

# PLANNING FOR RETIREMENT



## Lifestyle

### Daily life

How you spend your retirement years should be guided by your passions and how you choose to spend your newly found free time. You may go through shifts in retirement, and your interests may change. The key is to use your time for activities that give you satisfaction and a sense of purpose.

**Some options:** Part-time work, volunteering, travel, hobbies, time with family and beyond.

### Where to live

Once you are retired, you can live anywhere, budgetary considerations permitting. What geographic location will give you the lifestyle you desire? Where you choose to live may change in later retirement years. Consider a trial run before making a permanent commitment.

**Some options:** U.S. or a foreign country, warmer climate, return to the city of your childhood, close to family, different seasonal locations.

### Type of living environment

Give serious consideration to the living environment you choose, as you may find what sounds appealing in theory does not suit you in reality. Key elements in choosing a living environment include your health and changing physical needs.

**Some options:** Your current residence or a downsized residence, a condominium or co-op, living with family.

## Financial

### Income and savings

The topic that generates the most interest and anxiety for those contemplating retirement is financial planning. How much income will you need? Will your savings and investments last for the rest of your life? In short, will you have enough to get you through?

**Sources of income:** Savings, investment accounts, retirement plan accounts, Social Security, pensions, annuities.

### Budget

How long your assets will last in retirement is a function of how much money you need to live on. Plan a budget for anticipated financial needs during retirement. Some expenses will be reduced or disappear altogether as you end your work-life, but some expenses may increase, such as health care costs.

### Insurance (other than medical)

Your insurance needs will likely change in retirement. Perhaps you will be driving less and can get a discounted rate for car insurance. Review all existing insurance policies to determine if they meet your needs in retirement or if premiums can be reduced.

### Financial adviser

You may have been your own financial adviser up to now. The rules of the game change in retirement, so having professional advice may be prudent. Some investment companies offer financial adviser at discounted fees. The savings can be considerable.

### Estate planning

If you have estate planning documents, they should be reviewed as you approach retirement. If you do not have estate planning documents, you need them now more than ever. It is prudent to have competent legal counsel prepare these documents.

**Considerations:** Distribution of assets as you wish, probate vs. nonprobate assets, beneficiary designations, children from prior marriages, special needs of heirs, inheritance and estate taxes, charitable giving.

**Related documents:** Will, living trust, financial power of attorney, advance health care directive (living will), medical power of attorney.

## Health Care

### Medical Insurance

In all likelihood, your medical insurance needs will change in retirement. You may qualify for Medicare depending on your age at retirement. What are your options for medical insurance, and what are the costs?

**Considerations:** Coverage options under Medicare, supplemental medical insurance plans, dental insurance.

### Long-term care insurance

Do you want or need long-term care insurance? What are the options and possible consequences if you choose not to have this insurance? What are the costs?

### Health care documents

Do you have a health care power of attorney? An advance health care directive (living will)?

## Charitable Giving

You may want to support your favorite charity, such as Robin Hood, in your retirement. There are many ways you can support Robin Hood that coordinate well with your retirement plans.

- You can give now or make provisions for a gift from your estate at your passing. You can make a gift and receive generous retirement income.
- If you are 70½ or older, you can make a tax-free gift from your IRA account.
- You can give now or make provisions for a gift from your estate at your passing.

We would welcome the opportunity to provide information for how this piece of the puzzle can fit into your overall retirement plan.

## Happiness

Ultimately, happiness should be your goal in retirement. Find the things that fulfill you and add meaning to your life!

### We are here to assist

If you have questions, please contact our Office of Gift Planning at **212-844-3521** or by sending an email to **[plannedgiving@robinhood.org](mailto:plannedgiving@robinhood.org)**.