



# NEARING RETIREMENT/ RETIREMENT CHECKLIST

CUSO Financial Services, LP

Retirement Planning & Investment Center

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General Information	Yes	No	N/A
<b>1. Has relevant personal information been gathered?</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Age</li><li>• Age of spouse or partner</li><li>• Number of minor children and their ages</li></ul>			
<b>2. Has financial situation been assessed?</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Annual income (pretax and after-tax)</li><li>• Estimated annual expenses during retirement</li><li>• Estimated annual income during retirement (pretax and after-tax)</li><li>• Total assets and savings to date</li><li>• Total retirement savings to date</li><li>• Estimated yearly contribution to retirement savings</li><li>• Total liabilities to date</li><li>• Income tax bracket and filing status</li><li>• Health insurance coverage for each spouse</li><li>• Long-term care insurance coverage for each spouse</li><li>• Life insurance coverage for each spouse</li><li>• Wills, durable power of attorney, health-care proxy, and other estate planning information</li><li>• Beneficiary designations</li></ul>			
<b>Notes:</b>           			

Determining retirement income needs	Yes	No	N/A
1. Has life expectancy been estimated to project how long retirement will last?			
2. Have clear goals and objectives been established for retirement?			
3. Have other major financial goals been funded or achieved? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pay off home mortgage</li> <li>• Fund children's education</li> <li>• Buy retirement home</li> <li>• Other</li> </ul>			
4. If not, have those other goals been prioritized with retirement goals?			
5. Have annual retirement expenses been estimated, keeping in mind that those expenses may change from year to year? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Food, clothing, housing</li> <li>• Insurance</li> <li>• Health care</li> <li>• Travel and recreation</li> <li>• Other</li> </ul>			
6. Have annual retirement income needs been estimated, based on the preceding goals and expenses?			
7. If a retirement income shortfall is anticipated, has an estimate been made of how much must be saved each year to bridge the gap? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Social Security</li> <li>• Pensions</li> <li>• Savings and investments (including IRAs and retirement plans)</li> <li>• Job earnings</li> <li>• Other</li> </ul>			
8. If not, are there steps that can be taken to bridge the gap? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Work part-time</li> <li>• Cut expenses</li> <li>• Set more modest goals</li> <li>• Delay retirement</li> <li>• Other</li> </ul>			
9. Have inflation, taxes, and conservative rates of return been factored into these estimates?			
Notes:			

Employer-sponsored retirement plans and IRAs	Yes	No	N/A
1. Is a 401(k) or other employer-sponsored retirement plan funded?			
2. Is an IRA in place? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Roth IRAs</li> <li>• Traditional IRAs</li> </ul>			
3. Are the tax issues associated with taking distributions from IRAs and employer-sponsored plans understood?			
4. Has leaving money in these retirement accounts as long as possible to defer taxes and prolong tax-deferred growth been considered?			
Notes:			

Annuities and other savings tools	Yes	No	N/A
1. Are there annuities, or has thought been given to purchasing annuities?			
2. If so, is the taxation of annuities and the payout options available understood?			
3. Have a payout option and payment beginning date been chosen?			
4. Are there other savings tools owned, whether part of the retirement portfolio or not? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cash value life insurance</li> <li>• Mutual funds</li> <li>• Stocks and bonds</li> <li>• CDs</li> <li>• Other</li> </ul>			
5. If so, are the tax issues surrounding these tools understood?			
Notes:			

Investment planning	Yes	No	N/A
1. Now that retirement is here (or near), have plans been made to change how the retirement portfolio and other assets are invested?			
2. Will the client/advisor monitor the retirement portfolio and other investments throughout retirement and make changes when appropriate?			
3. Have expectations been established for how the retirement portfolio and other investments will perform in the coming years?			
4. Is some degree of investment risk acceptable to the client?			
5. Has a distribution strategy been discussed/developed?			
Notes:			

Insurance planning	Yes	No	N/A
1. If under age 65, will adequate health insurance be available until Medicare eligibility is established?			
2. If 65 or older, has a Medigap or other health policy been purchased to supplement Medicare, or is employer-sponsored coverage available?			
3. Is there long-term care insurance, or have this and other strategies been considered to protect against the cost of nursing home care?			
4. Have life insurance needs been revisited?			
5. Have other types of insurance coverage been reviewed? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Auto and homeowners</li> <li>• Disability (will end at retirement)</li> <li>• Liability</li> <li>• Other</li> </ul>			
Notes:			

Estate planning *	Yes	No	N/A
1. Will beneficiary designations be reviewed periodically? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Employer-sponsored plans</li> <li>• IRAs</li> <li>• Annuities</li> <li>• Life insurance</li> <li>• Other</li> </ul>			
2. Has will been reviewed/updated?			
3. Is there a durable power of attorney or health-care proxy? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Trusts</li> <li>• Gifting assets</li> <li>• Other</li> </ul>			
4. Have other estate planning tools and strategies been considered? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Trusts</li> <li>• Gifting assets</li> <li>• Durable power of attorneys</li> <li>• Advanced medical directives</li> <li>• Other</li> </ul>			
Notes:			



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