# YOUR 2020 ▲ AST-CHANCE ► FINANCIAL PLANNING ► CHECKLIST

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# SHAPE UP YOUR PERSONAL FINANCES FOR A GREAT YEAR-END!

Fall is an ideal time to examine your financial health and update your financial plans. Here is a list of important things to review that might make a difference in your year-end review and plans for next year. Check all that apply. If you have any questions or concerns, I will be happy to go over these items with you and discuss possible scenarios for 2020 and 2021. **Call to schedule a review.** 

#### Check the box next to any key item that impacts your situation or needs more research or discussion.

### 1 TAXES

- □ Project income for 2020 & 2021.
- □ Project 2020 net investment income.
- □ Review tax plan in light of The Tax Cuts and Jobs Act.
- □ Review realized and unrealized gains and losses.
- □ Collect cost-basis information on sold securities.
- □ Review sales of appreciated property like real estate.
- $\hfill\square$  Check loss carry-forwards from last year
- $\hfill\square$  Review potential deductions & credits for 2020.
- □ Track donations to charity.
- □ Review any gifting plans.

# 2 RETIREMENT

- □ Max out 401(k) contributions including catch-ups.
- □ Max out IRA contributions including catch-ups.
- □ Analyze Roth IRA conversion scenarios.
- □ Take required minimum distributions\*.
- □ Open a retirement plan if newly self-employed.
- □ Check status of all retirement accounts.
- □ Consider Social Security claiming options. \*Per the CARES Act, RMDs are suspended for 2020.

## **3** INVESTMENTS

- Confirm investment goals and strategy.
- Review asset allocation for rebalancing opportunities.
- □ Review fundamentals of portfolio positions.
- □ Revisit income and savings needs.
- □ Re-examine asset location.
- □ Review outstanding loans and mortgages.
- Review dividend distributions.
- Review employee stock options.

### **4** INSURANCE

- □ Review property and casualty policies.
- □ Review costs of current insurance policies.
- Review health insurance coverage.
- Identify material changes in life, business, or financial circumstances that may require insurance adjustments.

#### **5** MILESTONES

- □ 50: Now you can make catch-up contributions to IRAs and some qualified retirement plans.
- □ 55: You can take distributions from 401(k) plans without penalty if retired.
- □ 59½: You can take distributions from IRAs without penalty.
- □ 62–70: You can apply for Social Security benefits.
- □ 65: You can apply for Medicare.
- □ 72: You must begin taking RMDs from IRAs\*.

# 6 HEALTH

- □ Review employer's health insurance plan.
- □ Shop state health insurance exchange.
- $\hfill\square$  Review Health Savings Account contributions for 2020.
- Spend any remaining balances in Flexible Spending Accounts.
- □ Review Medicare enrollment options.

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#### **7** CHANGES

- Did you move?
- Did you sell a major asset like your home, business, or other real estate?
- Did you transfer any major financial assets?
- Did you refinance your house?
- Did you change jobs?
- Did you lose your job?
- Did you get married?
- Did you end a marriage?
- Did you add to the family through birth or adoption?
- Did you lose a loved one?
- Do you have a parent or other family member in need of assisted living?
- □ Is there a severe illness in the family?
- □ Did you receive a gift or inheritance?

#### 8 FAMILY

- □ Contribute to education accounts.
- □ Review and fund trusts.
- □ Make any cash gifts to family members.
- □ Plan charitable contributions.

Provide updated contact info for any tax professionals, insurance agents, attorneys and other advisors that may need to be consulted.

Name	Firm	Phone Number
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#### NOTES AND NEXT STEPS:

