now.

See more growth  
long term.

A black and white photograph of a man and a woman walking on a grassy dune. The woman is in the foreground, wearing a beanie, a light-colored jacket, and a dark vest, looking off to the side with a smile. The man is behind her, also smiling. They are walking through tall grass towards the ocean under a bright sky.

A Registered Retirement  
Savings Plan (RRSP)  
allows you to build  
and grow your wealth  
for retirement in a  
tax-advantaged way.

# The basics:

## What you need to know about RRSPs.

### Tax-advantaged earnings

With an RRSP, you can deduct the amounts you contribute to your (or your spouse's) plan from your taxable income, reducing your taxes for the year. Plus, no tax is paid on the investment income, dividends or capital gains generated by holdings within your RRSP.

While the withdrawals you make from your RRSP in retirement are taxable, you may by that time be in a lower tax bracket, resulting in additional tax savings.

### Compounded growth

The earlier you start saving and the longer you contribute to your RRSP, the more your money is likely to grow, as the following hypothetical example illustrates.

Investor 1	Investor 2	Investor 3
Invests \$1,000 a year from age 18 to 27 (10 years)	Invests \$1,000 a year from age 41 to 65 (25 years)	Invests \$1,000 a year from age 18 to 65 (48 years)
<b>Value at age 65: \$291,402</b>	<b>Value at age 65: \$78,954</b>	<b>Value at age 65: \$529,343</b>

The above examples assume an 8% yearly rate of return and a \$1,000 contribution at the start of each year. Investment growth and final results do not reflect transaction-related taxes, fees and expenses. These investment assumptions are provided as an example only. In no way do they guarantee the yield of an investment. The actual yearly rate of return and the investment value may vary based on market conditions.

## Contribution limit

There is a limit on how much you're allowed to contribute to your RRSP each year. As of 2021, it's 18% of your prior year's earned income up to a maximum of \$27,830, less your pension adjustment (PA) and past service pension adjustment (PSPA).

## Age limit

The year you turn 71 is the final year you can contribute to your RRSP. If you and your partner share a Spousal RRSP, you can contribute until the year your spouse turns 71.

### Three types of RRSPs

1

An **Individual RRSP** is registered in the name of the contributor who pays into the plan and uses contributions to reduce personal income taxes.

2

A **Spousal RRSP** assists couples with unequal savings or income by allowing them to shift retirement savings from the spouse with the higher income and tax rate to the one with the lower income and tax rate.

3

A **Group RRSP**, offered by many employers, is a grouping of personal RRSPs administered on behalf of employees. Contributions are deducted from each pay, with employers often matching employee contributions.

# FAQ

## Five questions and answers about RRSPs.

### 1 How much should I contribute to my RRSP?

While there's no hard and fast rule, contributing about 12% of your pre-tax income each year is recommended, up to a maximum of 18% of your income. The goal should be to contribute enough so that when you retire, you can maintain the same lifestyle you enjoyed while you were working.

### 2 If I don't use my full contribution room in a given year, do I lose it?

No. If you don't maximize your contributions, you can carry forward any unused deduction room indefinitely. Your carryforward amount is noted on your Notice of Assessment from Canada Revenue Agency.

### 3 What if I max out my RRSP contributions for the year?

Contributions made in the first two months of the year can be declared for either tax year. If, for example, you don't want the contribution included on your current tax return, simply wait and include the amount on the following year's tax return.

#### 4 What happens to my RRSP holdings when I retire?

In the year you turn 71, your RRSP account is closed and the funds are converted into a source of retirement income in the form of a Registered Retirement Income Fund (RRIF), annuity or a lump-sum cash withdrawal.

#### 5 Can I use my RRSP holdings for something other than my retirement?

Yes. You can withdraw up to \$35,000 tax-free through the Home Buyers' Plan (HBP) for a down payment on your first home. You can also withdraw up to \$10,000 tax-free per year through the Lifelong Learning Plan to finance full-time training or education for you, your spouse or common-law partner. In both cases, the borrowed funds must be repaid to your RRSP account within a given period of time.

# Did you know?



**An RRSP can contain  
a variety of investment  
products, including mutual  
funds, stocks, bonds and  
exchange-traded funds.**

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**\$43.5 billion** — the amount Canadians  
contributed to their RRSP  
accounts in 2018.

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**\$3,130** — the median RRSP contribution in 2018.

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**\$1.091 trillion** — the total value of assets in  
RRSP accounts in 2017.

Source: Government of Canada. Canada Education Savings Program: 2019 Annual Statistical Review.

It's important to have a solid investment strategy so you can retire comfortably. Speak to an iA Private Wealth Investment Advisor to learn more.

**INVESTED IN YOU.**

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