

# 2021 WHAT ACCOUNTS SHOULD I CONSIDER IF I WANT TO SAVE MORE?

FOUNDATIONAL SAVINGS	YES	NO	RETIREMENT SAVINGS	YES	NO
<p><b>Do you need to save more in your Emergency Fund?</b></p> <p>If so, consider the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» If you are married and both you and your spouse are employed, you may want to set aside three months of living expenses in case of an emergency.</li> <li>» If you are single or the sole income earner, you may want to set aside six months of living expenses in case of an emergency.</li> <li>» If you are a high-income earner or entrepreneur, you may want to set aside as much as 18 months of living expenses to take advantage of job mobility and business opportunities.</li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<p><b>Do you have a retirement plan offered through your employer?</b></p> <p>If so, consider the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» Make sure you get any match offered by the employer.</li> <li>» You can contribute up to \$19,500 annually (\$26,000 if age 50 or over).</li> <li>» If you have made the maximum salary deferral contribution and want to contribute more, consider if a Mega Backdoor Roth Contribution is applicable. Reference “Can I Make A Mega Backdoor Roth IRA Contribution?” flowchart.</li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p><b>Are you disappointed with the rate of return you are getting at your bank?</b></p> <p>If so, consider the benefits and risks associated with high-yield saving/checking accounts, CDs, and other conservative investments.</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<p><b>Do you expect your income to increase in the future?</b></p> <p>If so, consider the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» Contribute to a Roth 401(k) and pay taxes now at the lower rates.</li> <li>» Contribute up to \$6,000 (\$7,000 if age 50 or over) to a Roth IRA. Eligibility is phased out between \$124,000-\$139,000 MAGI (single) and \$196,000-\$206,000 MAGI (MFJ). See “Can I Contribute To My Roth IRA?” flowchart.</li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p><b>HEALTHCARE SAVINGS</b></p>	YES	NO	<p><b>Is your MAGI greater than \$139,000 (\$206,000 if MFJ) and you have maxed out your 401(k) salary deferrals but want to save more?</b></p> <p>If so, consider the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» A Backdoor Roth IRA contribution could allow you to save an extra \$6,000 (\$7,000 if age 50 or over). Reference “Can I Make a Backdoor Roth IRA Contribution?” flowchart.</li> <li>» If your employer’s plan allows after-tax contributions, you may be able to make a Mega Backdoor Roth IRA contribution. See “Can I Make A Mega Backdoor Roth IRA Contribution?” flowchart.</li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p><b>Do you have a Flexible Savings Account (FSA)?</b></p> <p>If so, consider making a tax-deductible contribution of \$2,750, which can be used on medical, dental, and vision care. Be sure to spend the funds by the end of the year or you will lose any remaining funds.</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<p><b>EMPLOYER-PROVIDED BENEFITS &amp; BUSINESS OWNER SAVINGS</b></p>	YES	NO
<p><b>Do you have a Health Savings Account (HSA)?</b></p> <p>If so, consider contributing up to \$3,550 (\$7,100 for a family) and an additional \$1,000 if you are age 55 or over. The HSA is the most tax-preferred vehicle available. See “Can I Make A Deductible Contribution To My HSA?” flowchart for details.</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<p><b>Does your employer offer an ESPP?</b></p> <p>If so, consider participating and review your selling strategy in advance.</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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# 2021 WHAT ACCOUNTS SHOULD I CONSIDER IF I WANT TO SAVE MORE? CONTINUED

EMPLOYER-PROVIDED BENEFITS & BUSINESS OWNER SAVINGS	YES	NO	TAX-DEFERRED INSURANCE OPTIONS	YES	NO
<p><b>Are you a business owner?</b></p> <p>If so, consider the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» You can contribute up to \$57,000 (\$63,500 if age 50 or over) in a 401(k), including your employer and employee contributions. See “Should I Set Up A Traditional 401(k) For My Business?” flowchart.</li> <li>» You can save more than the 401(k) amounts by opening and contributing to a Pension Plan. Contribution amounts will vary depending on several factors, such as the ages of the employees.</li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<p><b>Do you have (or would you consider) an annuity?</b></p> <p>If so, consider the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» If you have maxed out your savings in tax-deferred accounts, this option may be attractive as it provides tax deferral on the gains.</li> <li>» Depending on the contract, some annuities offer very few guarantees resulting in low-cost options.</li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p><b>Are you a business owner and do you have minor children?</b></p> <p>If so, consider the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» Consider offering your children paid positions within the business to allow them to save in their name (and to be taxed at their income bracket). A Roth IRA may be an appealing account to fund.</li> <li>» Single Owner LLCs, Sole Proprietorships and Partnerships where the only owners are the parents don't have to pay FICA taxes on the earnings of a minor child.</li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<p><b>Do you need to increase your life insurance coverage?</b></p> <p>If so, consider the benefits of buying a cash value life insurance policy, which can provide both life insurance and tax deferral on the gains.</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
ACCOUNTS TO HELP FUTURE GENERATIONS	YES	NO	OTHER ACCOUNTS	YES	NO
<p><b>Are you or your dependents planning to attend college?</b></p> <p>If so, consider using a 529 plan to save for college:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» You can use your annual exclusion amount to contribute up to \$15,000 per year to a beneficiary's 529 account, gift tax-free.</li> <li>» Alternatively, you can make a lump sum contribution of up to \$75,000 to a beneficiary's 529 account, and elect to treat it as if it were made evenly over a 5-year period, gift tax-free.</li> <li>» You may be eligible for a state income tax deduction or credit if you contribute to a plan sponsored by your state.</li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<p><b>Are you looking to invest in the markets and are not overly concerned about saving (or able to save) in tax-deferred accounts?</b></p> <p>If so, consider a taxable brokerage account:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» Long-term gains are taxed at preferential rates upon the sale (no tax at distribution from the account). Qualified dividends are also taxed at preferential rates.</li> <li>» Some investments (tax-managed funds, zero-dividend stock funds, municipal bond funds, ETFs) can further mitigate any tax liability.</li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p><b>Are you interested in funding future generations?</b></p> <p>If so, consider the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» UTMA/UGMA accounts could be used to save on behalf of minor children (or grandchildren). Be mindful of Kiddie Tax Rules.</li> <li>» Dynasty trusts could be used to provide funds for many future generations. Each state has specific rules regarding the vesting of interests and maximum duration of trusts.</li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<p><b>Are you charitably inclined?</b></p> <p>If so, consider utilizing a Donor Advised Fund.</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
			<p><b>Do you have any debts (especially credit card debt)?</b></p> <p>If so, consider paying down high-interest debt instead of saving more.</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

## Blankinship & Foster

420 Stevens Avenue  
Suite 250  
Solana Beach, CA 92075

**Phone:** 858-755-5166  
**Fax:** 858-755-5358  
**Email:** info@bfadvisors.com

[www.bfadvisors.com](http://www.bfadvisors.com)

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