

SMART Financial Goals

S – Specific, M – Measurable, A – Attainable, R – Realistic, T – Time-line

As you develop your financial goals, be certain that they are SMART goals. SMART financial goals have the following criteria:

- S** – Must be **SPECIFIC** with dollar amounts, dates and resources identified to be used in accomplishing the goals.
- M** – Must be **MEASURABLE**; determine regular amounts weekly, bimonthly or monthly to set aside to accomplish goals. Another good “M” word to consider is **MUTUAL**. Goals that are mutual or shared with other family members will be easier to achieve. It is also important to think about how you will keep yourself and other family members **MOTIVATED** to achieve goals, especially long-term goals.
- A** – Your goals need to be **ATTAINABLE** given your financial situation.
- R** – It is important that your goals are **RELEVANT** and **REALISTIC**. What **RESOURCES** are available for you to use in achieving your goals? It is also important to **REVIEW** and **REVISE** your goals periodically as necessary.
- T** – You need a specific **TIME-LINE** for accomplishing your goals. To achieve those goals, you must also be willing to make **TRADE-OFFS** in your financial life. Know the difference between needs and wants. Because there is never enough money to fund all of your financial goals at one time, you will also need to prioritize your goals.

SMART Financial Goals Worksheet

Use this form to write down your most important short- and long-term financial goals, so you can begin saving and investing to reach these goals. Be certain that your goals are **S**pecific, **M**easurable, **A**ttainable, **R**ealistic and **T**imebound.

Pre-Retirement Goals

Goal	Target Date	Amount Needed

After-Retirement Goals

Goal	Target Date	Amount Needed

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