

## Financial Checklist for Every Stage of Life

- ❖ **New Grad, Entering the Workforce**
  - **Make a budget.**
  - **Track your expenses.**
  - **Pay down your debt.**
  - **Start saving for retirement.**
  - **Designate beneficiaries on your financial accounts.**
  - **Consider disability insurance.**
  - **Speak to an attorney about drafting a Power of Attorney and Living Will**
- ❖ **Advancing In Your Career**
  - **When you switch jobs, be sure to negotiate.**
  - **Also, take your retirement money with you.**
  - **Seek counseling of a financial planner with an eye on retirement.**
- ❖ **Getting Married**
  - **Create (or update) your will, and update your beneficiaries, power of attorney, and health care proxy.**
  - **Look into getting life insurance and re-evaluate other insurance policies.**
- ❖ **Buying A Home**
  - **Buy a house that won't put too much stress on your assets.**
  - **If you're married and haven't bought life insurance yet, look into it now, and update your disability insurance.**
- ❖ **Having Children**
  - **Review your estate plan.**
  - **Start saving for their college education.**
  - **Relay financial lessons to your children.**
- ❖ **Established In Your Career**
  - **Max out your retirement contributions.**
  - **Be proactive in your tax planning.**
  - **If you find yourself taking care of your parents, consider their needs in the context of all your financial priorities.**
  - **Consider your own long-term care plans.**
  - **Begin planning your retirement income.**
  - **If need be, catch up on retirement contributions.**
- ❖ **Retirement**
  - **Know your budget and downside if needed.**
  - **Review your investment strategy and ways to protect your downside.**
  - **Are you truly diversified? Seek alternatives to only having stocks and bonds.**
  - **Look at how to fund potential long-term care costs.**
- ❖ **Survivor**
  - **Don't make any immediate changes without advice of your team of professionals.**
  - **Review your estate plan.**
  - **Downsize, and consider moving to a full retirement community.**