

What makes a good financial strategy?

Posted on: October 10, 2022

When you're going on a journey, there are three essential questions to ensure you have a great trip. How will I get there? How much will it cost? How will I deal with the unexpected? Answering these questions thoughtfully will allow for a more pleasant trip.

A written financial strategy serves the same purpose in the bigger picture of life. When you have a plan for your financial journey, it's easier to decide how you spend money, stay on track, manage unexpected expenses, and achieve your long term goals. It may also help to safeguard your assets when major life changes like retirement, marriage, children, divorce or job loss come along. So what makes a good financial strategy? Here are some critical components it should include¹.

1. **Goals** List all of your financial goals. Consider everything that matters to you, from paying off debt, buying a home, or receiving your retirement income to saving for your children's education. List all assets and liabilities, and determine how much you need to reach your goals. Don't be afraid to ask for help. We can help you with this.
2. **Investment Strategy** Determine how you will invest your money. Consider your risk tolerance, time horizon, and goals. We can help you create a diversified portfolio that meets your needs.
3. **Insurance** Make sure you have the right amount of life, health, and disability insurance. We can help you understand your options and choose the best coverage for you.
4. **Estate Planning** Create a will and designate beneficiaries for your accounts. We can help you understand the importance of estate planning and how to create a plan that works for you.
5. **Tax Planning** Understand how taxes will affect your financial goals. We can help you identify tax-saving opportunities and create a strategy to minimize your tax liability.
6. **Retirement Planning** Determine how much you need to retire and how you will fund your retirement. We can help you understand the different retirement options and create a plan that works for you.
7. **Charitable Giving** If you want to make a difference, consider charitable giving. We can help you understand the tax benefits of charitable giving and create a strategy to maximize your impact.

[8 Components of a Good Financial Plan](#) [2]

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