

Registered Account Limits 2026

TFSA, RRSP, FHSA, RESP, RDSP, RRIF minimums, HBP, LLP. Verify CRA for 2026 indexation where flagged.

TFSA

- 2025 contribution: \$7,000 (verify 2026 indexation)
- Cumulative room since 2009: ~\$95,000 if eligible since inception
- Withdrawals add room back the following calendar year
- Over-contribution penalty: 1% per month on excess

RRSP

- 2025 limit: 18% of prior earned income up to \$32,490
- Carry-forward of unused room indefinitely
- Must convert to RRIF or annuity by Dec 31 of year you turn 71
- Spousal RRSP contributor gets the deduction; account belongs to spouse

FHSA (First Home Savings Account)

- \$8,000 annual limit, \$40,000 lifetime
- Combines RRSP-style deduction + TFSA-style tax-free withdrawal for first home
- Up to \$8,000 carry-forward of unused room
- 15-year window after opening

RESP + CESG

- CESG: 20% match on first \$2,500/year per beneficiary
- Lifetime CESG max: \$7,200 per beneficiary
- Lifetime contribution limit: \$50,000 per beneficiary
- Withdrawn growth + grants: taxable to student (typically low bracket)

RRIF minimum withdrawal

- Age 71: 5.28%
- Age 75: 5.82%
- Age 80: 6.82%
- Age 85: 8.51%
- Age 90: 11.92%
- Age 95+: 20.00%

HBP + LLP

- HBP: \$60,000 RRSP withdrawal for first home, repaid over 15 years (verify 2026)
- LLP: \$20,000 RRSP withdrawal for full-time education, repaid over 10 years

Common contribution-room calculation errors

- TFSA: room accumulates from age 18, even for years before the account was opened. The 2026 cumulative room for someone born in 1991 is the sum of 2009-2026 limits.
- RRSP: 18% of prior-year earned income, capped at the annual maximum, MINUS pension adjustment if applicable. Earned income excludes investment income.
- FHSA: lifetime \$40,000 limit, \$8,000 per year. Unused annual room carries forward one year only, not indefinitely.
- Over-contribution penalties: 1% per month on the excess until withdrawn or absorbed by new room. Penalty is on the EXCESS portion, not the entire contribution.
- Spousal RRSP attribution: withdrawals taxed to contributing spouse if made within 3 calendar years of any contribution. The 3-year rule is per-calendar-year, not per-365-days.

RESP and disability accounts

- RESP: lifetime contribution limit \$50,000 per beneficiary. CESG (Canada Education Savings Grant) tops up at 20% of contributions, max \$500/yr, \$7,200 lifetime.
- RDSP (Registered Disability Savings Plan): lifetime contribution limit \$200,000. CDSG matches up to \$3,500/yr based on family income; CDSB pays up to \$1,000/yr for low-income beneficiaries.
- Attribution applies to RESP contributions by spouses but not to grandparents.

RRIF minimum withdrawals (selected ages)

Age 65

4.00%

Formula: $1 / (90 - \text{age})$ for ages below 71

Age 70

5.00%

Last year before mandatory schedule kicks in

Age 71

5.28%

First year of mandatory schedule, lower than the $1/(90-\text{age})$ extrapolation

Age 75

5.82%

From 2026 government table

Age 80

6.82%

Age 85

8.51%

Acceleration becomes meaningful

Age 90

11.92%

Age 95

20.00%

Schedule maxes out here for remainder of life

Worked example: TFSA contribution room

Client born 1995. Turned 18 in 2013. Has never contributed to a TFSA. In 2026 she has all years' cumulative limits available. Sum of annual limits 2013-2026 (approximate, verify CRA): ~\$98,000. If she has investment income inside a separate non-registered account, transferring those investments into the TFSA (a deemed disposition) is generally NOT a contribution-room consumer at the deemed disposition value PROVIDED she stays under cumulative room.

Spousal RRSP attribution worked scenario

Higher-earning spouse contributes \$10,000 to spousal RRSP in 2024. In 2026, lower-earning spouse withdraws \$5,000.

- Lookback: was there a contribution to ANY spousal RRSP by the higher-earning spouse in 2024, 2025, or 2026? Yes (2024).
- Result: the \$5,000 withdrawal attributes to the HIGHER-earning spouse and is taxed at that rate. The strategy backfired for the year.
- Wait until 2027: 3 calendar years (2024, 2025, 2026) must elapse since last contribution. If no contributions during 2024-2026, withdrawals in 2027+ are taxed to the lower-earning spouse.

Read the live cheat sheet

Full RRIF table, attribution rules, CDSG/CDSB.

<https://registrantprep.ca/cheat-sheets/registered-account-limits-2026>