

The Power to Care:
Plan ahead for your
financial needs as
you and your loved
ones age



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- 1** Start trust and estate planning. Organize your financial records and work with financial and legal professionals to plan for future financial needs.
- 2** Appoint a power of attorney. This is a trusted individual who can manage legal or financial matters on your behalf in the future if needed.
- 3** Designate a trusted contact for your financial accounts. This is another trusted individual you can designate. In the event of an emergency, like suspected financial exploitation, financial institutions can reach out to this person to help resolve the issue.
- 4** Never give out information or money in response to email requests, text messages, or phone calls. These communications may appear to be from a legitimate source but can be used to commit fraud or a scam.
- 5** Trust but verify. Apply due diligence when sending funds by performing online searches to see if the scenario looks legitimate or if others have been victimized by similar-sounding frauds or scams. Get supporting documents, meet people, and view goods in person. Be on alert if you receive a request to send funds in cash, cryptocurrency, prepaid debit cards, or gift cards.
- 6** Stay connected. Being involved in the community and having trusted individuals to assist with financial matters can provide you with a source for advice and guidance if you're ever a victim of financial exploitation.
- 7** Don't hesitate to ask for help right away. Reach out to others if you are concerned that you could be the victim of fraud or financial exploitation. The sooner you ask for assistance, the sooner you can work to recover any lost funds and prevent further losses.

For more information about fraud, identity theft, and senior financial exploitation, visit:

[schwab.com/schwabsafe](https://www.schwab.com/schwabsafe) | [schwab.com/seniors](https://www.schwab.com/seniors)

If you suspect that you or someone else is being exploited

You or a trusted person should contact Adult Protective Services. You can find information about your local Adult Protective Services office at the Eldercare Locator on [eldercare.gov](https://www.eldercare.gov), a public service provided by the U.S. Administration for Community Living, or by calling **800-677-1116**.

Also contact Schwab or any other financial institutions so that they can help protect clients and their assets.

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