



Own Your NeXt

10 Years from Retirement? *Start Here.*

You do not need a perfect plan today. You need a clear next step. If retirement is about 10 years away, now is the time to define the life you want in retirement and create a plan to turn your retirement savings into a practical retirement income plan.

Why a Plan Matters

Creating a written plan increases preparedness Building a roadmap for the future will help you navigate retirement with greater clarity.	Retirement savings is not the same as retirement income Creating retirement income ensures basics like housing, food, healthcare, and utilities are covered.
Confidence rises with guidance Consumers who work with a financial professional often feel more prepared.¹	Reduce worries about tomorrow Inflation, healthcare costs, and outliving savings are common concerns. Having a retirement income plan helps you prepare for them.¹

¹ Source: *Retirement Income Readiness Report*, LIMRA, 2026.

Your Roadmap to Retirement

When	Priority	Your next step
10 years out	Define your starting point	List your savings, debts, insurance coverage, income sources, and monthly expenses.
8-9 years out	Estimate your retirement income	Add up Social Security, pensions, 401(k) and 403(b)s, personal savings and investments, annuities, and part-time income.
6-7 years out	Boost savings	Increase contributions where possible and take advantage of catch-up contributions if eligible.
4-5 years out	Prepare for risks	Review investments, debt, healthcare costs, long-term care options, and how much cash you should keep available.
2-3 years out	Test your readiness	Try living on your estimated retirement income for a few months and adjust before you retire.
1 year out	Finalize your plan	Decide when to claim Social Security, how to withdraw money, how to manage taxes, how much emergency cash to keep, and how your long-term care plan fits with your retirement income plan.

5 Simple Questions to Ask Yourself

- **My plan:** Do I have a written retirement income plan?
- **My basics:** Which expenses will be covered by predictable income?
- **My timing:** When should I claim Social Security?
- **My risks:** How am I positioned to manage inflation, healthcare costs, and market fluctuations?
- **My lifestyle:** How do I want to spend my time after work?

Bottom Line

Start with a written plan. A written retirement income plan helps you see how your Social Security, pensions, 401(k) and 403(b)s, savings and investments, annuities, taxes, healthcare costs, and everyday spending work together. It provides a clear roadmap you can update as your needs and goals evolve. Working with a financial professional can help you compare options, stress-test your plan, and make decisions with greater confidence.

Consider predictable income options. As you develop your written plan, an annuity may be worth exploring for your retirement plan because it can help convert part of your savings into income you can count on in retirement. This can be especially helpful for covering basic expenses, reducing the worry of outliving savings, and adding structure to your retirement income.

