







Easy to facilitate. No fees. No fiduciary liability. A smart way to help your team **Save Today. Thrive Tomorrow.**

-  **Support Your Team's Future:** Workers are 15 times more likely to save when they have access to a payroll deduction savings program.
-  **Simplify Success for Your Employees:** Washington Saves makes it easy to help your team build financial security and achieve long-term wellness.
-  **No Cost to Your Business:** No program fees for employers, no employer contributions, and no fiduciary liability.
-  **Stronger Communities:** Retirement savings empower workers to contribute to Washington's economy throughout their retirement years.

## Which Employers are Required to Participate?

State law requires employers to join if they:

- Have operated in Washington for 2 or more years,
- Maintain a physical presence in Washington State,
- Employ workers for 10,400+ hours annually (roughly equivalent to 5 full-time employees), and
- Do not currently offer a qualified retirement plan.

**Prepare for 2027 Launch** Washington Saves anticipates opening in July 2027. Start your preparation now.

**Stay Connected:** Visit [www.wasaves.com](http://www.wasaves.com) for updates, resources, and implementation guides.

**Join Our Pilot Program:** Interested in early participation? Contact us at [info@wasaves.wa.gov](mailto:info@wasaves.wa.gov) to learn about pilot opportunities and help shape the program.

## Your Path to Implementation:

- 1 Register:** Enroll your business when the Washington Saves program opens in 2027.
- 2 Inform Your Team:** Share program information with your employees so they can make informed decisions.
- 3 Facilitate Access:** Provide your employee roster for automatic enrollment setup.
- 4 Process Contributions:** Set up simple payroll deductions—we take care of the rest.

## How Your Employees Benefit:

- **Automatic Enrollment with Voluntary Participation:** After you register, employees age 18+ are automatically enrolled—but participation is always their choice. They can opt out or back in anytime.
- **Flexible Contributions:** Employees choose their own savings rate or use the program default. They can adjust it as their circumstances change.
- **Portable IRAs:** Their Individual Retirement Accounts stay with them throughout their careers. Jobs can change—their IRA doesn't have to.

 **Washington Saves**  
RETIREMENT SAVINGS PROGRAM



# Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

## As an employer, do I have to participate in Washington Saves?

State law requires employers to register and facilitate employee access to Washington Saves if you meet the following criteria:

- Operated in Washington for 2 or more years
- Maintain a physical presence in Washington State
- Employed workers who together worked at least 10,400 hours in the previous calendar year (roughly equivalent to 5 full-time employees)
- Do not offer a qualified retirement plan

## What qualified plans would make me exempt?

If you offer any of these qualified retirement plans, you're not required to facilitate Washington Saves:

- 401(a) – Qualified Plan (including profit-sharing plans and defined benefit plans)
- 401(k) – Qualified plans (including multiple employer plans or pooled employer plans)
- 403(a) or 403(b) – Qualified Annuity Plan or Tax-Sheltered Annuity Plan
- 408(k) – Simplified Employee Pension (SEP) plans
- 408(p) – Savings Incentive Match Plan for Employees of Small Employers (SIMPLE) IRA Plan

## How much is this going to cost me?

Washington Saves charges no fees to your business. Employer contributions are not allowed.

## What if my employee says that they do not want to participate?

Employee participation is completely voluntary—they can opt out anytime. As a covered employer, you'll still need to make the program available if you don't offer a qualified plan. Your specific responsibilities will be detailed in program rules before the program opens.

## Can I contribute on behalf of my employees?

No. Employers are not allowed to contribute to an employee account or match employee contributions. If you wish to make contributions to a retirement plan on behalf of your employees, you can explore offering an employer-sponsored retirement plan.

