

Taking a Closer Look at Eligibility



Find out if you can contribute to a Roth or Traditional IRA and start saving today.

The eligibility requirements for contributing to a Roth IRA or Traditional IRA are different. It is important to understand how they differ before choosing which IRA to invest in. You may even be eligible to contribute to both.

The following flow chart may help you determine which IRA(s) you are eligible for. Once you've determined your eligibility and what your needs are, you may want to review your options with a competent tax advisor before contributing.

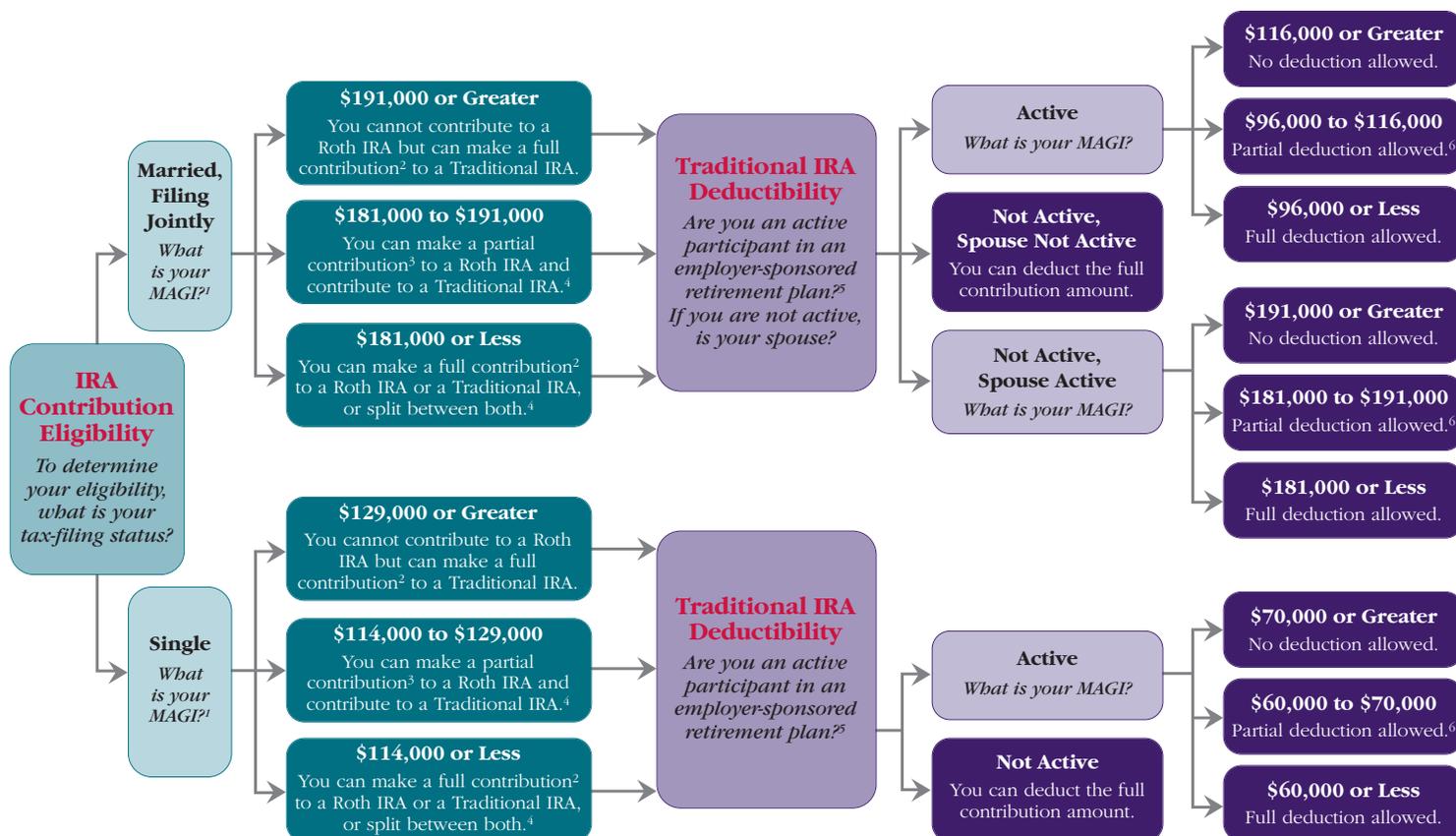
Traditional IRA Characteristics

- Contributions may be tax-deductible.
- Earnings grow tax-deferred.
- Distributions generally are taxable.
- Distributions before you reach age 59½ are subject to penalty tax, unless you have an early distribution penalty tax exception.
- Required minimum distributions must begin at age 70½.

Roth IRA Characteristics

- Contributions are not tax-deductible.
- Contributions generally can be distributed tax-free at any time.
- Earnings grow tax-deferred.
- Earnings can be distributed tax-free if the Roth IRA owner first made a Roth IRA contribution at least five years ago, AND is age 59½ or older, disabled, deceased, or qualifies as a first-time homebuyer.
- Distributions are not required until after the Roth IRA owner dies.

Roth IRA vs. Traditional IRA 2014 Contribution Eligibility



Note: This flow chart is intended to help you determine your contribution and tax-deduction eligibility for Roth and Traditional IRAs. It is based on the assumption that you are under age 70½ in the year for which the contribution will be made, and should not be used if your tax-filing status is married, filing separately. If you are eligible for a deductible contribution to a Traditional IRA as well as a Roth IRA contribution, further analysis may be needed for you to reasonably project which type of IRA contribution (or combination of IRA contributions) will best meet your retirement objectives. This flow chart does not replace professional tax advice.

- MAGI (modified adjusted gross income) is your adjusted gross income before certain deductions or adjustments to income are taken.
- A full contribution equals 100% of earned income up to \$5,500 for 2013 and for 2014 (\$6,500 if you are age 50 or older).
- When your MAGI falls within the defined limits, the maximum amount that you can contribute to your Roth IRA is determined using a specific formula.
- Whether it makes sense for you to contribute to one type of IRA or to split your maximum contribution between a Roth IRA and Traditional IRA depends upon additional variables, such as your anticipated tax rate at retirement and the age at which you intend to begin withdrawing funds from the IRA.
- Traditional IRA deductibility is contingent upon whether you or your spouse are considered active participants in an employer-sponsored retirement plan (see IRS Publication 590, *Individual Retirement Arrangements (IRAs)*).
- When your MAGI falls within the defined limits, the maximum amount you can deduct is determined using a specific formula.

For More Information

Please contact one of our representatives for more information on Roth and Traditional IRAs.