

Example Financial Planning Topics

Goal Clarification

- Aligned intentions and values
- Statement of financial purpose
- SMART prioritization

Risk Management/Insurance

- Health
- Short term/long term disability
- Property & casualty
- Earthquake/flood/umbrella
- Life insurance
- Long term care
- Unemployment
- Social Security/Medicare

Employee Benefits

- 401(k), 403(b), pension, etc.
- Health Savings Account (HSA)
- Flexible Spending Accounts (FSAs)
- Restricted Stock Units (RSUs)
- Employee Stock Purchase Plan (ESPP)
- Stock options (ISOs, NQSOs)

Career

- Pay statement and compensation review
- Career trajectory

Tax Planning

- Tax return review
- Earned, investment, and passive income
- Asset location
- Qualified accounts – regular, bonus, IRA
- Capital gains, tax loss harvesting
- Tax deferred / tax advantaged investments
- Marginal and effective tax rates
- Roth conversions

Housing

- Rent vs. buy
- Home purchase or sale
- Credit and mortgage analysis
- Renovation/remodel

Exercises

- Net worth forecast
- Cash flow, emergency fund, and liquidity
- Money/life expense review

Investments

- Risk tolerance
- Event horizons / investment timelines
- Investment Policy Statement
- Allocation, diversification, and expenses
- Accumulation order of operations
- Real estate, collectibles, etc.

Financial Independence

- Financial Independence, Next Endeavor
- Options for transition
- Healthcare options

Estate Planning

- Beneficiary designations
- Account titling
- Custody of minor children
- Healthcare Power of Attorney (POA)
- Living will
- Lifetime gifting strategy
- Probate
- Estate tax
- Continuity of access
- Last will & testament

Giving

- Education planning / college aid
- Major events – weddings, births, etc.
- Intergenerational wealth transfers
- Charitable giving

Other

- Debt repayment/forgiveness
- Family financial planning
- Automobile purchase
- Vacation/travel/camps
- Financial literacy