

COMPLIANCE ALERT

Federal Benefit Plan Limits for 2021

December 1, 2020

Federal law sets annual limits on various tax-preferred employee benefit plans. The following chart compares the 2021 and 2020 limits for the most common types of plans and benefits.

BENEFIT	2021 LIMITS		2020 LIMITS	
Taxable Wage Base				
Social Security OASDI	\$142,800		\$137,700	
 Medicare (Part A, hospitalization) 	Unlimited		Unlimited	
Health Flexible Spending Accounts (Health FSA)				
 Health FSA Maximum Contribution (per plan year) 	\$2,750		\$2,750	
Health Savings Accounts (HSA)	Self-Only	Family	Self-Only	Family
HSA Maximum Contribution	\$3,600	\$7,200	\$3,550	\$7,100
 HSA Maximum "Catch-Up" Contribution (individuals age 55 or older) 	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000
High-Deductible Health Plan (HDHP) Minimum Deductible	\$1,400	\$2,800	\$1,400	\$2,800
HDHP Maximum Out-of-Pocket	\$7,000*	\$14,000	\$6,900	\$13,800
Qualified Transportation Benefits				
Parking	\$270/month		\$270/month	
Transit Pass/Commuter Vehicle	\$270/month		\$270/month	
Retirement/Savings				
 Maximum Salary Deferral (§401(k)/§403(b)/§457) 	\$19,500		\$19,500	
 Maximum "Catch-Up" Salary Deferral (age 50 or older) 	\$6,500		\$6,500	
 Compensation Limit (§401(a)) 	\$290,000		\$285,000	
 Maximum Defined Benefit Limit 	\$230,000		\$230,000	
 Defined Contribution Annual Additions Limit (§415) 	\$58,000		\$57,000	
 If age 50 or older 	\$64,500		\$63,500	
 "Key Employee" Compensation Limit 	\$185,000		\$185,000	
 "Highly Compensated Employee" Limit 	\$130,000		\$130,000	

*A non-grandfathered "family" HDHP also must limit each individual's out-of-pocket costs for essential health benefits to no more than \$7,000.