

	Traditional IRA	Roth IRA
Maximum yearly contribution	\$5,000 (\$6,000 if age 50 or older) for 2008	\$5,000 (\$6,000 if age 50 or older) for 2008
Are there income limitations for contributions?	Yes, if actively participating in an employer-sponsored retirement plan	Yes. Anyone with gross earned income below \$116,000 (single) or \$169,000 (married filing jointly) may contribute to a Roth IRA.
Annual contribution deadline	Tax-filing deadline for the year. Contribution must be received by the NYCE IRA Administrator prior to the tax-filing deadline for the year.	Tax-filing deadline for the year. Contribution must be received by the NYCE IRA Administrator prior to the tax-filing deadline for the year.
Is there an age restriction on contributions?	Yes. You cannot make contributions beginning with the year you reach age 70½.	No
Tax Advantage	Federal Tax-Deferred Growth	Federal Tax-Free Growth
Are there required minimum distributions during my lifetime?	Yes. Distributions must begin by April 1 following the year you reach age 70½.	No. Distributions are not required during your lifetime.
Is there federal income tax on distributions?	Yes, to the extent that a distribution represents deductible contributions and investment earnings.	Not for Qualified Distributions. For non-qualified distributions, only the earnings portion is taxable.
Is there a 10% penalty on early distributions?	Yes, the penalty applies to taxable distributions if you are under age 59½ and do not qualify for an exception.	Yes, the penalty applies to the earnings portions if you are under age 59½ and do not qualify for an exception.
Do beneficiaries pay income tax on distributions after IRA owner's death?	Yes, to the extent that a distribution represents deductible contributions and investment earnings.	Generally, no, as long as it is a Qualified Distribution.
<p>All IRAs are tax deferred. That means you do not owe taxes on any earnings until you make a withdrawal. If you qualify, you may also be able to deduct your contributions to a traditional IRA on your federal income tax return, deferring tax on that amount as well. Contributions to a Roth IRA are not tax deductible, however, a Qualified Distribution from a Roth IRA is income tax-free.</p>		