

ACCREDITED INVESTMENT FIDUCIARY ANALYST SOLUTIONS

Achieve a successful retirement plan with an Accredited Investment Fiduciary Analyst®

As a plan sponsor or retirement plan participant, it's important that you get the most out of your retirement plan. Clarity into your plan and an understanding of existing risks are important components of this—and can be thoroughly explained and monitored by a trusted Accredited Investment Fiduciary Analyst® (AIFA®).

An AIFA can help you build a retirement plan and secure retirement income, moderate risks, and ensure you understand all aspects of your plan.

The Role of a fiduciary

A fiduciary helps their clients by strategically and successfully managing the clients' assets. Their responsibilities are many, but most importantly, a fiduciary maintains a trusted relationship with a beneficiary and acts solely in his or her best interest.

Fiduciaries hold the AIFA designation to recognize their legal commitment to their clients and their knowledge of the Global Fiduciary Standard of Excellence imposed by Congress's Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA). Those individuals with this designation have been successfully trained and tested on their capabilities to serve beneficiaries and uphold a code of ethics.

Under ERISA, fiduciaries are to perform the following four duties:

- 1. Duty of loyalty** – this requires fiduciaries to work only in the interest of the beneficiary or participant.
- 2. Duty of prudence** – this ensures fiduciaries act with care and prudence, similar to how any other individual would perform in the situation presented to the fiduciary.
- 3. Duty to diversify investments** – to avoid the potential of loss, the fiduciary must attempt to diversify investments and investment managers.
- 4. Duty to follow plan's terms** – as a fiduciary, he or she must operate in agreement with the documents prevailing over a plan.

The Benefits of working with an AIFA

When you work with an AIFA, you gain transparency to your plan and a trustworthy partner. Non-fiduciaries need not abide by the same standards as fiduciaries and are not required by law to disclose relevant information to their clients. In contrast to AIFAs, non-fiduciaries are not responsible for damages that occur to clients as a result from the advice they give.

As an investor, it's crucial that you can trust the individual handling your money and to know that you're not receiving biased or inaccurate information.

Contact us

At Sikich, we provide plan sponsors and participants with unmatched expertise and solutions to your retirement planning challenges. There's no comparison to working with an accredited fiduciary. Partner with Sikich and gain a relationship with one of the industry's leading retirement plan advising firms.



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