



CUNA MUTUAL RETIREMENT SOLUTIONS

Retirement Plan Forum

NEWSLETTER VOLUME 2017
EDITION 1

In this issue.

- 1 Employee education highlights financial wellness
- 2 Promote BenefitsForYou on the go
- 3 5 ways to help employees save
- 4 Review 2017 plan limits
- 5 Look to the Retirement Plan Update for Monthly News

Your news continues with a fresh look in 2017.

Employee Education: Learn and Promote What's New for 2017

Your 2017 employee education program will leverage the momentum of national financial wellness programs to help employees improve their overall financial standing, gain confidence in their financial decision making and improve retirement readiness.

A new set of interactive on-demand learning modules and resources will enable employees to peruse a wide range of topics and drill down in more detail in areas that are relevant to their life and circumstances. Materials are straightforward and action-oriented, with 'next steps' clearly highlighted.

Your first quarter campaign promoted America Saves Week, February 27 – March 3. A flight of three emails featured a new on-demand education module on women and money, along with planning resources for participants offered on AmericaSavesWeek.org.

Coming next, watch for materials on National Retirement Planning Week, April 3 – 7. Employee education will highlight the importance of making retirement planning a priority, with added focus on being a confident investor. An interactive module on key investing and retirement planning concepts will be launched and promoted to your employees. They'll also be invited to tap into life-stage specific tools available on RetireOnYourTerms.org.

As the year goes on, National Simplify Your Life Week will feature a collection of on-demand modules on participant planning. Major life events will be addressed, including home ownership, kids and college, aging parents, divorce, health issues and surviving your partner. And October's National Save for Retirement Week will bring a focus on financial education from the perspective of the challenges and needs of different generations. Two additional panel discussions will address retirement transition topics, including the timing of retirement, strategies for managing retirement income, Social Security rules, Medicare basics and more.

Website and statement messages, newsletter content and promotional material for you to use to support the campaigns and overall national program.



Help increase your employee outcomes by supporting education on an ongoing basis. A great place to start: Use the promotional tools we share with you by email and online with your employees.

Go one step further! Connect your employees to education by uploading their email address to [BenefitsForYou](#). Simply submit a [skinny file](#) upload to [Send Deposit Data](#).

Promote BenefitsForYou

Have you seen the new BenefitsForYou mobile app? Give it a try and encourage your employees to do the same. Download it for your iPhone or Android device and check your retirement account anytime, anywhere.

With fingerprint log-in, it's easier than ever to leverage the power of RetireOnTarget®, see how much retirement income you're on pace to achieve, as well as to know how much to contribute to reach your goals.

CONVENIENT ACCESS

- RetireOnTarget®
- Balance
- Rate of Return
- Transaction History
- Statements

Monitor your account anytime, anywhere.

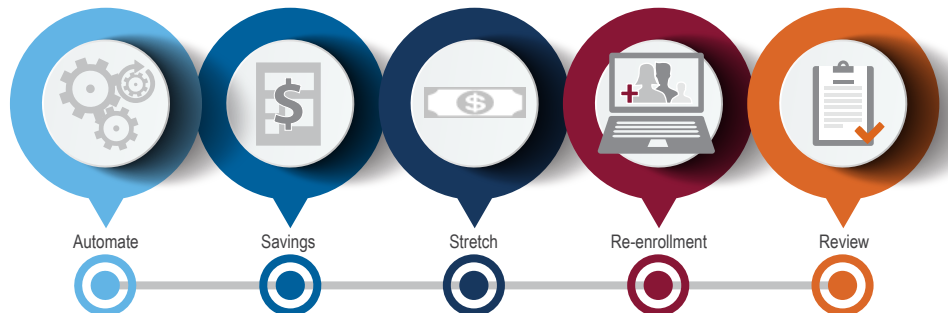


Download the app today:



5 Great Ways to Help Employees Save More

In tax season, many of your employees take time to re-assess many of their financial goals. One of the most important goals they have (even if they don't always realize it) is to achieve retirement readiness by the end of their working career. But they probably need your help, or at least a little nudge. Consider taking these 5 actions with your plan to help them save more.



Continued from page 3: 5 ways to help employees save

Automate your plan. If your participation numbers aren't where you want them to be, start using automatic enrollment. It works. Make sure you enroll them at a high enough level (such as 6%) so they are accumulating an adequate amount. Consider adding an automatic increase function to help them painlessly move to even greater savings amounts.

Make retirement savings prominent. Out of sight, out of mind. That can happen to your retirement plan if you're not communicating enough about it. Don't feel that just offering the opportunity to join the plan is enough. Instead, create a culture of saving at your organization. Keep a relevant flow of information about your plan and the importance of saving going throughout the year. Use the resources made available from CUNA Mutual Retirement Solutions such as posters, videos, webinars, newsletters, and communications. Help support the quarterly participant campaigns. A letter from your CEO to all employees about the importance of saving for retirement also helps.

Stretch your match. Your match is one of the biggest drivers of how much your employees contribute to your plan. You'll often notice the average contribution level will cluster around the maximum match level. Stretching your match is a great way to promote higher contribution levels. Here's how it works. Let's say your plan currently offers a dollar for dollar match up to 3% of pay. Consider changing it to a 50% match up to 6%. It doesn't increase your costs and you'll surely see an increase in the amount your employees contribute.

Have a re-enrollment. You've improved your plan over the years but many long-standing employees have continued to ignore the plan, don't invest enough, or are making poor investment choices. That's typical due to employee indifference. Consider doing a re-enrollment using automatic enrollment into a target date fund at adequate savings levels. You'll be surprised how few will opt out.

Review your lineup. As a fiduciary of your plan, this is a required function on an on-going basis. Do you offer an array of investments that helps your employees make good choices? Make sure you have some managed options such as target date funds. Also, consider a mix of low-cost passively managed funds as an alternative to actively managed funds. And don't have too many options. It only makes it tougher for your employees to choose.

All of these actions will help your employees save more. They'll be grateful for the help.



Do your near-retirees know about **Start Retirement** on BenefitsForYou?

Start Retirement is packed with resources and offers a convenient scheduling function for Investor Guidance Center consultations.

Review 2017 Plan Limits

Make sure you're aware of cost of living adjustments made by the Internal Revenue Service affecting dollar limitations for pension plans and other retirement-related items for tax year 2017. As the table below shows, most are unchanged from 2016.

Limitation	2016	2017
Maximum Elective Contributions: 401(k)/403(b)/457	\$18,000	\$18,000
Catch-Up Contribution	\$6,000	\$6,000
415 Limits Defined Contribution Plan:	\$53,000	\$54,000
Lesser of 100% or compensation or:	\$265,000	\$270,000
Annual Compensation Limit	\$12,500	\$12,500
Simple 401(k)/ Simple IRA	\$5,500	\$5,500
IRA Contribution	\$1,000	\$5,500
IRA Catch-Up	\$1,000	\$1,000
Highly Compensated Employees	\$120,000	\$120,000



Look to the Retirement Plan Update for Monthly News

In an effort to decrease the number of emails you receive, a monthly, consolidated email called the Retirement Plan Update has been set up. Read it to keep up on plan changes, important dates, market and DOL updates, as well as process and service enhancements. Look for it on the third Thursday of the month. ■



CUNA Mutual Retirement Solutions is a division of CUNA Mutual Group and the marketing name for CPI CUNA Mutual Retirement Solutions, BenefitsForYou, and CUNA Mutual Group are marketing names for CPI Qualified Plan Consultants, Inc. and CMFG Life Insurance Company. CMFG Life Insurance Company located in Waverly, Iowa issues annuity insurance products and is solely responsible for the financial obligations under the policies and contracts it issues.

Securities distributed by CUNA Brokerage Services, Inc. (CBSI), member FINRA/SIPC, a registered broker/dealer, 2000 Heritage Way, Waverly, Iowa 50677, toll-free 866.512.6109. Non-deposit investment and insurance products are not federally insured, involve investment risk, may lose value, and are not obligations of or guaranteed by the financial institution. Representatives offer retirement and investment education but do not provide investment, legal or tax advice. Participants are encouraged to consult their own advisors.



BENEFITSFORYOU

People driven. Outcome focused.®