



# Understanding Annuities and More

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HOSTED BY TOM DICKSON  
FINANCIAL EXPERTS NETWORK  
DEC. 10, 2019

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# Introducing Tom Dickson's Financial Experts Education Program for Financial Advisors

# New Members-Only Program for Financial Advisors and Planners

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**Background:** Tom Dickson has hosted over 300 webinars, starting in 2008, that have drawn over 130,000 financial advisors. Tom's live *Financial Experts* webinars have featured nationally-recognized experts like Wade Pfau, Harold Evensky, Larry Kotlikoff. And "Undiscovered" experts like Aaron Zolbrod (Medicare) and Tom Riekse (LTCi) whose excellent ratings were 96% and 90%, respectively. In 2019, our webinars have **an 86% excellent rating**.

## **What's unique about Tom's Financial Experts program?**

A: Our mission is to educate financial advisors so they may better serve their clients. Our formula is to use true experts to deliver the education you need to advise clients on topical (e.g. new tax law) and common challenges (e.g. Social Security to college financial aid). 90% of 1,865 webinar attendees when surveyed responded: "I learned something on Tom's webinars that will help me better serve my clients."

## **Who attends your webinars? Do you provide CE credits?**

A: 43% of our attendees are fee-only financial planners, 46% are dually registered advisors. Yes, we automatically submit CE credits for CFPs, and certificates are provided for those with the American College designations (CLU, RICP or ChFC). We expect to offer a minimum of 24 CE-eligible programs in 2020, to include Ethics CE.

## **What's it cost?**

A: You can join for \$9 a month and quit any time. There is a \$25 termination fee, if you quit after taking the Ethics CE.

# The EXPERT in Specialized Area

National Figures and **Undiscovered** EXPERTS

The “**Dean**” of  
Financial  
Planning



**Bob Keebler**  
**TOP CPA**



**Kurt C.**  
Mr. Social Security



**Aaron Zolbrod**  
Medicare Specialist



# Webinar Series Comparison

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## FINANCIAL EXPERTS

1. **LIVE** Webinars with Lots of Q&A
2. Range of Topics: Planning-Centric
3. **Team** of National-Level Experts
4. **Edited** Transcripts + Tip Sheets
5. **Study Groups**
6. **Client Invites**
7. > 24 CE-Eligible Programs

## OTHER PLATFORMS

1. May be Replays Only
2. Narrow Focus: News or Product
3. Limited or 1-2 Experts
4. Few provide transcripts
5. No Study Groups
6. No Client Invites
7. CE: Not all provide for American College designations.

# Financial Advisor Feedback

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**86%** Excellent Rating for 2020 Webinars

**90%** of Advisors\* surveyed “I learned something on Tom’s webinars that will help me better serve my clients.”

\*1,865 advisors surveyed.

# Member Benefits

\$9 per Month  
\$99 Annual

[www.financialexpertsnetwork.com/subscriptions](http://www.financialexpertsnetwork.com/subscriptions)

25 CE Credits

|  | Members   |
|--|-----------|
| <b>Webinars</b>  |           |
| Access to <b>all live</b> webinars.                          | Yes       |
| Access to <b>study group sessions</b> .                      | Yes       |
| <b>Ethics CE</b> for CFP and American College designations.  | 2 Classes |
| <b>Automated</b> CE Reporting to CFP Board                   | Yes       |
| <b>Certificates for self-reporting</b>                       | Yes       |
| Replays of <b>all webinars</b>                               | Yes       |
| <b>Edited</b> Webinar Transcripts with must-know facts       | Yes       |
| Financial Expert Tip sheets; <b>12 Fafsa Tips</b> .          | Yes       |
| Submit questions, <b>in advance</b> , for experts to answer. | Yes       |
| Community Forum  | Yes       |
| Submit Case Studies to be considered as part of webinars.    | Yes       |
| 1-click webinar registration                                 | Yes       |
| Opt-in control   | Yes       |

March 18  
Sept. 9

# 2020 Live Webinar Calendar

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## January

- Medicare (Jan. 7)
- IRAs and More with Ed Slott (Jan. 14)
- Must-See FinTech (Jan. 21)

## February

- ETF Trends (Feb. 5)
- 529 Plans

## March

- Modeling Annuities in Financial Planning
- Ethics CE (March 18)
- Mortgage Planning

## April-August

- Life Insurance
- HSAs
- Financial Planning Software Tools
- Direct Real Estate Investments
- Alternatives: REITS, MLPS, Metals
- Divorce Planning
- End-of-Life Planning
- Modeling Mortgages
- Portfolio Construction
- Asset Allocation
- ESG Investing

**Green means  
BOOKED**

## Sept

- Ethics (Sept. 9)
- Medicare

## Oct.

- Fafsa
- College Funding

## Nov.

- Long Term Care Insurance

## Dec.

- Year-End Tax Strategies



# Sample Edited Medicare Transcript

*provided to Members*

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93%

**Excellent  
Rating**

## **Understanding Medicare Plan Choices With Aaron Zolbrod, CEO of The Health Insurance Store**

### **What's covered by Medicare Parts A and B:**

**Part A covers hospitalization.** If you're hospitalized for any period of time, up to 60 consecutive days, your bill will be \$1,364. To be clear, you will be responsible for \$1,364 regardless of whether you were hospitalized for one day, 21 days or 60 days; your bill is \$1,364. So that's kind of a strange dynamic of Medicare. But it is what it is. That doesn't change until the 61st consecutive day in the hospital. And at that time, it would go up to \$335 per day, from day 61 through 90 and \$682 per day from days 91 through 150. I did have two clients in 2017 that were we're in the hospital over 100 consecutive days. I'm going to talk about one in case as we move on with the presentation.

**Part B covers your medical.** This is your common outpatient procedures and services. So, your doctor visits and your specialist visits. And testing... blood tests, x-rays, CAT scans, MRIs, outpatient surgical procedures, cataract, carpal tunnel, and colonoscopy.

**Members** receive Financial Aid Expert  
Mark Kantrowitz's ANSWERS to  
58 Fafsa and Financial Aid questions

Mark Kantrowitz with Suze Orman



**Question & Answer Session: Answered during Webinar**

**Divorce Question from Eric:** When parents are divorced, if the divorce agreement allows that the child can put down the address of the parent with the lower income, are there any other records that parents would need to provide to prove that that residents school records driver's license to FAFSA or college asked for custody agreement to close?"

**Mark's Answer:** Some colleges are going to want to see a copy of the child custody arrangement. So, if you do change from what's in the original divorce decree, go back to court and get it modified so that when you can show them that it actually reflects the arrangement that was agreed to in court. Also, colleges will be very suspicious However, if your child is theoretically living with a parent in a different

# Sign up or learn more at: www.financialexpertsnetwork.com

## Upcoming Webinars

### Tom Dickson's 2020 Webinar Calendar + Members-Only Program

Presented by Tom Dickson  
Friday, December 20, 2019

Register »

### Tom Dickson's 2020 Webinar Calendar + Members-Only Program

Presented by Tom Dickson  
Friday, December 13, 2019

Register »

## LIVE educational webinars for Financial Advisors!

Financial Experts' live webinars have drawn over 130,000 financial advisors with financial experts like Wade Pfau, Michael Finke, Larry Kotlikoff delivering "actionable" advice to help you better serve your clients. *90% of webinar attendees surveyed "learned something that will help them better serve their clients."*\*Not surprising, **83%** of our webinars have been rated **excellent!**

We are excited to announce our Members-Only program that features **LIVE webinars with 24 CE-eligible programs, including Ethics CE**. Members receive special access to **experts with deep expertise** in fields like college planning, Medicare, Social Security, Taxes and much more. Plus, you get access to all webinar replays, transcripts, Experts Guides and Case Study Groups.

To learn more, [click here](#) to register for an info session. To subscribe, use the button below.

Sign me up for \$9 trial

# Upcoming Webinars

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[WWW.FINANCIALEXPERTSNETWORK.COM](http://WWW.FINANCIALEXPERTSNETWORK.COM)

**Year-End Tax Planning Your Clients Should Do**

Tuesday, December 17, 2019 at 4:00 PM ET

Presented by Bob Keebler

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**Today's Mortgage Options for Millennials to Centennials**

Wednesday, December 18, 2019 at 4:00 PM ET

Presented by Phil Chenier

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**Must-See FinTech for Financial Advisors**

Tuesday, January 21, 2020 at 3:30 PM ET

## **Members Only:**

Last Minute Fafsa Questions on Dec. 12: **Members Only**

Medicare on Jan. 7 at 4:00 ET **CE+ for Members Only**

Ethics CE on March 18 and Sept. 9 **CE+ for Members Only**

# Today's Speaker

## **WADE D. PFAU**

PhD, CFA®



Professor of Retirement Income

RICP® Program Director

Co-Director of the New York Life Center for Retirement Income

### **Areas of Expertise:**

Annuities, Financial Planning, Investments, Life Insurance Planning, Life Insurance Practices, Portfolio Management, Retirement Planning

BA, University of Iowa

BS, University of Iowa

MA, Princeton University

PhD, Princeton University

# Requirements to obtain CE

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## CFPs

1. Must attend entire session
2. Must use unique URL to login

NO CE for Phone Only

**3. Must input CFP ID # in survey**

## RICPs, CLUs and ChFCs

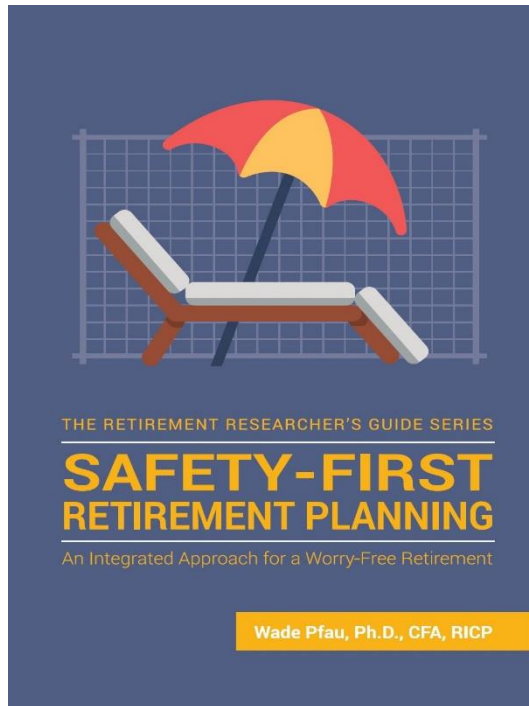
1. Must attend entire session
2. Must use unique URL to login

NO CE for Phone Only

**3. Must note self-report in survey**

# Free Copy of Wade's Book

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Courtesy of DPL Partners

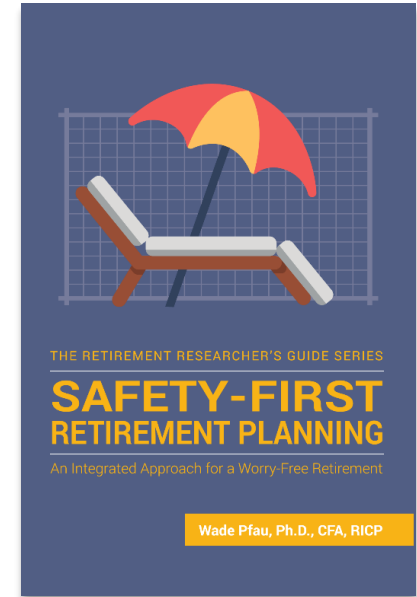
Schedule a 15-minute Intro Call:

<https://bridge.dplfp.com/schedule-your-call-with-dpl-for-free-wade-pfau-book>



RETIREMENT BEGINS WITH A PLAN™

# Understanding How Different Types of Annuities Work



Presented by:

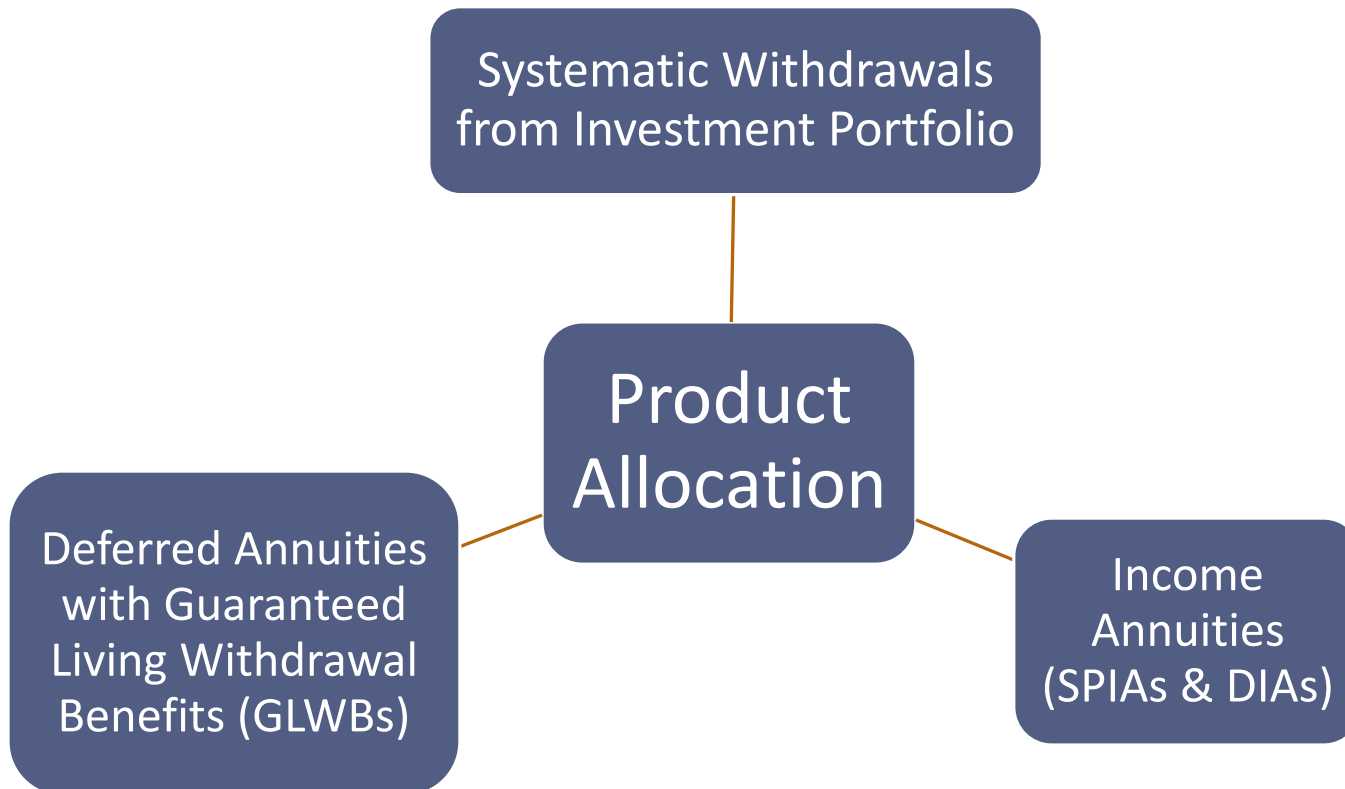
**Wade Pfau, Ph.D., CFA, RICP**

RICP Curriculum Director

The American College for Financial Services & RetirementResearcher.com







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Caveat

Assuming “Good” Annuities

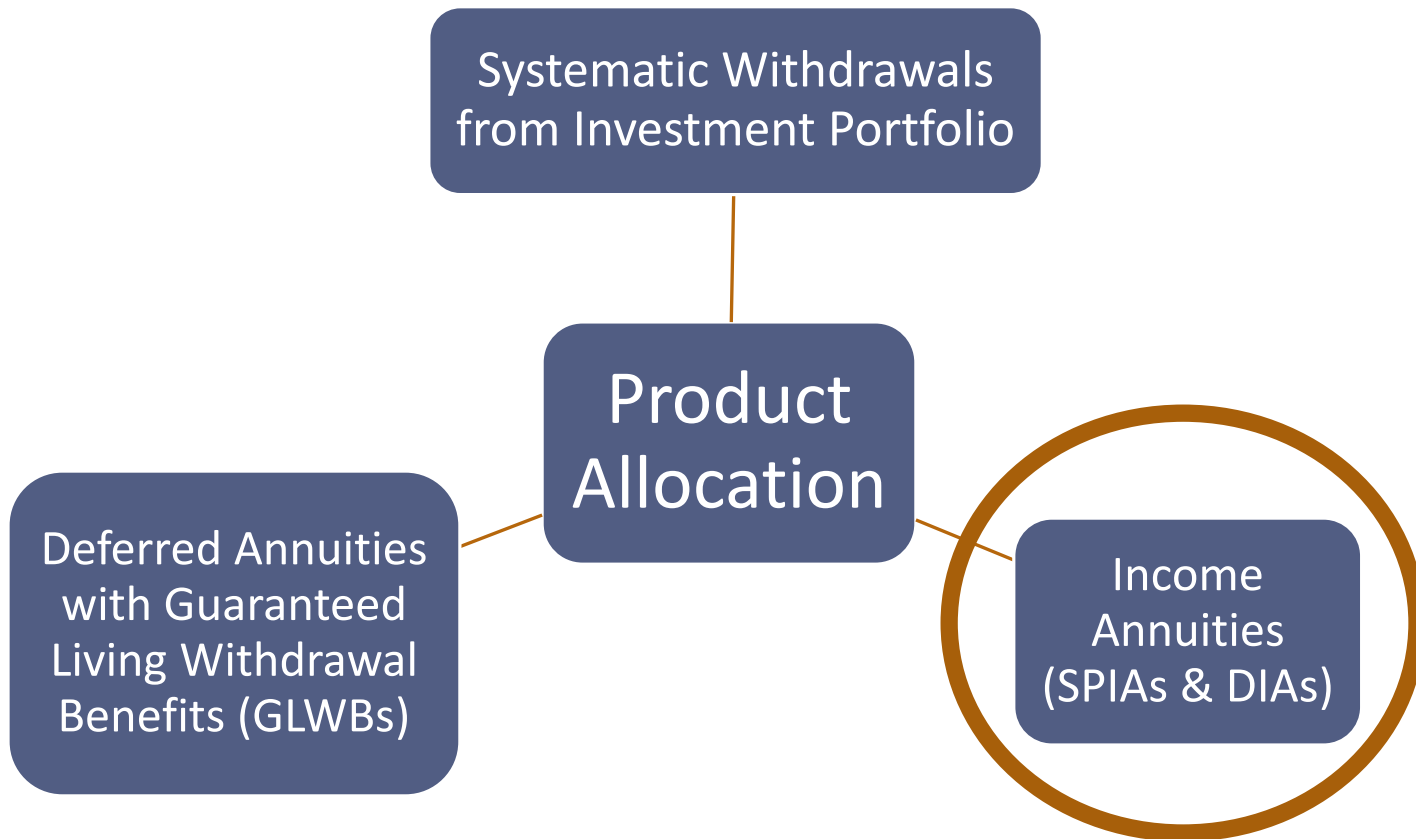
i.e., Competitively Priced

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# Annuity Vocabulary

**Fixed vs. Variable**

**Immediate vs. Deferred**



# Income Annuities (SPIAs and DIAs)

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*Who is covered by an annuity?*

owner, annuitant, beneficiary

*When do income payments start?*

immediate or deferred

*Do income annuities cover one life or two?*

*What are the different flavors of payouts?*

Life only, life with period certain, life with cash refund, life with installment refund, period certain (not linked to mortality)

*Are payments fixed or do they grow over time?*

Level payments, cost-of-living adjustments, inflation-indexed (CPI)

# Pricing an Income Annuity

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- 1) Mortality rates (which vary by age and gender) impact how long payments will be made.
- 2) Interest rates impact the returns the annuity provider can earn on the underlying annuitized assets.
- 3) Overhead costs relate to extra charges an annuity provider seeks to cover business expenses and to manage risks related to the accuracy of their future mortality and interest rate predictions.

# Pricing an Income Annuity – Life Only for 65-Year Old Female

| Discount Rate:  |          | 3.00%           |                            |                        |                                    |
|---|----------|-----------------|----------------------------|------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Age   | Income   | Discount Factor | Discounted Value of Income | Survival Probabilities | Survival-Weighted Discounted Value |
| 65  | \$10,000 | 100.0%          | \$10,000                   | 100.0%                 | \$10,000                           |
| 66  | \$10,000 | 97.1%           | \$9,709                    | 99.4%                  | \$9,646                            |
| 67  | \$10,000 | 94.3%           | \$9,426                    | 98.7%                  | \$9,302                            |
| 68  | \$10,000 | 91.5%           | \$9,151                    | 98.0%                  | \$8,965                            |
| 69  | \$10,000 | 88.8%           | \$8,885                    | 97.2%                  | \$8,637                            |
| 70  | \$10,000 | 86.3%           | \$8,626                    | 96.4%                  | \$8,315                            |
| 71  | \$10,000 | 83.7%           | \$8,375                    | 95.5%                  | \$8,000                            |
| 72  | \$10,000 | 81.3%           | \$8,131                    | 94.6%                  | \$7,691                            |
| ...   | ...      | ...             | ...                        | ...                    | ...                                |
| 95  | \$10,000 | 41.2%           | \$4,120                    | 30.2%                  | \$1,245                            |
| 96  | \$10,000 | 40.0%           | \$4,000                    | 25.7%                  | \$1,029                            |
| 97  | \$10,000 | 38.8%           | \$3,883                    | 21.5%                  | \$835                              |
| 98  | \$10,000 | 37.7%           | \$3,770                    | 17.5%                  | \$660                              |
| 99  | \$10,000 | 36.6%           | \$3,660                    | 14.0%                  | \$512                              |
| 100   | \$10,000 | 35.5%           | \$3,554                    | 10.8%                  | \$384                              |
| Cost of Bond Ladder (Through Age 100):  |          |                 | \$224,872                  |                        |                                    |
| Sustainable Withdrawal Rate:  |          |                 | 4.45%                      |                        |                                    |
| Cost of Annuity (Survival-Weighted Present Discounted Value of the Income Stream Through 104):  |          |                 |                            |                        | \$172,915                          |
| Annuity Payout Rate:  |          |                 |                            |                        | 5.78%                              |
| *Survival Probabilities are calculated from the Society of Actuaries 2012 Individual Annuitant Mortality Tables with improvements through 2019. |          |                 |                            |                        |                                    |

**Bond Ladder  
through age 100  
costs 30% more!**

# Other Income Annuity Pricing Dynamics

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Reduced payment for:

- 1) increased certainty of payments (period certain, cash refund)
- 2) Joint life instead of single life
- 3) Cost-of-living adjustments on payments



# Income Annuities and Investment Returns

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Payout rate  $\neq$  Rate of return

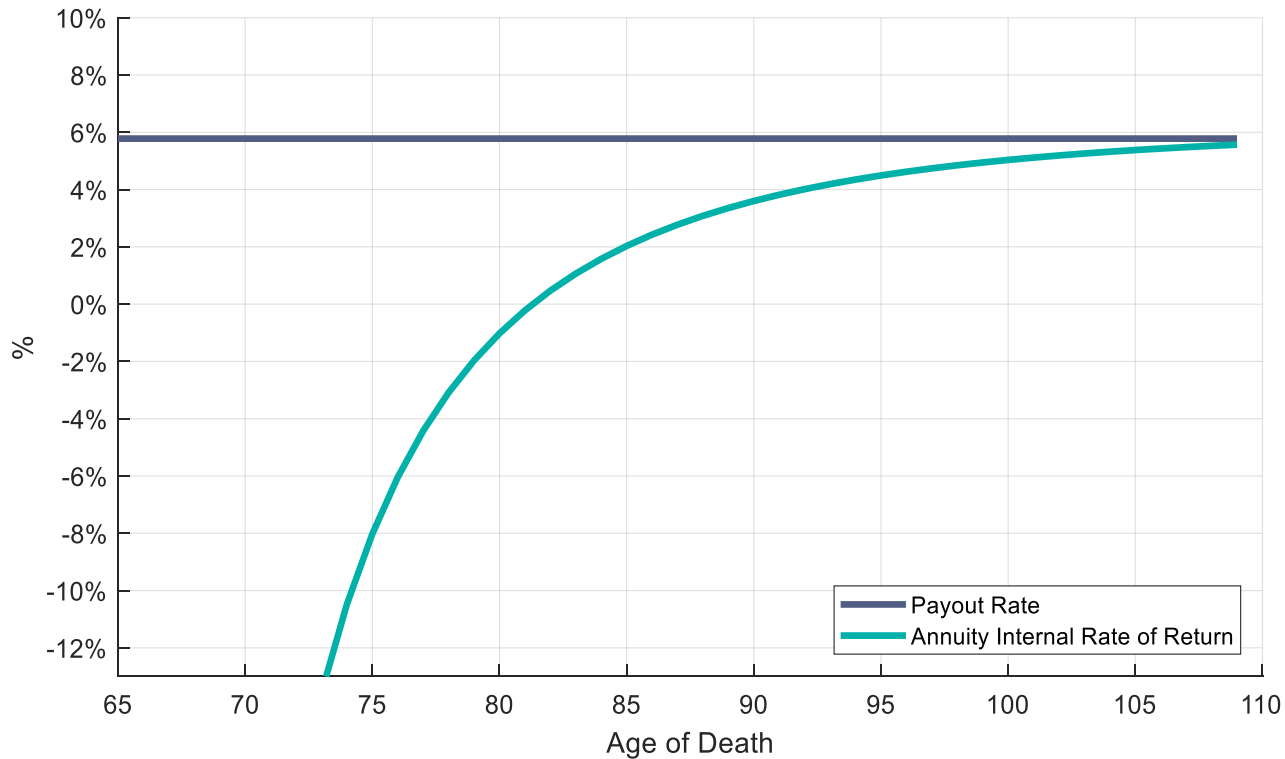
payout rate includes return of principal

payout rate is comparable to “4% rule” style portfolio withdrawal rates

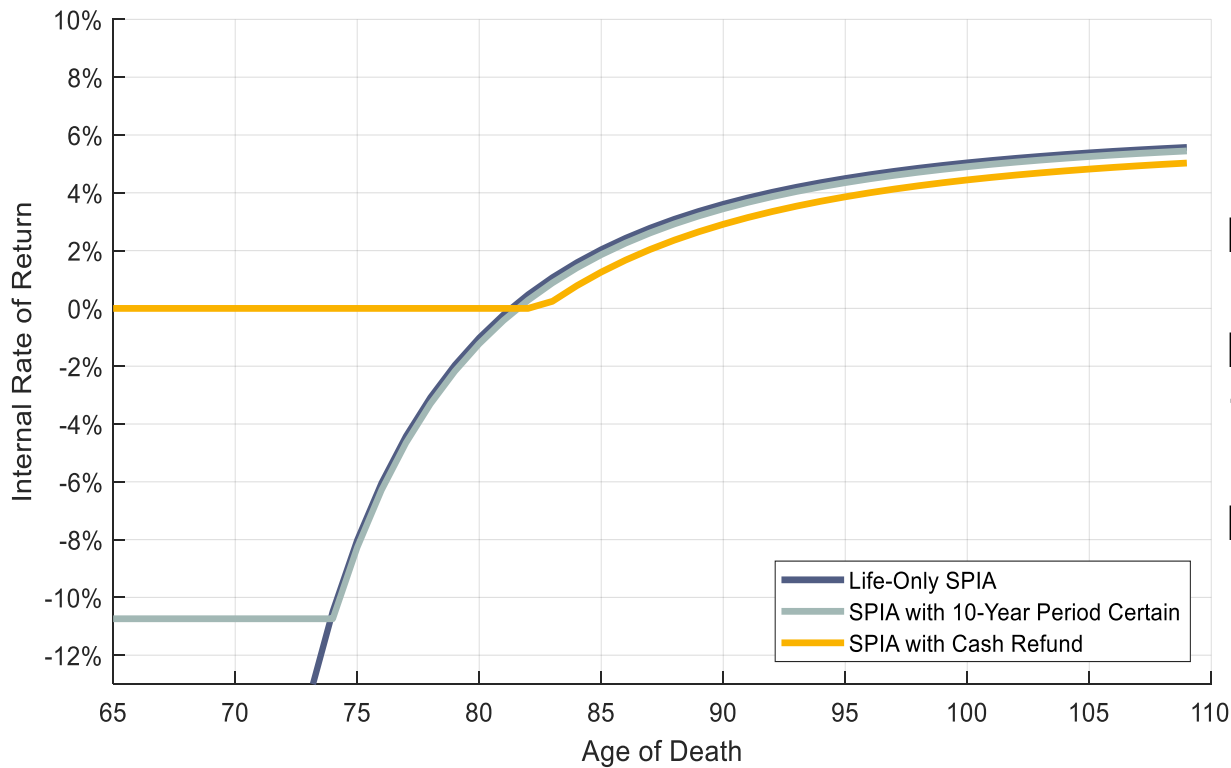
Payout rate includes an underlying return assumption linked to performance of insurance company’s general account

- ❖ Primarily fixed income
- ❖ Asset-liability matching
- ❖ Higher fixed income yields than households might earn – longer maturity, more diversified credit risk, less need for liquidity, institutional pricing on trades

# Mechanics of a Single-Premium Immediate Annuity Payout Rate and Internal Rate of Return by Age of Death for Purchase by a Female at Age 65



# Mechanics of a Single-Premium Immediate Annuity Payout Rate and Internal Rate of Return by Age of Death for Purchase by a Female at Age 65



Life Only: 5.78%

Life with  
10-Year Period Certain: 5.69%

Life with Cash Refund: 5.38%

# Fees vs. Money's Worth for Income Annuities

| Discount Rate:   |          | 3.00%           |                            |                        |                                    |  |
|--|----------|-----------------|----------------------------|------------------------|------------------------------------|--|
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| Cost of Annuity (Survival-Weighted Present Discounted Value of the Income Stream): |          |                 |                            |                        | \$172,915                          |  |
| Annuity Payout Rate:   |          |                 |                            |                        | 5.78%                              |  |

# Deferred Income Annuities

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Including a deferral period for an income annuity increases the payout rate for two reasons:

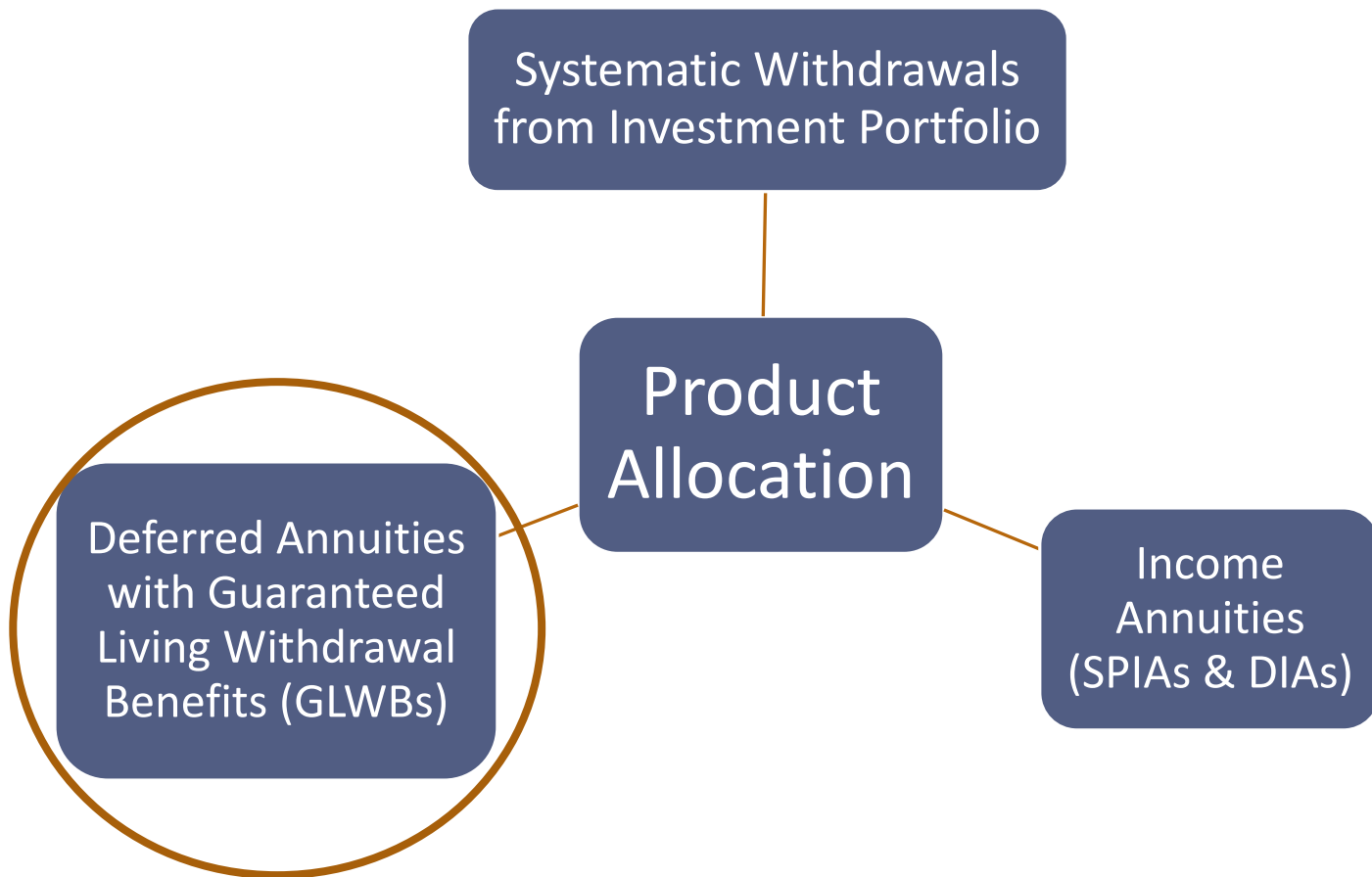
- 1) Reduced probability of survival for receiving payments
- 2) Opportunity for investment growth on premiums in insurance company's general account

# What Age to Buy an Annuity?

## Implied Longevity Yield

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| <b>Current Age</b> | <b>\$1,000 of Lifetime<br/>Income<br/>with SPIA today</b> | <b>\$1,000 of Lifetime<br/>Income<br/>with SPIA in 5 Years</b> | <b>Implied Longevity<br/>Yield</b> |
|--------------------|---|--|------------------------------------|
| 65                 | \$17,291  | \$15,197   | 3.75%                              |
| 70                 | \$15,197  | \$12,920   | 4.09%                              |
| 75                 | \$12,920  | \$10,493   | 4.68%                              |
| 80                 | \$10,493  | \$8,105  | 6.08%                              |
| 85                 | \$8,105   | \$6,045  | 9.25%                              |



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# Variable Annuities



# Deferred Variable Annuity – General Features

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Downside spending protection through optional guaranteed lifetime withdrawal benefit (GLWB)

Upside potential through asset growth and income step-ups

Liquidity – contract is not annuitized

Tax deferral

# Deferred Variable Annuity – Behavioral Aspects

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Obtain risk pooling without “sacrificing” asset

Can still see assets on the balance sheet

Comfort with investing aggressively because of guarantee

Help to stay the course with market volatility

# Variable Annuity Vocabulary

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Guaranteed Lifetime Withdrawal Benefit

Benefit Base

Rollup Rate

Contract Value

Step-up opportunities

Guaranteed Withdrawal Rate

# Key Issues

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1. Living benefit: How do guarantees grow during the deferral period?
2. Living benefit: How are guaranteed withdrawals determined?
3. What is the death benefit?
4. How does the insurance company manage its risks?

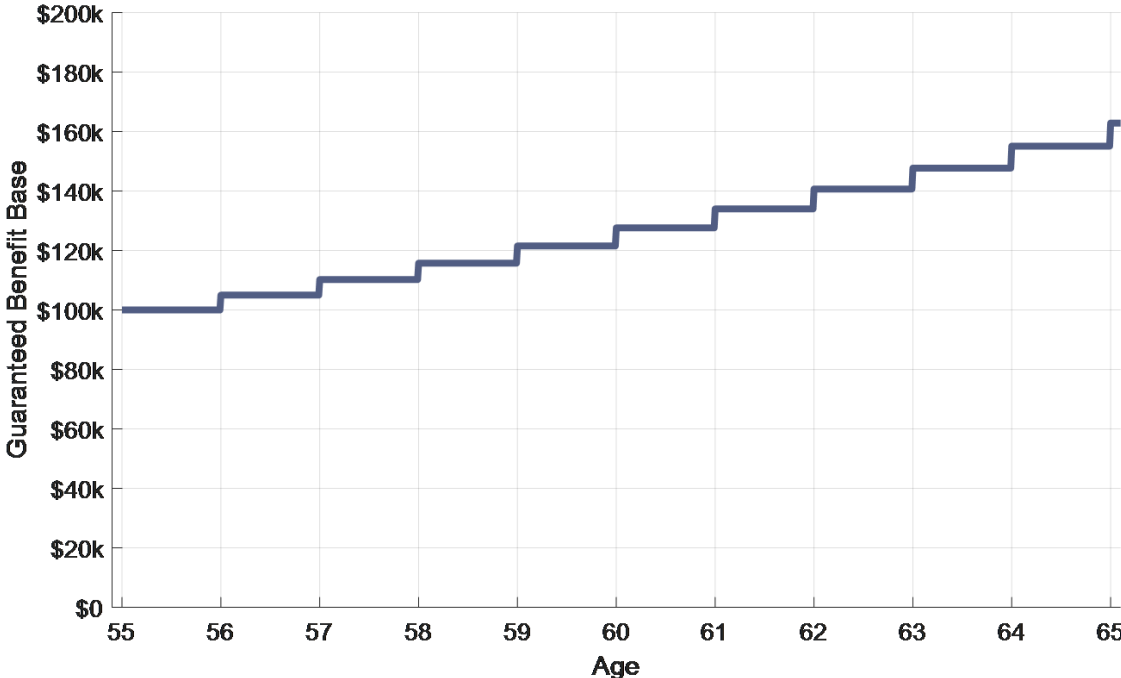
# VA with \$100,000 premium, 10-year deferral

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| Roll-up Type  | Benefit Base   |
|---------------|--|
| 5% Simple     | \$150,000 -- $\$100,000 \times (1 + 0.05 \times 10)$ |
| 5% Compounded | \$162,890 -- $\$100,000 \times (1.05^{10})$          |
| 6% Simple     | \$160,000  |
| 6% Compounded | \$179,080  |

# Guaranteed Benefit Base for \$100k with 5% Annually Compounded Rollup Rate

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# Rollup Rate

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**NOT** a guaranteed rate of return!!!

Other compounding frequencies

When are rollups vested?

# Step-up Opportunities

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New high watermarks

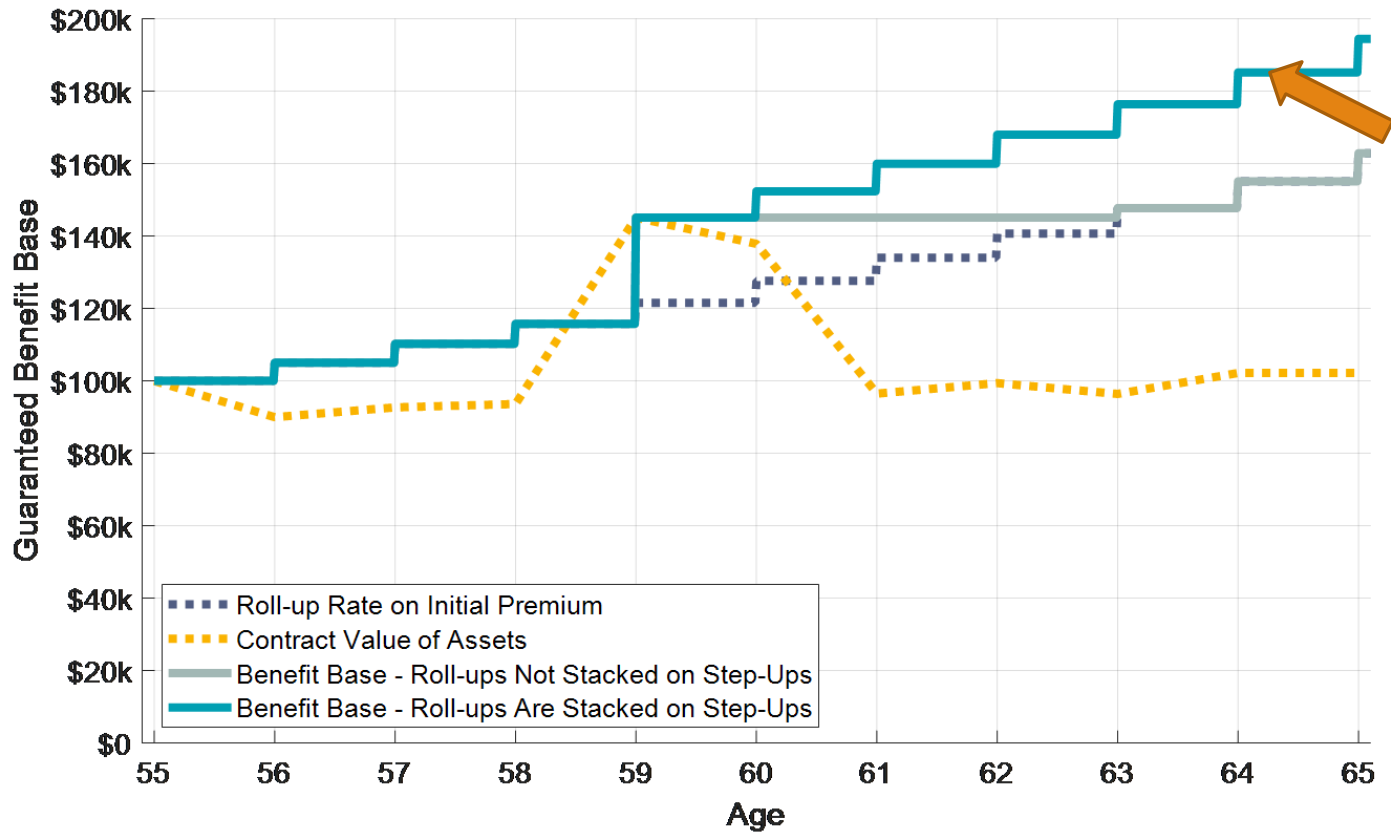
Frequency (daily, monthly, quarterly,  
annual)

Vesting

Do rollups stack on step-ups?



# Benefit Base: Stacking vs. No-Stacking for Step-ups



19% More  
With Stacking  
(in this example)

# Guaranteed Withdrawal Amount

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**GLWB**

Age-based Withdrawal Rate  $\times$  Benefit Base

No more rollups

Step-ups are still possible

# Types of Living Benefits

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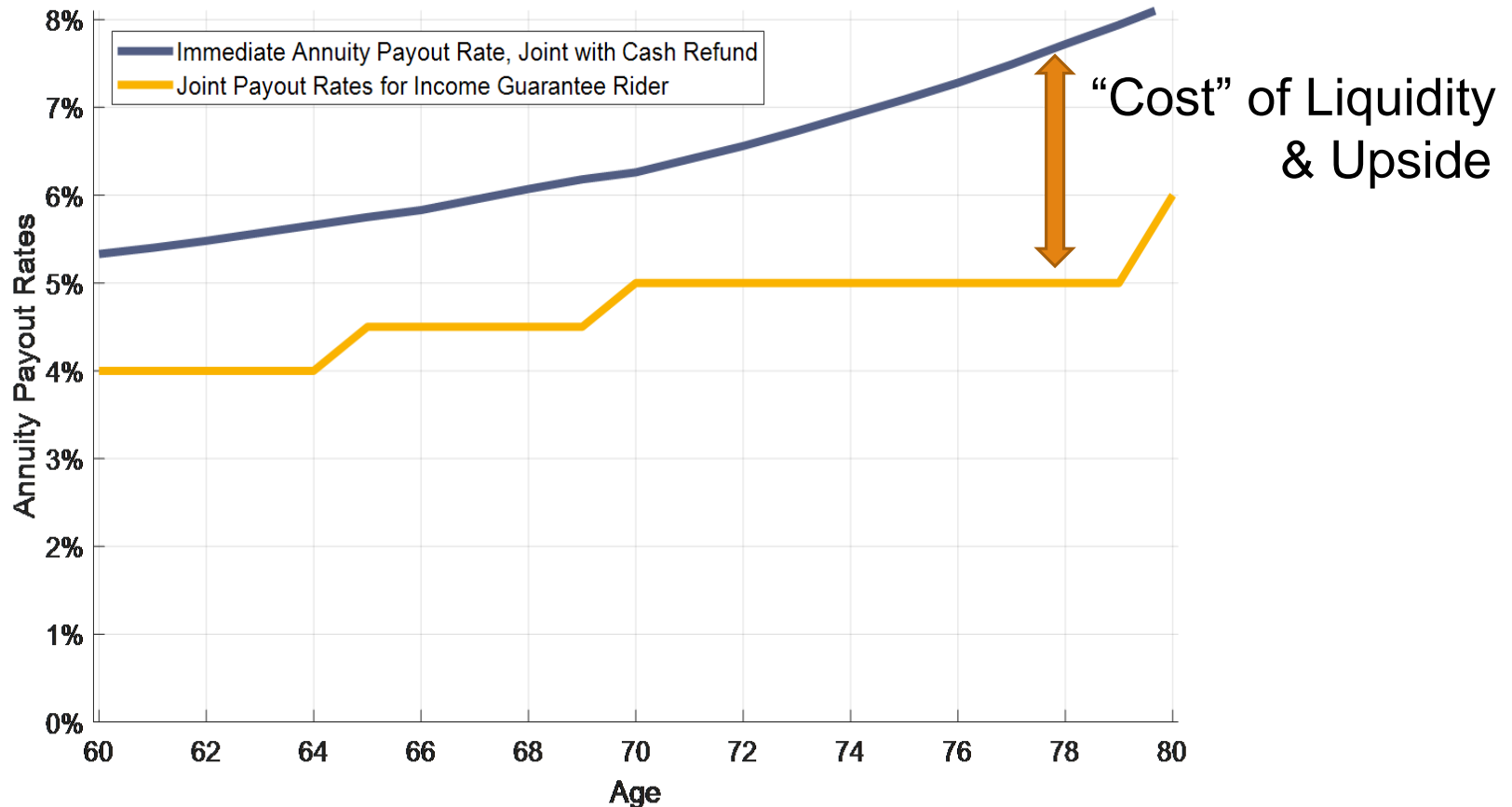
## **GLWB: supports lifetime income without annuitization**

Guaranteed Minimum Income Benefit: requires annuitization, providing age-based guaranteed payout rates applied to benefit base. Lifetime income with annuitization.

Guaranteed Minimum Accumulation Benefit: Protects contract value growth to a minimum value. No link to income.

Guaranteed Minimum Withdrawal Amount: Guarantees certain amount (such as return of premium or value of benefit base). No lifetime income.

# Guaranteed Withdrawal Rates: VA/GLWB vs. SPIA



# Guaranteed Income for a \$100,000 Premium

## After 10-Year Deferral Period

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|             |      | Withdrawal Rate |         |          |          |          |
|-------------|------|-----------------|---------|----------|----------|----------|
| Rollup Rate |      | 4.0%            | 4.5%    | 5.0%     | 5.5%     | 6.0%     |
| Compounded  | 4.0% | \$5,921         | \$6,661 | \$7,401  | \$8,141  | \$8,881  |
|             | 4.5% | \$6,212         | \$6,988 | \$7,765  | \$8,541  | \$9,318  |
|             | 5.0% | \$6,516         | \$7,330 | \$8,144  | \$8,959  | \$9,773  |
|             | 5.5% | \$6,833         | \$7,687 | \$8,541  | \$9,395  | \$10,249 |
|             | 6.0% | \$7,163         | \$8,059 | \$8,954  | \$9,850  | \$10,745 |
|             | 6.5% | \$7,509         | \$8,447 | \$9,386  | \$10,324 | \$11,263 |
|             | 7.0% | \$7,869         | \$8,852 | \$9,836  | \$10,819 | \$11,803 |
| Simple      | 5%   | \$6,000         | \$6,750 | \$7,500  | \$8,250  | \$9,000  |
|             | 6%   | \$6,400         | \$7,200 | \$8,000  | \$8,800  | \$9,600  |
|             | 7%   | \$6,800         | \$7,650 | \$8,500  | \$9,350  | \$10,200 |
|             | 10%  | \$8,000         | \$9,000 | \$10,000 | \$11,000 | \$12,000 |

# Guaranteed Income for a \$100,000 Premium

## After 10-Year Deferral Period

|             |      | Withdrawal Rate |         |          |          |          |
|-------------|------|-----------------|---------|----------|----------|----------|
| Rollup Rate |      | 4.0%            | 4.5%    | 5.0%     | 5.5%     | 6.0%     |
| Compounded  | 4.0% | \$5,921         | \$6,661 | \$7,401  | \$8,141  | \$8,881  |
|             | 4.5% | \$6,212         | \$6,988 | \$7,765  | \$8,541  | \$9,318  |
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|             | 6.0% | \$7,163         | \$8,059 | \$8,954  | \$9,850  | \$10,745 |
|             | 6.5% | \$7,509         | \$8,447 | \$9,386  | \$10,324 | \$11,263 |
|             | 7.0% | \$7,869         | \$8,852 | \$9,836  | \$10,819 | \$11,803 |
| Simple      | 5%   | \$6,000         | \$6,750 | \$7,500  | \$8,250  | \$9,000  |
|             | 6%   | \$6,400         | \$7,200 | \$8,000  | \$8,800  | \$9,600  |
|             | 7%   | \$6,800         | \$7,650 | \$8,500  | \$9,350  | \$10,200 |
|             | 10%  | \$8,000         | \$9,000 | \$10,000 | \$11,000 | \$12,000 |

“In the Money”

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Contract value  
is less than benefit base

Increases the value of the GLWB

# Death Benefits

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Death benefit

What are the death benefit provisions?

Basic death benefit provisions

Optional death benefit riders may be incompatible with living benefit riders



# GLWB and Deferred Annuitization

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Annuity owner is spending own money until  
contract value depletes

Insurance company is only on the hook  
for the guarantee after account depletion

# Managing Risks for the Income Guarantee

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Strong company culture for financial performance and risk management

Adjust parameters to lower guaranteed amounts

Choose high quality managers for investment subaccounts

Limit the allowed volatility in subaccounts

- Cap on allowed allocation to “risky” assets
- Use volatility-controlled funds
- Require cash positions

Increase variable annuity fees

# Variable Annuity Fees

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1. Underlying fund expenses
2. Mortality and expense charges
3. Surrender charges (for excess distributions in early contract years)
4. Charges for optional living benefits (i.e. the GLWB) or death benefits

New fee-only annuities:

do not pay commissions, which can reduce (2) and (3) dramatically

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# Framing Variable Annuity Fees

Ongoing **fee drag**  
vs. **required assets** to meet goal

Ongoing **fee drag**  
vs. **asset allocation** choice

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# Fixed Index Annuities

# Fixed Index Annuity – General Features

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Principal protection for contract value

Lifetime spending protection through optional guaranteed lifetime withdrawal benefit (GLWB)

*Some* degree of upside potential

Liquidity – contract is not annuitized

Tax deferral

# Fixed Index Annuity – Behavioral Aspects

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Obtain risk pooling without “sacrificing” asset

Can still see assets on the balance sheet

Principal protection – not at risk of loss in market downturn -> more investing comfort elsewhere

# Fixed Index Annuity Vocabulary

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Interest Crediting Method  
Guaranteed Lifetime Withdrawal Benefit  
Benefit Base & Rollup Rate or Deferral  
Credit  
Contract Value  
Step-up opportunities  
Guaranteed Withdrawal Rate



# Key Issues

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1. How is interest credited to the contract value?
2. Living benefit: How are guaranteed withdrawals determined?
3. What is the death benefit?
4. How does the insurance company manage its risks?

# Crediting Method

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FIA “returns” = **interest crediting**

Fixed interest or  
linked to external index performance

Ex. S&P 500, MSCI EAFE, Low-Volatility  
Index

# Linked Index

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FIAs **do not** invest in the index

Interest is based index performance  
through **financial derivatives**

This means price returns **without**  
dividends!

# Principal Protection

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FIAAs are fixed annuities

Contract value does **not** decrease  
when index experiences losses

# Fixed Index Annuity Fees

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- ~~1. Underlying fund expenses~~
  - ~~2. Mortality and expense charges~~
  3. Surrender charges (for excess distributions in early contract years)
  4. Charges for optional living benefits (i.e. the GLWB) or death benefits
  5. Unobserved internal spread  
(like a single-premium immediate annuity)
- } “no fees”

New fee-only annuities:

do not pay commissions, which can reduce (3) and (5)

# One-year Term Point-to-Point Crediting Method with Annual Reset

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Most common method (more competition on pricing)

One-year: length of term; could be longer

Point-to-point: compare value of market index at the start and end of year/term

Credit interest for the year based on index price return (excluding dividends)

Annual reset: Comparisons start fresh for each term – no need for cumulative gains to make up for previous losses

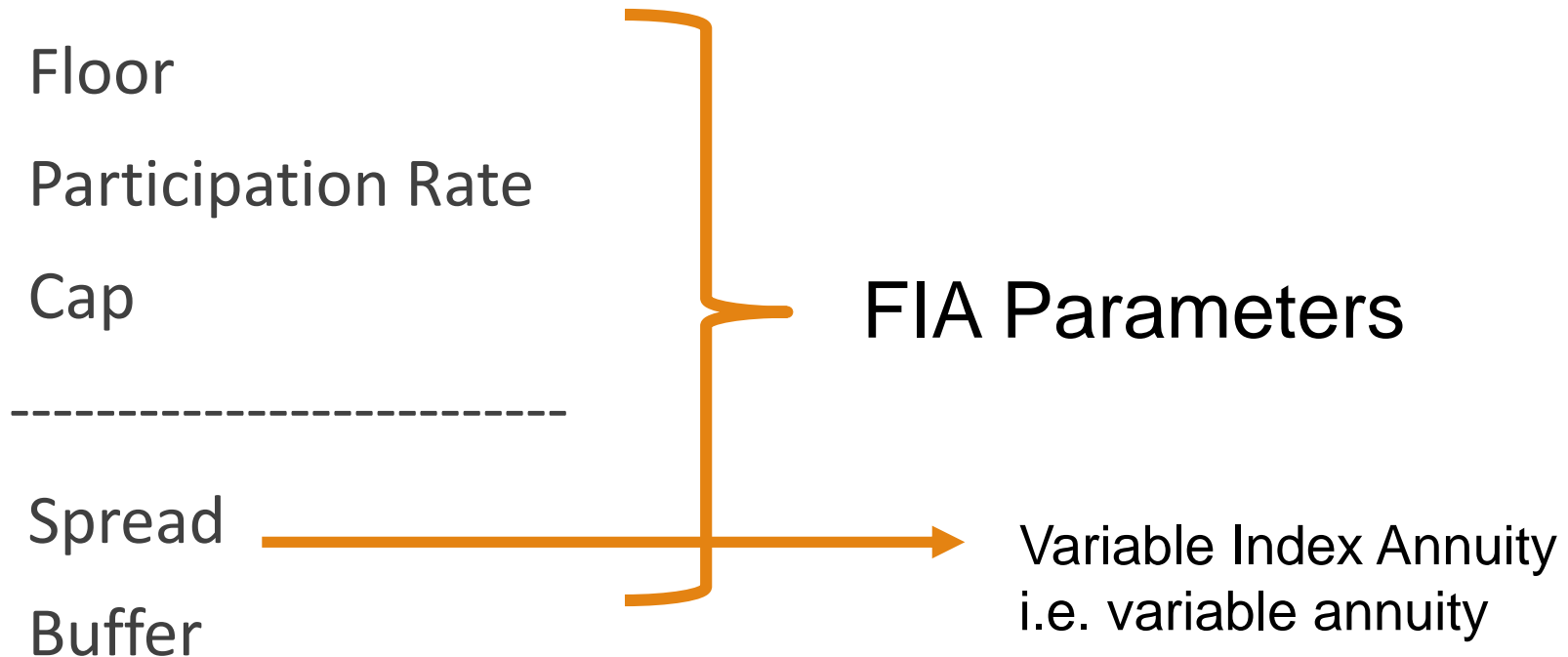
# Basic idea – FIA Interest Crediting

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1. Buy enough bonds to protect principal after interest is received
2. From remainder, keep enough to cover company expenses (i.e. internal fees)
3. Use remaining funds to purchase financial derivatives (call options) providing upside exposure to linked index

# Crediting Interest -- Translating Price Return into FIA “Return”

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# FIA Parameters Depend on...

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## Level of **interest rates**

How much is needed for principal protection?  
What is the options budget?

## Cost of **financial derivatives**

# Factors for Options Pricing

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| Factor                                       | Impact of Increase on Call Option Price   |
|--|---|
| Implied Volatility                           | Increased volatility = more expensive option;<br>most important factor                                |
| Current Index Price &<br>Option Strike Price | Increased Strike Price = less payoff potential =<br>cheaper option                                    |
| Risk-Free Interest Rate                      | Increased interest rate = slight increase in price<br>(But more than offset by larger options budget) |
| Term to Maturity                             | Increased term = more expensive option<br>(but not linear)  |

## Parameter Renewals for Each Term

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Same process each term for insurance company

Buy bonds to protect principal  
and buy derivatives for upside

Degree of upside depends on interest rates  
and option pricing factors – conditions  
change

## Parameter Renewals for Each Term

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Insurance companies must maintain the right to change parameters each term

Good companies will not take advantage of this (recommendation: examine renewal history)

Especially during the surrender charge period

# What is the best crediting method?

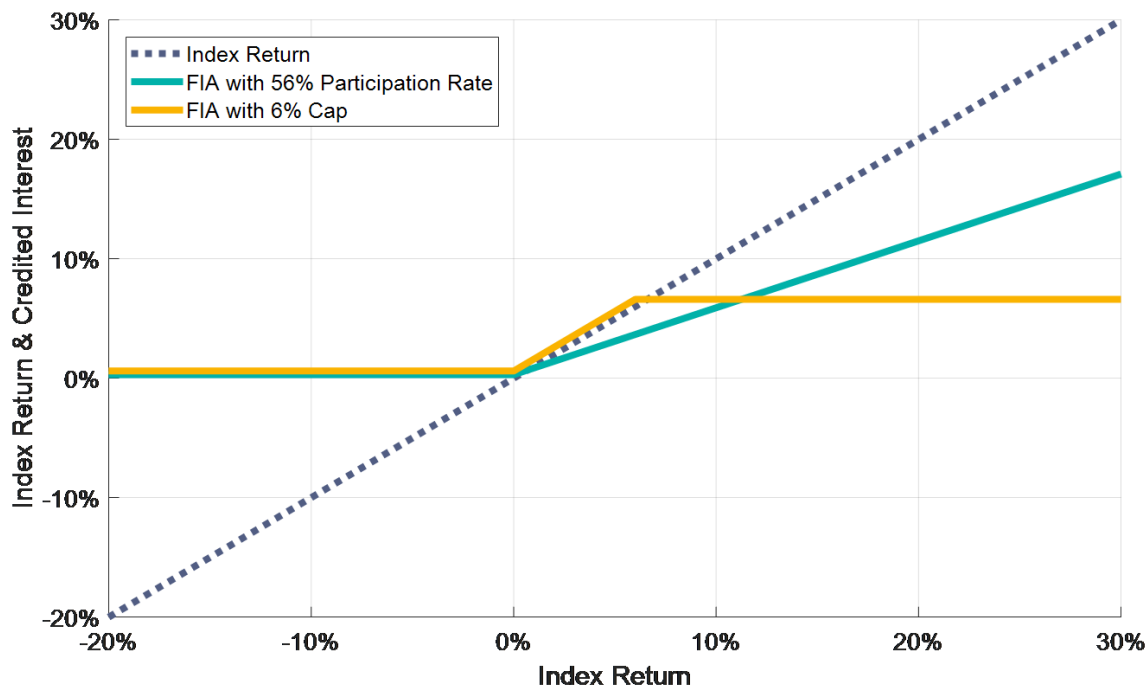
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Once index returns are known, one method will perform best

But with competitive pricing,  
the choice of crediting method should not matter  
(can't predict market returns)

Most important: how has the company treated its customers?

# Comparing Crediting Methods: Cap Rate vs. Participation Rate



Participation Rate: 56%

Cap Rate: 6%

Cap rate is better  
for index price return  
between 0% and 10.7%.  
Participation rate is better  
if price return > 10.7%

# Longer Term Length

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(+) Current parameters locked in for longer

(+) More upside from financial derivatives

(-) No interest credited until term end

# Step-up Opportunities

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**New high watermarks**

**Could be less common for FIAs**

(Especially if cap rate is less than rollup or distribution rate)

**Thus, focus on guaranteed income**



# Guaranteed Withdrawal Amount

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## GLWB

### Withdrawal Rate x Benefit Base

Age at contract issue + deferral credit x length of deferral

Ex. 4.5% payout at issue; increases by 0.3% for each deferral year (i.e. 7.5% after 10 years)

Provides an alternative to using rollup rate  
Step-ups are still possible (they may not be likely)

# Guaranteed Withdrawal Amount

FIAAs with GLWBs  
can be **competitive** with SPIAs

# Managing Risks for the Income Guarantee

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With principal protection, longevity risk must be managed; not market risk

Adjust guaranteed payout rate

Adjust parameters to keep more reserves and provide less upside exposure

Adjust parameters at each new term to reflect market conditions

Increase optional living benefit rider fees

# FIA as an Asset Class

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FIA for accumulation without living benefits:

Principal protection

Competitive with bonds net of taxes

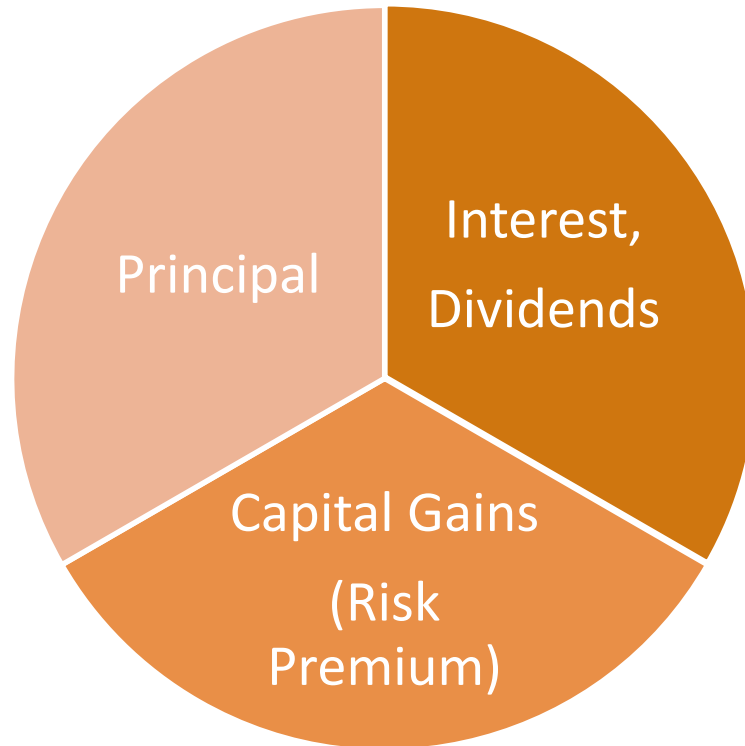
Not a stock replacement

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# Fitting Annuities into a Financial Plan

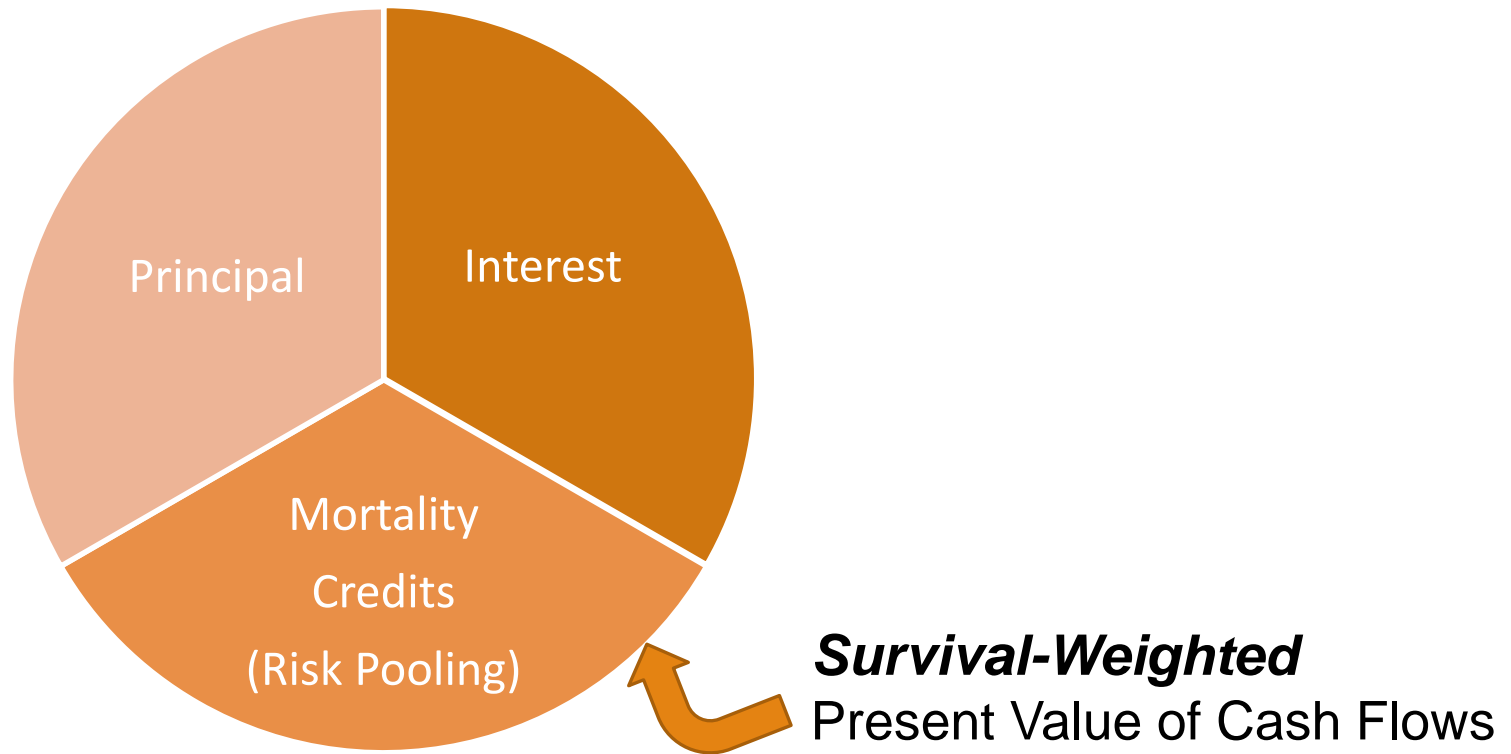
# Sources of Investment Spending

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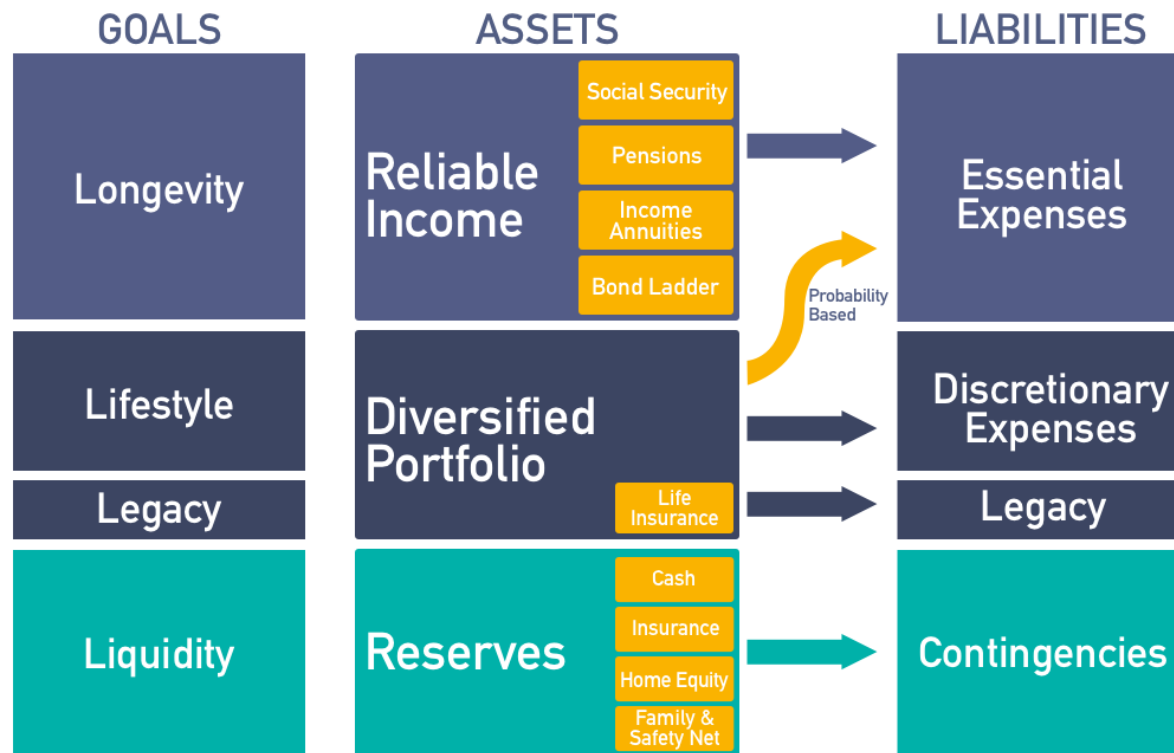
# Sources of Annuity Payments

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# How much to put into the Annuity?

## Retirement Optimization Plan





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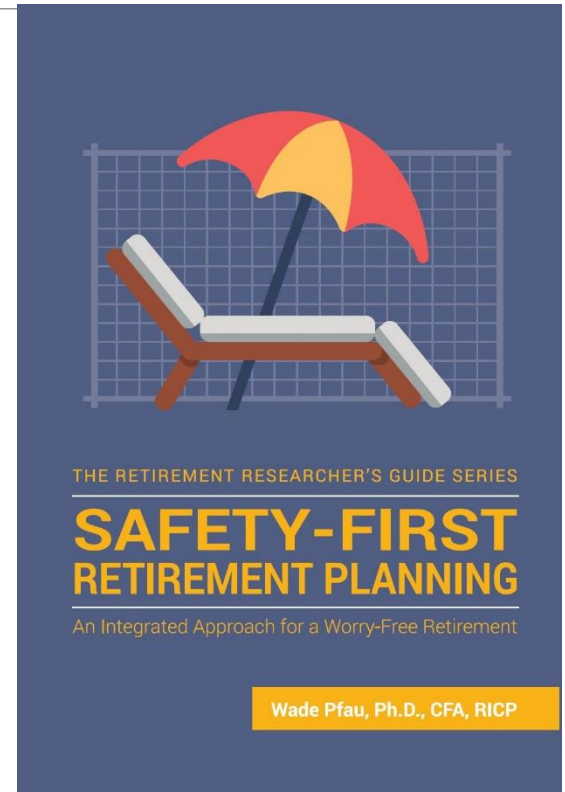
# THANK YOU! ANY QUESTIONS?

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