

# Universal Availability Notice

*First Financial Group of America*

## Act Now to Maximize Your 403(b) Contributions

In compliance with the requirements of IRC §403(b)(12)(A)(ii) this Notice will advise you of the voluntary 403(b) Program established and maintained for the benefit of all employees.

Now is the time to act if you wish to maximize your pre-tax contributions to the 403(b) Plans or make changes for this calendar (taxable) year. Go to [www.ffga.com](http://www.ffga.com) to view your employers' retirement plan options and availability.

**Eligibility** - All employees who are employed by the Employer, including full and part-time employees.

**Contributions** - When you enroll in the program, the amounts you designate as salary deferrals are withheld from your wages and forwarded to an investment provider of your choice. Several types of contributions may be available in your plan:

**Pre-Tax Salary Deferrals:** These are amounts contributed into a 403(b) Plan that are deferred from your paycheck before federal income taxes are applied.

**Roth Salary Deferrals:** (If your plan allows) These amounts are also deferred from your paycheck, but are subject to federal income taxes. When you withdraw monies from a Roth plan the funds may be excluded from taxation. Special rules apply to Roth contributions and you should contact your tax advisor before electing this option.

For 2019, you may defer from your wages, a maximum of \$19,000 to all 403(b) plans unless you will reach 50 years of age during the year. In that case, you would be eligible to contribute an additional \$6,000. Deferrals may not exceed 100% of your wages.

**Rollovers:** (If your plan allows) You may also rollover funds from another employer's plan if you receive an eligible rollover distribution.

**Plan Investment Options** - Your contributions to the 403(b) Plan must be made to an investment provider approved by your Employer. Before enrolling in the plan, you must first establish an account with one of the Providers listed. Once you have executed an investment contract and established an account, you can begin making contributions.

**Assistance** - You may enroll in the plan or receive assistance with these provisions by contacting the plan's Third Party Administrator, First Financial Administrator, Inc. or a representative for one of the plan's Investment Companies listed on [www.ffga.com](http://www.ffga.com).

Additional information about the provisions and options in your plan are available by contacting First Financial Administrators at (800) 523-8422 or from the plan's web site, [www.ffga.com](http://www.ffga.com).

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## 403(b) Retirement Plan

The tax structure of a 403(b) is similar to 401k. As you make contributions through your salary, on a pre-tax basis, they attract interest. It is when you start receiving monthly payments from the plan on maturity that you are required to pay taxes, just like any other ordinary income. This is why 403(b) is also known as Tax Sheltered Annuity (TSA). This plan is popular among non-profit organizations, and employers opt for it, as it is exempt from Employer Retirement Income Security Act which allows the employer to offer this plan to all employees.

Questions? Contact First Financial at  
(800) 523-8422 or visit us at [www.ffga.com](http://www.ffga.com).

