

## **Are you playing catch-up with your retirement savings?**

A 2007 survey conducted by Employee Benefit Research Institute (EBRI) reveals 52 percent of Americans age 55 and over has saved less than \$100,000 for retirement. That creates some urgency as baby boomers near retirement and realize they may not have saved enough to maintain the retirement lifestyle they were expecting.

Fortunately, the IRS has a catch-up provision for investors 50 and over that allows them to contribute increased amounts to their supplemental retirement savings accounts. For 2008, the annual contribution limit to 403(b) savings is \$15,500. But for those age 50 and over, an additional \$5,000 can be contributed. This enables people who have not contributed enough over the years to maximize their retirement savings.

If you're not sure where you stand as you prepare for retirement, NEA Member Benefits has an easy online tool to help you find out. The [Five-Minute Retirement Checkup](http://neamb.com/5toRetire) at **neamb.com/5toRetire** quickly and easily gives you a snapshot of your retirement readiness. The Checkup also provides additional resources to help you reach your retirement goals.

So start the New Year right and check out the Checkup. Make your retirement great in 2008!

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