



Most people look forward to cake, cards, and presents on their birthdays. But some birthdays may offer an extra surprise — retirement planning opportunities.

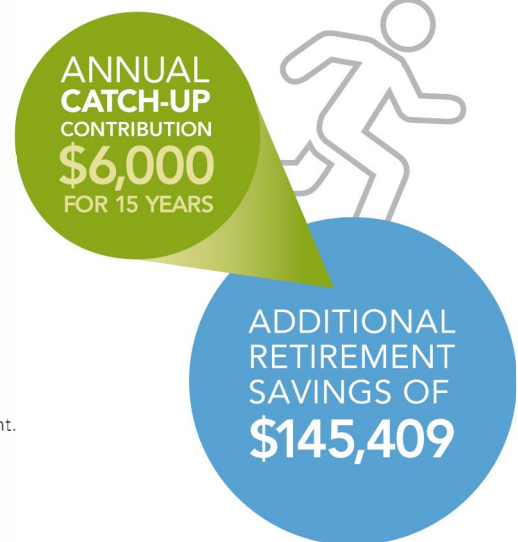
Here's a timeline of those milestone birthdays.

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## AGE 50 AND OLDER

Retirement is getting closer. Your retirement plan may allow you to start making extra "catch-up" contributions to your plan account. If you're behind in your retirement saving, consider increasing your contributions to the plan. As the graphic shows, it may make a real difference.

This hypothetical illustration assumes that contributions are made monthly and earn a 6% average annual total return compounded monthly. It does not represent the performance of any investment offered by your plan. Your investment returns will be different.





# timeline to RETIREMENT

## AGE 55

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If you leave your employer and take a distribution from the plan, the distribution won't be subject to the 10% tax penalty for early withdrawal that usually applies to pre-age 59½ distributions. However, you'll generally still have to pay income tax on the distribution unless you roll the money into another employer's plan or an individual retirement account (IRA).

## AGE 62

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Social Security retirement benefits first become available. Give careful thought to when you will begin collecting your benefits. Starting before your Social Security "full retirement age" reduces your monthly benefit by as much as 30%. And, if you plan to continue to work, your benefit will be reduced by \$1 for every \$2 you earn over an annual limit until the year you reach full retirement age. You can check the Social Security Administration website, [www.ssa.gov](http://www.ssa.gov), for the current earnings limit.

## AGES 66-67

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You'll reach full Social Security retirement age. It varies depending on your birth year.

Birth Year	Full Retirement Age
1943-1954	66
1955	66 and 2 months
1956	66 and 4 months
1957	66 and 6 months
1958	66 and 8 months
1959	66 and 10 months
1960 and later	67

But you don't have to take benefits when you reach full retirement age. If you delay collecting them, the amount you'll receive in the future will increase by 8% a year until you reach age 70.

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## AGE 59½

The 10% early withdrawal penalty will no longer apply to any distributions you receive from your plan or IRA.

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## AGE 65

Most individuals qualify for Medicare. Sign up as early as three months before your birthday and start coverage the month you turn 65. You can find detailed information about Medicare benefits and how to enroll at [www.medicare.gov](http://www.medicare.gov).

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## AGE 70

Now's the time to begin collecting your Social Security benefits if you haven't started yet. After age 69, there's no increase in your benefit amount for delaying Social Security.

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## AGE 70½

You generally have to begin taking annual required minimum distributions (RMDs) from your plan account and traditional IRAs. Some plans may allow you to delay distributions if you're still working for your employer and aren't a 5% owner of the company.