



**FINANCIAL SERVICES  
FOR THE GREATER GOOD®**

## **Combine Your Assets for a Simpler Plan**

*You can generally simplify your financial life by consolidating your assets in one place.*

Your life has probably taken you to a few different places over the years and a variety of jobs as well. As a result, you may have assets with a number of different investment companies. That can potentially make managing your money more difficult.

**Improve Your Asset Allocation:** When your assets are scattered among various accounts, you may not have an accurate picture of how your investments are allocated. Knowing how much you have invested in various asset classes lets you properly balance risk and reward as you save to meet your financial goals. Also, over time, your asset allocation may drift as your assets perform differently, making your portfolio more unbalanced.

**Organize By Consolidating:** By consolidating your assets with one company, you can more easily track your entire portfolio. You'll receive fewer statements, which means that evaluating and managing your financial life becomes simpler. It also becomes easier to use one website to quickly size up your investment progress and to make any needed adjustments. The result is that you can accomplish more with less effort, leaving you more time to do the things you enjoy.

**Cutting Costs:** Consolidating your assets may potentially save you money as well. Some investment companies may be charging you fees to keep your accounts open. By pulling your assets together with one company, you may cut down on such fees. (However, do keep in mind that lower fees and expenses do not mean higher returns.) You can then apply these extra dollars toward your savings goals.

### **...But Don't Move Your Pre-1987 403(b) Funds!**

Perhaps the only time when consolidating your retirement savings may not be a good idea is when you have pre-1987 403(b) assets. In that case, you're probably better off not moving your money. Here's why, if you're no longer working, federal law generally requires you to start receiving mandatory minimum distributions from your retirement plans at age 70½. The same is true for 403(b) plan accumulations resulting from *post*-1986 contributions. But because pre-1987 403(b) accumulations are "grandfathered" under retirement plan laws, you're not required to begin taking withdrawals until age 75. However, if you move any grandfathered money into an

IRA, the regular IRA withdrawal rules will now apply to this money and you'll have to start taking minimum withdrawals on all the traditional IRA money at age 70½.

*Before transferring assets or replacing an existing annuity, be sure to carefully consider the benefits of both the existing and new product. There will likely be differences in features, costs, surrender charges, services, company strength and other important aspects. There may also be tax consequences associated with the transfer of assets. Indirect transfers may be subject to taxation and penalties. Consult with your own advisors regarding your particular situation.*

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