

Financial Checklist

By John F. Smith

- Before the meeting with a financial advisor
 - Decide what you hope to accomplish financially within the next year or two.
 - Ask yourself how confident do you feel about where you are today.
 - Ask yourself how confident do you feel about reaching your financial goals for the future.
 - Think what level of risk you are most comfortable with.
 - Decide how involved you want to be in investment decision-making.
 - Think what are your top areas of financial concern today.
 - Decide what do you most look forward to doing in the future.
 - Prepare a list of any other questions you have regarding your current financial situation.
 - Prepare supporting documents for accounts or areas of your financial picture that you feel deserve immediate attention.
 - Prepare a list of future dreams and financial goals you would like to achieve
- Your first meeting
 - Listen to the advisor carefully as to be able to tailor a financial plan that meets your specific needs.
 - Discuss with the advisor an approach to creating a financial plan.
 - Review the details of the planning process and find out how a financial plan could help you reach your goals.
 - Discuss the investment options.
 - Discuss the type of financial service relationship that would best suit your needs.
 - Discuss the fee structure.
- After the meeting
 - Evaluate information and discuss your priorities.
 - Review the financial plan.
 - During each follow-up financial plan meeting with your advisor review your plan and your progress and make adjustments as needed.
 - Keep the advisor up-to-date on anything that might affect your plan.