2024 · WHAT ISSUES SHOULD I CONSIDER IF I LOSE MY JOB?



CASH FLOW ISSUES	YES	NO
 Are you still employed but will lose your job soon? If so, consider the following: ■ Try to increase your emergency fund reserves before you lose your job. ■ If you have a Flexible Spending Account, spend the money while still employed (or while covered under COBRA) for items you may need when unemployed. 		
Are you entitled to any compensation (back pay, sick pay, vacation pay) or a severance package? If so, consider confirming the details with your HR department.		
Were you laid off, downsized or was your position eliminated? Depending upon the terms of your termination and your state's laws, you may be eligible for unemployment benefits. Benefits are determined based on your state of residence and typically last for about 26 weeks. Note any current extensions or enhanced benefits that may be available.		
Do you need to review your budget? If so, look for areas to reduce spending, especially your discretionary expenses.		
 Will your cash flow be tight? If so, consider the following: The length of time your emergency fund will last. If you have debts, contact your creditors to see if you can reduce or defer payments while you are between jobs. Part-time jobs, freelancing, and consulting may provide some income while you are between jobs and might lead to a permanent career path. 		
Are you age 62 or older? If so, you may be eligible for Social Security benefits. However, you will need to review how timing affects your benefit amount and your overall retirement situation.		

HEALTH INSURANCE ISSUES	YES	NO
Will you lose your health insurance soon? If so, consider making sure you are up-to-date on medical and dental exams and any medical procedures before your health insurance ends.		
 Will you need health insurance? If so, consider the following: If you worked for a company with 20 or more employees, you may be eligible for COBRA, which will allow you to stay on your employer's health plan for 18 months, typically. You will have an election period of 60 days to decide. If you were terminated involuntarily, you may be eligible for premium subsidies. If you are married and your spouse has a plan through their employer, you may be able to join that plan. You may be eligible for insurance on the Health Insurance Marketplace. You have 60 days after you lose your job to enroll, according to the special enrollment period rules. If you are over age 65, you may be eligible to sign up for Medicare if you haven't already. The Special Enrollment Period for Part A and B is an eight-month window, beginning the month after the earlier of the end of your employment, or the end of 		
your employer-provided health insurance.		
ASSET & DEBT ISSUES	YES	NO
	YES	NO 🗆

2024 · WHAT ISSUES SHOULD | CONSIDER IF | LOSE MY JOB?



YES NO

YES NO

	ASSET & DEBT ISSUES (CONTINUED)	YES	NO	TAX PLANNING ISSUES
}	Do you have an emergency-linked savings account with your former employer? If so, consider taking a distribution or rolling over your account into a Roth IRA (or other designated Roth account) after separating from your employer, as distributions from this account are not subject to taxes or penalties.			Do you expect this year to be a low-income year? If so, consider the following: ■ If you have the cash available to pay the resulting income tax, doing a Roth conversion in a low-income tax year could be beneficial.
	 Do you have a home equity loan or line of credit? If so, consider the following: These may be a source to help you during a period of unemployment. They tend to have lower interest rates than credit cards. If you are currently unemployed, you most likely will not qualify for a new or increased line or loan. 			 If your income has dropped below the phaseouts, you can make contributions to Roth IRAs and/or deductible contributions to traditional IRAs. See "Can I Make A Deductible IRA Contribution?" and "Can I Contribute To My Roth IRA?" flowcharts. If you have taxable investments, you may be able to sell them and pay capital gains tax at a lower rate. Are you an enrollee in the Health Insurance Marketplace? If so, you may be eligible for the Premium Assistance Tax Credit.
	Do you have a Roth IRA? If so, the contributions can be withdrawn tax and penalty-free if you need to supplement your cash flow.			Household income and coverage restrictions apply.
}	 Do you have any unvested stock options? If so, consider the following: Review equity plan documents as you will likely forfeit some or all of these stock options. Refer to your vesting schedule to understand what will vest next and how you can coordinate your departure with the schedule. 			Are you subject to non-solicitation or non-compete agreements? If so, consider how this will impact your search for another job.
	 Do you have vested stock options? If so, consider the following: Review post-termination exercise periods, which are usually about three months from your last day of employment (but in some cases you must exercise the options before your departure). If you were terminated for cause, your vested stock options might be canceled. 			Does your former employer offer any outplacement services? Do you need to update your contact information with your network, professional organizations, online subscriptions, etc.?
	Do you have any deferred compensation? If so, review plan documents to understand the distribution schedule and the distribution option selected, such as yearly or lump sum.			
}	Did you own stock (or stock options) in a private company for which you were also employed? If so, consider the impact of the shares being illiquid and if there are any clawback or repurchase rights.			



Root. Nourish. Grow.

If Money wasn't a barrier, what would your life look like? This is a question we ask each and every client. How would you like your money to support your life? We believe that "Life is about events, supported by your dollars and cents" and at Rooted Planning Group, we know that when your roots are strong, your trunk and branches are well positioned for growth.

We want to ensure you get to that ideal life in the most graceful way possible. So you can save for that big purchase, send the kids off to college, and retire! Rooted Planning Group is a fee only planning group, so we only do what is in your best interest.

A Message from our Founder, Amy Irvine, CFP®, EA, MPAS®, CCFC

I started Rooted Planning Group out of frustration, because I really wanted to help clients build their wealth in a "different" way than the traditional wealth management firm. We are an all-female, ensemble fee-only financial planning firm, and I established our firm to always act as a fiduciary. Our services include cash flow analysis, goal planning, debt reduction and planning, student loan planning, tax planning (and preparation), education planning, investment planning, employee benefits, and risk planning.

We typically work with professional women and couples who fall in the Gen-Y, Gen-X or late-stage baby boomer age range. A fair number of our clients are lawyers, engineers, and small business owners.

It is our greatest desire to help other women feel empowered about their finances. We strive to help people grow their wealth, which sometimes means we start in the negative, with the goal of growing to the positive.

For more information and disclosures about our firm, visit: www.rootedpg.com

Amy Irvine