

# **Andrew's Articles**



A series of informational articles by Nebel Financial Services President, Andrew Wade.

#### FALL 2014

## **End of 2014 and Start of 2015 Financial Moves**

It is that time of year again. It is time for some end of the year adjustments as well as planning for changes going into year 2015.

### Before 12/31/2014:

- Donate cash or appreciated securities to your favorite charity(s) and/or start your own family foundation
- Donate and itemize new and used clothing to a local non-profit (<u>http://www.bankrate.com/finance/money-guides/tax-guide-for-donated-goods.aspx</u>
- Review 401K contribution. The maximum for Year 2014 is \$17,500. If you are age 50 OR over; there is an extra \$5,500 allowance for \$23,000 maximum.
- Create a tax loss. Example: if you have a cost basis of \$10,000 in a mutual fund that is currently valued at \$9,000; you can take a \$1,000 tax loss by making an exchange.
- SPEND Flexible Spending Account (FSA) Dollars. These do NOT rollover after March 15<sup>th</sup>, 2015. This is one of the few times it is recommended to spend!
- Start a 529 College Savings Plan BEFORE 12/31/2014 to get the state tax deduction.

The IRS recently came out with some changes that, depending on your situation, many need to be taken advantage of.

### Looking Ahead to 2015:

- New! Review 401K contribution. The maximum for Year 2015 is \$18,000. If you are age 50 OR over; there is an extra \$6,000 allowance for \$24,000 maximum.
- Adjust your 401K contribution to include the new Roth 401K. Consider changing your 401K contribution so that a portion goes into the new Roth 401K. Example; if you are contributing 10% of your salary in the normal pre-taxed manner; adjust so 5% goes to pre-tax and 5% to after-

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- Evaluate your family Balance Sheet and Cash Flow Statement in January. Where are there gaps? Is there room to save or even spend more each month or year?
- Complete and communicate your Estate Plan to a trusted family member or friend
- Flexible Spending Account (FSA) Dollars will rollover (up to \$500), from year 2015 to 2016. You no longer have *to use it or lose it*.
- IRA contribution limits are unchanged at \$5,500 for Trad. & Roth IRAs
  + the \$1,000 catch up for age 50 and over. You have until 4/15/2015 to contribute for year 2014.
- IRA income limits are up slightly for Traditional and Roth IRAs for Year 2015.

If you have any questions regarding any of the above, feel free to call the office to discuss or make an appointment. Early morning and evening appointments can be made in order for you to avoid missing any work or taking any additional leave.

Sincerely,

Andrew D. Wade, CFP®

President

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