Preparing to retire

Create your retirement income plan

The earlier you begin planning for retirement, the better prepared you’ll be. Use this checklist to help you create a personalized retirement income plan.

Getting started

☐ Decide how you’ll spend your days

Saving enough for retirement is important, but it may not guarantee a happy and fulfilling retirement. Think about how you want to spend your time in retirement. Check out these resources in the Retirement Income Planning Center:

• Watch Real Retirees – Insights on Handling the Unexpected, available in the retirement video library, and see how some real couples dealt with the transition.
• Use Your income story, an interactive online tool, to create a profile of your retirement needs and goals.

☐ Check retirement plan balances, investments, and estimate your retirement benefit

To get started, sign on to your account at wellsfargo.com and select your retirement account(s) on the Account Summary page.

• The Retirement Income Estimator shows how much savings you may have at retirement. You can add other retirement savings to the calculation by selecting the Add/update other savings link.
• Check your investments to make sure they still match your timeline, goals, and risk tolerance.
• You can increase your contribution percentage to help you get closer to meeting your goal.

☐ Make sure your marital status and beneficiaries are up-to-date

It’s important to have this information updated to avoid delays during retirement.

Managing your retirement expenses and budget

☐ Create a retirement budget

Estimate what your expenses may be during your retirement years. Remember, some expenses may go up and some down, and don’t forget to plan for medical costs, which are estimated to be about $265,0001 for a couple throughout retirement.

To get started, use the budget worksheet in the Retirement Income Planning Center under “How much money do you need in retirement?”

Let’s talk

Have a Retirement Income Conversation with a knowledgeable retirement representative to learn more about retirement income planning. Call 1-877-789-5067 Monday through Friday, 7:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m., Eastern Time.

Tip: You can also access tools and resources in the Retirement Income Planning Center at wellsfargo.com/retirementincome.
Understanding your income sources

☐ Identify income sources
Create a list of primary income sources. You should consider all retirement accounts, including any accounts from previous employers, IRAs, pension payments, Social Security benefits, and annuities. If you are continuing to work in retirement, your earnings are another source of income, and may impact your Social Security benefits.

☐ Review options for Social Security and Medicare
To learn more about Social Security enrollment and your eligibility, call your local Social Security office. You can also visit socialsecurity.gov to view your Social Security account statement and use the Quick Calculator to estimate your benefits.

Check out Medicare’s website: (www.medicare.gov/sign-up-change-plans), for details about plans, costs, and when you can apply. It’s important to know whether you need Medicare Supplement (Medigap) Insurance. Medicare Supplement Insurance policies, sold by private companies, can help pay some of the healthcare costs that original Medicare doesn’t cover, like copayments, coinsurance, and deductibles.

Your age and personal situation will determine when you apply for Social Security benefits. However, make sure to apply for Medicare three months before your 65th birthday.

Withdrawing your retirement savings

☐ Make a plan for using your retirement assets
Decide how you want to withdraw your savings (as a lump sum or in periodic or monthly payments), when to start, and in what order. Or, you may want to consider other distribution options or investments that can help you create a stream of income in retirement. A financial professional can help you create a strategy.

For planning purposes, many financial experts suggest you estimate what you would have if you withdrew 4% of your retirement account balance each year of retirement.

☐ Learn about your employee benefits
When does your coverage end? Do you want to continue any coverage? Some benefits may be continued during retirement, such as life insurance converted to an individual policy. Do you need to purchase coverage from another source like a Medicare Supplement policy?

Make sure your email address is up-to-date with your employer and Wells Fargo.