Financial, Retirement & Estate Planning
Strategic Guidance For Life's Journey

Financial Planner Evaluation Tool

The Financial Planner Evaluation Tool is a list of questions designed to uncover how a prospective planner can bring you value. Use this as an interview guide to determine their process, fees, and philosophies about financial planning.

- Tell me about your background – how long have you been a financial planner?
- Can you please explain your planning process to me?
- How often do you connect with clients?
- Are you a CFP® or do you hold any other designation? How does that designation help you work on my plan?
- Are you held to a code of ethics?
- Are you a fiduciary?
- What are your specialties?
- How do your fees work?
- Do you ever make commissions vs fees?
- What is your process for ongoing portfolio performance monitoring?
- Are you independent or are you an agent of an insurance company?
- If I did hire your firm, who else will be on the team that will work with me?
- What if I just want to do planning but don't want you to manage anything for me beyond that?
- Do you ever collaborate with attorneys or CPAs etc on my behalf?