

Is an Annuity Right for You?

Managing taxes, outpacing inflation and securing stable income are all key considerations as you plan for your financial future. A fixed annuity may help address these challenges, potentially allowing you to enjoy greater financial freedom in the years ahead. Consider the following key benefits:

Fixed Interest Rate	A fixed annuity credits a guaranteed interest rate for an initial guarantee period. After the initial guarantee period, a new guaranteed rate is reset annually. A minimum interest rate is guaranteed for the life of the contract.
Access to Money	Some annuities allow withdrawals at least once annually (usually for up to 10% of the contract value) without a charge. Some also allow free withdrawals for special needs, such as confinement to a nursing home.
Death Benefit Protection	If the owner dies before retirement income begins, a named beneficiary receives the annuity's entire account or contract value. Provided the annuity is properly structured, your beneficiary can bypass the delays, expense and publicity of probate.
Tax Deferral¹	Annuity earnings grow tax deferred until withdrawn, reducing your current taxes and allowing your money to grow faster than in a currently taxed alternative paying the same rate. This may be an added benefit if you are in a lower tax bracket when retirement income payouts begin.
Retirement Boost	Are you already taking full advantage of employer plans and IRAs? An annuity's combination of unrestricted contributions and tax deferral could be a retirement boost. In addition, required minimum distributions (RMDs) do not apply to nonqualified annuities, allowing your money to continue compounding.
Guaranteed Income	Only an annuity issued by an insurer offers retirement income guaranteed to continue for as long as you live when you annuitize the contract. Other payout options may be available. An income option selection is permanent.

While every contract is different, an annuity offers several benefits over other retirement vehicles that may be attractive to you.

¹ Interest earnings grow tax deferred until received. Distributions from non-qualified annuities and IRAs are subject to ordinary income tax. Distributions from a Roth IRA are tax free after age 59½ if the plan has been established for at least five years. Withdrawals prior to age 59½ may incur a 10% IRS penalty tax in both Traditional IRA and Roth IRA plans and in non-qualified annuities.

Payment of benefits under the annuity contract is the obligation of, and is guaranteed by, the insurance company issuing the annuity. Guarantees are based on the claims-paying ability of the insurer. Annuity products are backed by the full financial strength of the issuer W&S Financial Group Distributors, Inc. (doing business in CA as W&S Financial Insurance Services) is an affiliated life insurance agency of the issuer. Issuer has sole financial responsibility for its products. All companies are members of Western & Southern Financial Group. An annuity is a long-term financial vehicle designed for retirement. An insurance company accepts premiums and provides future income or a lump-sum amount to the contract owner by contractual agreement.

Earnings and pre-tax premium payments are subject to income tax at withdrawal. Withdrawals prior to age 59½ are generally subject to a 10% IRS penalty tax. Annuity contracts contain certain holding periods, limitations, withdrawal charges, exclusions, termination provisions and terms for keeping them in force.

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