

Knowledge is Power in Uncertain Times

by Bob DiMeo, Chief Executive Officer

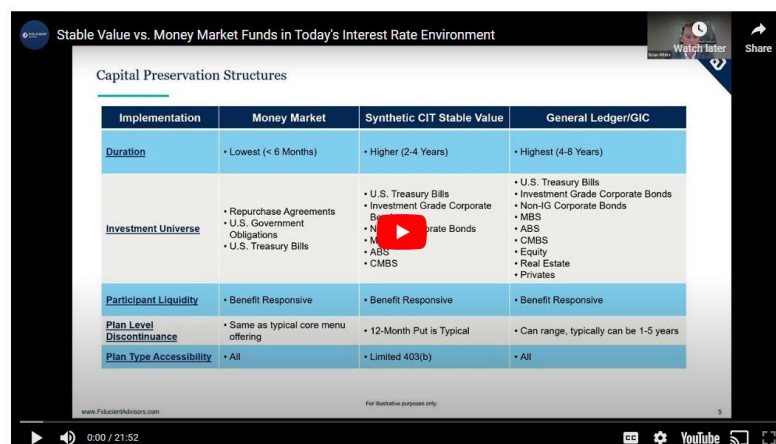
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For retirement Plan Sponsors, navigating uncertain times can feel like sailing in uncharted waters. However, in these moments of ambiguity, one thing remains certain - knowledge is power. Equipping yourself and your committee with meaningful resources can help you make informed decisions, satisfy your fiduciary obligations and secure the financial future of your employees. Here we will delve into three main areas of uncertainty for retirement Plan Sponsors and provide valuable Fiducient Advisors' resources to assist in effectively managing these challenges.

1. Stable Value versus Money Market Funds in Today's Interest Rate Environment

In the current interest rate environment, the decision between stable value and money market funds requires careful consideration. To help you better understand the nuances and make an informed choice, Fiducient Advisors offers a timely video that compares stable value funds with money market funds. Glean insights into the characteristics, benefits and risks associated with each option, enabling your committee to make a well-informed decision in what has become a very different interest rate environment for Plan Sponsors and their participants.

[Stable Value vs. Money Market Funds | Fiducient Advisors](#)



Stable Value vs. Money Market Funds in Today's Interest Rate Environment

Capital Preservation Structures

Implementation	Money Market	Synthetic CIT Stable Value	General Ledger/GIC
Duration	• Lowest (< 6 Months)	• Higher (2-4 Years)	• Highest (4-6 Years)
Investment Universe	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Repurchase Agreements • U.S. Government Obligations • U.S. Treasury Bills 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • U.S. Treasury Bills • Investment Grade Corporate Bonds • Non-IG Corporate Bonds • MBS • ABS • CMBS 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • U.S. Treasury Bills • Investment Grade Corporate Bonds • Non-IG Corporate Bonds • MBS • ABS • CMBS • Equity • Real Estate • Privates
Participant Liquidity	• Benefit Responsive	• Benefit Responsive	• Benefit Responsive
Plan Level Discontinuance	• Same as typical core menu offering	• 12-Month Put is Typical	• Can range, typically can be 1-5 years
Plan Type Accessibility	• All	• Limited 403(b)	• All

For illustrative purposes only.

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2. Market and Economic Uncertainty

On the one hand investors, including plan participants, contend with extraordinary challenges such as the land-war in Europe and high inflation. More encouraging inputs include exceptionally strong employment and consumer spending that continues to outpace expectations. We could easily spend an afternoon identifying both the positive and negative circumstances that investors must navigate. In a punchline, I'd say that today, it is as important as ever for investors to be thoughtfully and broadly diversified. Fiducient Advisors provides an array of insights into recent market trends, performance and potential opportunities. These resources can help you to make informed decisions that benefit your plan participants during uncertain times.

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[Market Relief from May-hem?](#)

3. Participant Needs

Understanding and addressing the needs of your plan participants is foundational in ensuring the success of your retirement plan. And improving participant outcomes requires intentionality. To be sure you are heading in the right direction, check out our blog post on improving participant outcomes. It tackles topics such as financial wellness programs, personalized advice and improved plan design - providing actionable insights that can drive better participant engagement and financial well-being.

[Four Ways to Improve Participant Outcomes Today \(fiducientadvisors.com\)](#)

Staying Informed Provides an Edge

Knowledge is indeed power when it comes to managing uncertainties as a retirement Plan Sponsor. By staying informed and leveraging the resources from Fiducient Advisors, you can navigate today's array of challenges.

For additional details and to discuss how you might improve your retirement offering, please reach out to any of the professionals at Fiducient Advisors.

About the Author



Bob DiMeo
Chief Executive Officer

Bob's responsibilities include guiding and leading the firm's strategy as well as working with select clients. Bob has authored and been the subject of numerous articles appearing in prominent publications including the *Los Angeles Times*, *Crain's Chicago Business* and *Pensions & Investments*, and has taught courses on fiduciary responsibility and related subjects. He co-authored *Asset Management for Endowments & Foundations* (McGraw Hill), *Designing a 401(k) Plan* (Probus), *The Practical Guide to Managing Nonprofit Assets* (John Wiley & Sons), *Nonprofit Asset Management* (John Wiley & Sons) and recently authored *50 Billion Reasons to Grow Your Practice* (Honor) and is co-host of the *Nonprofit Investment Stewards Podcast*. Prior to co-founding Fiducient Advisors (DiMeo Schneider), Bob served as Vice President for Kidder, Peabody's Institutional Consulting Group, where he chaired their 401(k) consulting effort. Bob obtained the designation of Certified Financial Planner (CFP®) from the College of Financial Planning and his bachelor's degree from Bradley University. Bob has mentored at and served on the board for Year Up Chicago. He is a board member for the Associated Colleges of Illinois, a board member for the Special Olympics Illinois Foundation and vice-chairs the investment committee for Catholic Charities of Chicago. Bob also serves as a director for the Geneva Lake Water Safety Patrol. Bob's interests include music, exercise, golf and boating...all the better with family and friends.