



Steward Advisors

11 Key Questions For Planning a Secure Retirement

1. When do you want to retire?

- If you are married, when will your spouse retire?
- When will you claim Social Security?

2. Where will you live in retirement?

- One home or multiple? Downsizing?
- Housing cost based on type (house, condo, retirement community)
- Family & social network considerations
- State income, real estate & estate tax implications

3. What activities will you pursue in retirement?

- Make a bucket list
- Volunteering opportunities?
- 2nd career or part time work?
- Business interests
- Hobbies & travel
- Estimate costs and resources
- Be sure to prioritize

4. Do you want to leave a financial legacy to family or a charity?

- Are there loved one's you need to take care of financially?
- Are there charities you are passionate about?
- Do you have a will and/or trust in place?

5. What will you do to maintain your health?

- Exercise plan
- Social & family network
- Spiritual health
- Longevity expectations
- Do you have health care directives in place?

6. What are your sources of retirement income?

- Will you continue to work?
- Do you expect an inheritance?
- Itemize your income generating assets
- How will you draw down your investment assets?
- When will you start Social Security?

7. How will your expenses change in retirement?

- Are there items you expect will cost more than your current expense level?
- Are there costs you will eliminate in retirement?
- Evaluate post-retirement insurance needs
- Are there any celebrations you want to finance?
- What will your transportation needs be in retirement?
- Do you have funds to cover an emergency?
- Have you paid off any debt or have a plan to pay it off?

8. Do you own a business?

- Will you stay involved?
- What's your transition plan?
- Do you need to sell to fund your retirement?
- Business income? Business sale proceeds?

9. How will you fund medical expenses?

- Will you purchase a Medigap or Medicare Advantage plan?
- What's your plan for financing long-term care?

10. Have you considered tax strategies to improve retirement cash flow?

- Compare state tax rates
- Roth conversion strategies
- Tax efficient charitable giving
- Planned gifts to family
- Asset location of investments

11. Do you have trusted family or friends that can provide financial or health advice?

- Who can you talk to about medical issues?
- Who do you trust with financial decisions?
- Have you established medical and property POAs?