## 2020 · WHAT DOCUMENTS DO I NEED TO KEEP ON FILE?



	YES	NO	HEALTHCARE DOCUMENTS (CONTINUED)
<ul> <li>Are you filing income tax returns?</li> <li>If so, consider the following:</li> <li>Keep at least three years of state and federal tax returns and supporting documentation on file. Supporting documentation includes records that prove any income, deductions, or credits claimed (W-2, 1099, end of year statements from banks and</li> </ul>			If you are enrolled in an employer drug plan that is considered creditable, keep your annual "Notice of Creditable Coverage" provided by your employer. This is needed if you enroll in Part D at a later time.
investment accounts).			LEGAL DOCUMENTS
<ul> <li>Depending on the state (like CA), you may need to keep tax returns for longer than three years.</li> <li>If you think you forgot to report income and it's more than 25% of gross income, keep six years of tax returns on file.</li> <li>If you are claiming a loss for worthless securities or bad debt deduction, keep records for seven years.</li> </ul>			Are you a U.S. citizen? If so, keep a copy of your Social Security card, birth certificate, and passport. Are you a foreign national?
If so, keep all 709s that you file, and any 8971s or 706s issued to			If so, keep all documents related to your entrance into the United States, such as passport, Green Card, and I-94.
you, along with any supporting documentation in your permanent records.			Do you have an estate plan? If so, keep a copy of your Will, Trust(s), Powers of Attorney (General and Health Care), Living Will, and beneficiary designations on file, and store the originals in a safe place. Also,
LTHCARE DOCUMENTS	YES	NO	consider giving copies to people that play an important role in your estate plan, such as your agents, Executor(s) and Trustee(s).
<b>Will you apply for Medicaid (perhaps due to long-term care expenses)?</b> If so, keep all financial statements and records of transactions for the previous five years to support your application for Medicaid as there is a five-year look-back provision.			Are you currently married? If so, keep your marriage certificate on file, which may be needed in case of a name change, proof of marriage for insurance benefits, and for obtaining a joint mortgage. If you have a prenuptial agreement, store your original copy in a safe place.
<b>Do you have a Health Savings Account (HSA)?</b> If so, keep all medical receipts from the date the HSA was opened.			Have you been divorced? If so, keep your divorce papers on file.
<b>Did you write off medical expenses on your tax return?</b> If so, keep records for as long as you keep your tax returns (generally three years).			Have you served in the military? If so, keep your military discharge papers as they may be needed to prove your eligibility for veteran benefits.
<ul> <li>Are you on Medicare?</li> <li>If so, consider the following:</li> <li>Keep your Medicare Summary Notices for at least a year, or until your bill is paid in full. (continue on next column)</li> </ul>			<b>Do you have a safety deposit box?</b> If so, keep the necessary information to find and access the safety deposit box.

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ASSET & DEBT RELATED DOCUMENTS	YES	NO	ASSET & DEBT RELATED DOCUMENTS (CONTINUED)	YES	NC
<ul> <li>Do you have any investment accounts or bank accounts? If so, consider the following:</li> <li>Keep the most current statements on file (paper or electronic).</li> <li>Keep the End of Year statement on file until you complete your tax return.</li> <li>If you own investments purchased before 2012 (the year that custodians were required to track cost basis), keep records of what you paid for the non-covered investments in the event you sell them in the future as the 1099 may not report cost basis.</li> <li>Do you maintain any retirement accounts? If so, consider the following:</li> </ul>			<ul> <li>Do you own property (automobiles, real estate)?</li> <li>If so, consider the following:</li> <li>Keep any deeds, titles, settlement statements, or bills of sale on file until you decide to sell the property.</li> <li>Keep documentation showing purchase-related fees that were capitalized on file until you decide to sell the property.</li> </ul>		
			Do you have a home office for which you receive a tax deduction (perhaps you are self-employed)? If so, keep all receipts for any housing/home office-related expenses (such as utility bills and mortgage statements) to prove the home office deduction.		
<ul> <li>Keep documentation on any contributions and withdrawals.</li> <li>If you made a Roth conversion, keep records showing the conversion.</li> <li>If you made non-deductible traditional IRA contributions, keep</li> </ul>			<ul> <li>Have you made any improvements to your home?</li> <li>If so, keep any receipts related to the home improvement as it may be used to increase the cost basis for your property.</li> </ul>		
<ul> <li>Form 8606 until the account is fully withdrawn to track cost basis.</li> <li>Are you a small business owner?</li> <li>If so, keep the following:</li> <li>Federal EIN, business formation documents, ownership agreements, and any business licenses.</li> <li>Payroll records, employment tax records, and receipts for all</li> </ul>			<b>Do you own property in multiple states?</b> If so, keep detailed records proving which state you lived in for the majority of the year (receipts, or travel itineraries). It is especially important if you are concerned about your state income tax liability and/or establishing residency.		
expenses. ■ Business asset records, such as purchase and sales invoices,			OTHER DOCUMENTS	YES	NO
<ul> <li>deeds, and titles.</li> <li>Records of employee benefits, such as retirement plan documents.</li> </ul>			<b>Do you have any higher education (college, certifications)?</b> If so, keep copies proving that you completed the coursework.		
<b>Do you have any debts (student loans, mortgage, etc.)?</b> If so, keep the loan documents until the loan is paid off. Once the loan is paid off, keep documentation on file proving that the loan			<b>Do you have any insurance policies (homeowners, disability, life insurance)?</b> If so, keep the most current policies on file.		
has been paid in full. (continue on next column)			Are you currently employed? If so, keep any contracts signed, including any non-solicit or non-compete agreements.		



Disclaimer: Information provided is for educational purposes only and does not constitute investment, legal or tax advice. All examples are hypothetical and for illustrative purposes only. Past performance of any market results is no assurance of future performance. The information contained herein has been obtained from sources deemed reliable but is not guaranteed. Legislation and tax laws are constantly changing, so please reference the date the document was updated for accuracy of information provided.

Please contact The Retirement Planning Group for more complete information based on your personal circumstances and to obtain individual investment advice.

## **The Retirement Planning Group**

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