

Finding Your Financial Advisor

When you hire a financial advisor (also called wealth manager, financial planner, etc.), it is typically a long-term relationship. We recommend looking at both investment performance and taking the time to evaluate the big picture. Consider interviewing potential advisors carefully and making sure you are comfortable with your chosen financial advisor.

Some questions you might ask:

- 1. How are you compensated?
- 2. If you accept commissions, will you itemize the amount of compensation you earn from products that you recommend to me?
- 3. Do you accept referral fees?
- 4. Are you always held to a fiduciary standard?
- 5. Do you provide comprehensive financial planning or just investment management? And what is your process?
- 6. How will you help me reach my financial goals?
- 7. How many clients do you currently have?
- 8. Do you have many clients like me?
- 9. Have you ever been disciplined by the SEC or FINRA?
- 10. What happens to my relationship with the firm if you leave the firm?

For more information on why these questions matter, visit laurelwealthplanning.com/2020/10/tips-finding-financial-advisor/

Questions are adapted from the National Association of Personal Financial Advisors and the Financial Planning Association.