

# **150** best × advisers for doctors

### 🔆 Our exclusive list 🌟

or many a physician, the roller coaster market and uncertain economy have transformed financial planning from a low priority to an urgent concern. If you're among those seeking expert guidance, our third, updated, list of the best financial advisers for doctors should help you find it.

This year, we began the selection process by asking you, our readers, to recommend financial advisers you've found knowledgeable and insightful. Many of you responded, describing how an adviser had helped you turn around a sticky financial situation or had pointed you toward a sensible path.

We then invited your nominees to take part in our rigorous screening process. Next, we reevaluated candidates from our last list (published in the Aug. 7, 2000 issue) and sought new recommendations from national and regional financial planning organizations.

Every candidate filled out an extensive questionnaire covering his or her credentials, educational background, experience, percentage of doctor clients, size of the firm, affiliations with

medical organizations, and noteworthy professional achievement. To evaluate the depth and type of advice they give clients, we reviewed a sample plan from each individual. We also looked at each adviser's Form ADV, which is filed with the SEC and describes professional background and payment methods.

To whittle the field of qualified candidates, we favored those recommended by our readers, and nominees whose interests were more focused on the health care profession. We eliminated advis-

Need a new economic roadmap for these difficult times? Here are some experts who can help you find your way.

By Leslie Kane SENIOR EDITOR

> ers who are paid strictly by commission, since we believe that diminishes your chances of getting unbiased advice. And to allow us to include as many choices as possible in each geographical area, we made the tough decision to include only one adviser per firm, even though many firms listed have several partners who might qualify for inclusion.

> Many of the advisers we chose have specialized financial planning credentials. Here's what the initials mean: Certified Financial Planner (CFP) designates compre

hensive financial planning expertise. Certified Public Accountant (CPA) indicates expertise in tax issues. Personal Financial Specialist (PFS) is used by CPAs who specialize in financial planning. Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA) designates someone who has passed rigorous exams on investments and portfolio management given by the Association for Investment Management and Research. Chartered Financial Consultant (ChFC) indicates a focus on general financial planning. And CLU (Chartered Life Underwriters) denotes someone who specializes in insurance.

Many advisers require that you invest a minimum amount with

their firm if you want them to manage your investments, and we've listed those minimum requirements. However, almost all the advisers on our list will draw up a financial plan or consult with you for an hourly or flat fee. In addition, some of the minimum requirements are flexible, depending on your financial situation.

#### Best financial advisers

#### – Indiana –

Elaine E. Bedel, MBA, CFP<sup>®</sup> Bedel Financial Consulting, Inc. Indianapolis 317-843-1358 888-843-1358 ebedel@bedelfinancial.com

## BEDEL FINANCIAL CONSULTING, INC.

#### **Financial Planning and Investment Management**

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Elaine E. Bedel, MBA, CFP°

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**Financial Planning and Investment Management** 

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works with clients to efficiently and effectively use their financial resources to accomplish their shortterm and long-term goals.

We provide guidance in the following areas:

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- education funding
- income tax planning
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  - estate planning
  - charitable
  - planningdivorce settle-
  - ment issuesfamily needs
  - planning
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"We work with you to make the wisest use of your financial resources."

at Bedel Financial Consulting establish an asset allocation strategy based on a client's unique goals and objectives prior to investing the funds. In addition, investments can be quickly adjusted to meet client life changes or a sudden change in income needs.

#### Talk With Us

At Bedel Financial Consulting, we know you must have confidence in our ability to advise you about your finances. We also understand the importance of feel-



ing comfortable with the members of our firm. We will arrange an initial meeting with a potential client, at no cost or obligation, to gather financial information and discuss client needs and goals. Following the meeting, Bedel Financial Consulting sends an engagement letter outlining the financial planning services that will be provided and the associated planning service fee. Once the client agrees with the engagement letter, the planning process begins.

Our clients range from young professionals to people of post-retirement age. It's never too early to start your financial planning or to implement your investment strategy. Bedel Financial

"It's never too early or too late to start financial planning.

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