



## Top Ten Financial Planning Tips

- ◆ Write down your dreams and goals for one year, five years, and your lifetime, both personal and financial.
- ◆ Create an emergency cash reserve fund consisting of 3-6 months of expenses.



## Top Ten Financial Planning Tips

- ◆ Check your credit report annually, free of charge, at [www.annualcreditreport.com](http://www.annualcreditreport.com).
- ◆ Eliminate your consumer debt, such as car payments, and pay off credit cards monthly. Consider financing your residence for 15 years rather than 30.



## Top Ten Financial Planning Tips

- ◆ Consider saving for college expenses using the Future Scholar 529 College Savings Plan Direct Program at [www.futurescholar.com](http://www.futurescholar.com).
- ◆ Save for retirement - start early and save systematically with a goal of at least 10% of your salary. Use The Vanguard Retirement Center at [www.vanguard.com](http://www.vanguard.com) as a planning resource.



## Top Ten Financial Planning Tips

- ◆ Review your need for life insurance—if needed, term insurance coverage is best in most situations.
- ◆ Review your need for disability insurance – you are more likely to become disabled than to die early.



## Top Ten Financial Planning Tips

- ◆ Review your health, home, and auto insurance coverage to insure that you are adequately covered.
- ◆ Review your will and other estate documents with your attorney. You can access the South Carolina Statutory Form for your Health Care Power of Attorney at [www.state.sc.us/Itgov/aging/docs/HealthCarePowerofAttorney.pdf](http://www.state.sc.us/Itgov/aging/docs/HealthCarePowerofAttorney.pdf)