# REALTA WEALTH

## **Regulation Best Interest Disclosure**

July 15, 2025

This guide summarizes important information concerning the scope and terms of the brokerage services we offer and details the material conflicts of interest that arise through our delivery of brokerage services to you. We encourage you to review this information carefully, along with any applicable account agreement(s) and disclosure documentation you may receive from us.

As you review this information, we would like to remind you that we are registered with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) as a broker-dealer. Our Form CRS contains important information about the types of services we offer along with general information related to compensation, conflicts of interest, disciplinary action, and other reportable legal information.

## **Brokerage Services**

When you establish a brokerage account with us, you have the ability to buy, sell and hold investments within your account. The primary service we provide is our trading capability. We execute purchases and sales on your behalf, and as directed by you. In a brokerage services relationship, we can trade with you for our own account, for an affiliate or for another client, and we can earn a profit from those trades. The capacity in which we act is disclosed in your trade confirmation. However, we are not required to communicate it in advance, obtain your consent, or inform you of any profit earned on trades.

#### Cash Brokerage and Margin Brokerage Accounts

We provide brokerage services through either a cash brokerage account or margin brokerage account, based on your eligibility and selection. In a cash brokerage account, you must pay for your purchases in full at the time of purchase. In a margin brokerage account, you must eventually pay for your purchases in full, but you may borrow part of the purchase price from our clearing firm, Pershing <sup>1</sup>. This is generally referred to as a "margin loan." The portion of the purchase price that is loaned you is secured by securities in your account, also referred to as "collateral." You will incur interest costs as a result of your margin activity. While many securities are eligible to be used as collateral for a margin loan, some assets are not available for margin collateral purposes.

Given that a margin-enabled brokerage account has specific eligibility requirements, unique costs, and governing regulatory requirements, our default brokerage option is our cash brokerage account. You must execute a separate margin agreement before engaging in margin brokerage activity. Included with your margin agreement is a copy of the Margin Disclosure Statement. This statement contains important information you should understand and consider before establishing a margin brokerage relationship with us. For more information on our margin brokerage services, contact a financial professional or refer to our Margin Disclosure Statement available at <a href="https://realtawealth.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/01/Realta-Margin-Disclosure-Statement-01022024.pdf">https://realtawealth.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/01/Realta-Margin-Disclosure-Statement-01022024.pdf</a>.

#### **Brokerage Account Types**

We offer many different brokerage account types including individual and joint accounts, custodial accounts, Delivery Versus Payment (DVP) accounts, estate and trust accounts, partnership accounts, individual retirement accounts and other types of retirement accounts as outlined in our account agreement(s). You should refer to our account agreement(s) for more information concerning available account types or speak with a financial professional.

#### Incidental Brokerage Services, Recommendations and Account Monitoring

Within your brokerage account, we may also provide other incidental services such as research reports, and recommendations to buy, sell, or hold assets. When we make a securities recommendation, investment strategy recommendation or recommendation to rollover assets from your Qualified Retirement Plan (QRP) to an Individual Retirement Account (IRA), the recommendation is made in our capacity as a broker-dealer unless otherwise stated at the time of the recommendation. Any such statement will be made orally to you. Moreover, when we act in a brokerage capacity, we do not agree to enter into a fiduciary relationship with you.

It is important for you to understand that when our financial professionals make a brokerage recommendation to you, we are obligated to ensure the recommendation is in your best interest, considering reasonably available alternatives, and based on your stated investment objective, risk tolerance, liquidity needs, time horizon, financial needs, tax status, and other financial information you provide us. You may accept or reject any recommendation. It is also your responsibility to monitor the investments in your brokerage account, and we encourage you to do so regularly. We do not commit to providing on-going monitoring of your brokerage account. If you prefer on-going monitoring of your account or investments, you should speak with a financial advisor about whether an advisory services relationship is more appropriate for you.

Please also consider that from time to time we may provide you with additional information and resources to assist you with managing your brokerage account. This may include but is not limited to educational resources, sales and marketing materials, performance reports, asset allocation guidance, and/or periodic brokerage account reviews. When we offer these services and information, we do so as a courtesy to you. These activities are not designed to monitor specific investment holdings in your brokerage account, they do not contain specific investment recommendations about investment holdings, and you should not consider them a recommendation to trade or hold any particular securities in your brokerage account. Upon your request, we will review such information and reports with you and may provide you with investment recommendations, but we are not under a specific obligation to do so.

#### **Clearing Services**

We have entered into an agreement with Pershing (also referred to herein as "Clearing Agent") to carry your account and provide certain back-office functions. We and Pershing share responsibilities with respect to your account as set forth in the Designation of Responsibilities that was delivered to you upon opening of your account. Please refer to the Designation of Responsibilities for more information on how such responsibilities have been allocated between us.

#### Understanding Risk

It is important for you to understand that all investment recommendations and activities involve risk, including the risk that you may lose your entire principal. Further, some investments involve more risk than other investments. Higher-Risk investments may have the potential for higher returns but also for

greater losses. The higher your "risk tolerance," meaning the amount of risk or loss you are willing and able to accept in order to achieve your investment goals, the more you may decide to invest in higherrisk investments offering the potential for greater returns. We align risk tolerances with investment needs to offer you different investment objectives from which to choose (see the information below). You should select the investment objective and risk tolerance best aligned with your brokerage account goals and needs.

Investment goals typically have different time horizons and different income and growth objectives. Generally, investment goals are on a spectrum, with "Income" investors typically holding the smallest percentage of higher-risk investments, followed by "Growth and Income" investors holding some higherrisk investments, and finally "Growth" investors holding a significant portion of their portfolio in higher-risk investments. Risk tolerance also varies, and we measure it on a continuum that increases from "Conservative" to "Moderate" to "Aggressive," and finally "Trading and Speculation." See the information below for details.

#### Generally Associated Risk Tolerance

#### Income Investment Objective

**Typical Investment Objective Description** - Income portfolios emphasize current income with minimal consideration for capital appreciation and usually have less exposure to more volatile growth assets.

Conservative Conservative Income investors generally assume lower risk, but may still experience losses or have lower expected income returns.
 Moderate Moderate-Income investors are willing to accept a modest level of risk that may result in increased losses in exchange for the potential to receive modest income returns.
 Aggressive Aggressive Income investors seek a higher level of returns and are willing to accept a higher level of risk that may result in greater losses.

#### Growth and Income Investment Objective

**Typical Investment Objective Description** - Growth and Income portfolios emphasize a blend of current income and capital appreciation and usually have some exposure to more volatile growth assets.

- Conservative Conservative Growth and Income investors generally assume a lower amount of risk but may still experience losses or have lower expected returns.
  Moderate Growth and Income investors are willing to accept a mediat level of risk that means and losses in gurban and losses in gurban and losses and losses in gurban and losses are willing to accept a mediat level of risk that means and losses are willing to accept a mediat level of risk that means and losses are willing to accept a mediat level of risk that means and losses are willing to accept a mediat level of risk that means and losses are willing to accept a mediat level of risk that means and losses are will be accepted losses are with a completed losses are w
- modest level of risk that may result in increased losses in exchange for the potential to receive modest returns.
- Aggressive Aggressive Growth and Income investors seek a higher level of returns and are willing to accept a higher level of risk that may result in greater losses.

#### Growth Investment Objective

**Typical Investment Objective Description** - Growth portfolios emphasize capital appreciation with minimal consideration for current income and usually have significant exposure to more volatile growth assets.

- Conservative Conservative Growth and Income investors generally assume a lower amount of risk, but may still experience losses or have lower expected returns.
- Moderate Growth investors are willing to accept a modest level of risk that may result in significant losses in exchange for the potential to receive higher returns.
- Aggressive Aggressive Growth investors seek a higher level of returns and are willing to accept a high level of risk that may result in more significant losses.

#### Trading and Speculation

Trading and Speculation investors seek out a maximum return through a broad range of investment strategies which generally involve a high level of risk, including the potential for unlimited loss of investment capital.

Our recommendations are based in part on your risk tolerance and investment objective as outlined above. We encourage you to carefully consider your investment objective and risk tolerance before investing.

#### Cash Sweep Program Feature

Our brokerage services include a Cash Sweep Program feature. This program permits you to earn a return on uninvested cash balances in your brokerage account by allowing cash balances to be automatically "swept" into a "Cash Sweep Vehicle," until such balances are otherwise required to satisfy obligations arising in your account. These Cash Sweep Vehicles include interest-bearing deposit accounts, and if permissible, money market mutual funds or such other sweep arrangements made available to you. You will receive additional information concerning the Cash Sweep Program in your account agreement(s).

More information about the Cash Sweep Program can be found in the Cash Sweep Program Disclosure Statement available at <u>https://www.bny.com/pershing/us/en/rates.html</u>. Please review that statement carefully.

#### Account Minimums and Activity Requirements

There is no minimum initial account balance required to open a brokerage account with us. However, if you either fail to fund your account or do not return account opening documents as required, your account will be closed. In addition, some types of brokerage accounts have minimum account activity requirements and/or minimum on-going balance requirements that must be maintained, or your brokerage account will be closed. These requirements are detailed in the account agreement(s) you receive when you open your brokerage account.

You should also understand that our financial professionals may establish their own minimum account balance requirements for the brokerage accounts they service. For example, a dedicated financial professional may choose to service only those brokerage account clients who satisfy account-specific or total household asset conditions. Minimum asset requirements are disclosed to you orally by your financial professional.

## **Brokerage Service Model and Products**

Our Financial professionals are independent contractors and have general business discretion to operate and service their book of business. Most of the accounts serviced by our financial professionals are Full Service, meaning that you will receive communications from your financial professional, including securities recommendations and other advice, and servicing of your account(s) such as deposits and distributions. Your financial professional is also available to you to discuss your account(s).

You may elect or otherwise hold a Self-Directed Account. Such accounts may or may not have a financial professional assigned to the account. You will not receive communications, service, or advice concerning such account(s) but you may contact the branch or the home office in order to place trades, make distributions or deposits, or to otherwise service the account. Because there is no financial professional responsible for self-directed accounts, such accounts are not permitted to trade in securities obtained through direct, "check and application" type securities, such as directly held mutual funds, variable annuities, and other alternative investments not available on Pershing's platform.

## Brokerage Fees and Our Compensation

It is important to consider that while a brokerage relationship can be a cost-effective way of investing your assets, it is not for everyone given the fees and costs involved.

#### **Transaction-Based Fees**

You will pay transaction-based fees for trades you decide to enter into, such as buying and selling stocks, bonds, Exchange Traded Products (ETPs), mutual funds, annuity contracts, exercising options and other investment purchases and sales. These transaction-based fees are generally referred to as a "commission," "markup," "sales load," or a "sales charge." Transaction- Based fees are based on a host of factors, including, but not limited to:

- Underlying product selection
- Your brokerage service model and account type
- · Size of your transaction and/or overall value of your account
- Frequency of your trade activity
- Available discounts and/or fee waivers

#### Account and Service Fees

You will pay fees for various operational services provided to you through your brokerage account. These fees are set at least annually and communicated to you through information included in your account statement and other notifications. These fees do not apply to all account types and may be waived under certain conditions.

You should understand that based on the brokerage service model you choose, the same or similar products, accounts, and services may vary in the fees and costs charged to you. For more information concerning our administrative and service fees, visit us at <u>https://realtawealth.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/04/CustomerFees.pdf</u>

#### How We Are Compensated

We receive direct and indirect compensation in connection with your accounts. Direct compensation is taken directly from the affected account. Indirect compensation is compensation paid in ways other than directly from the account and may impact the value of the associated investments in your account. The sections below describe the compensation that we receive in connection with various investments that may be available to you. In many cases, the descriptions that follow refer to a prospectus or offering documents.

#### **Financial Professional Schedules**

Commission Schedule for Stocks, Rights, Warrants, Secondary Market Closed End Funds (CEFs) and Exchange Traded Products (ETPs). This schedule details the commission charged to you and received by us and your financial professional for trades stocks, rights, and warrants: <u>https://realtawealth.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/04/CustomerFees.pdf</u>

#### **Option Rates Equity and Index**

Options compensation is received as direct compensation, as described here: https://realtawealth.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/04/CustomerFees.pdf

#### **Debit Securities**

For debt securities, including preferred securities and CDs, we may apply a charge (*i.e., markup*) of up to 2.75% of the amount of your secondary market transaction. You will receive a confirmation after every trade which will disclose the markup/ markdown charged to the trade.

#### **Mutual Funds**

When investing in mutual funds, it is important to understand the various features of the funds. Investors must consider the objectives of the fund and whether those objectives (and related risks) are aligned with their risk tolerance and investment objectives. It is important to understand the features and costs associated with a mutual fund, remember to review the prospectus for your particular fund.

We currently offer thousands of mutual funds varying in share class structure and investment style. If you invest in mutual funds, we may receive direct and indirect compensation in connection with such mutual fund investments, as described below.

#### 12b-1/Shareholder Service Fees

Annual 12b-1 fees, also known as trails, are paid by the fund, and paid to us out of fund assets under a distribution and servicing arrangement to cover distribution expenses and sometimes shareholder service expenses that we may provide on the fund's behalf. Shareholder servicing fees are paid to respond to investor inquiries and provide investors with information about their investments. These fees are assetbased fees charged by the fund family. These fees range from 0.00% to 1.00%, but the majority of these fees are below 0.85%. These fees may be passed on to us and may in turn be passed on to your financial professional as a commission.

#### Front-End Sales Charge Fees or Contingent Deferred Sales Charges (CDSC)

Front-End sales charge fees may be charged and paid to us, including your financial professional, when you purchase a fund. The front-end sales charge is deducted from the initial investment in certain share classes. This charge normally ranges from 0.00% to 5.75%. Some purchases may qualify for a reduced front-end sales charge due to breakpoint discounts based on the amount of transaction and rights of accumulation. In addition, some purchases may qualify for a sales charge waiver based on the type of account, and/or certain qualifications within the account. You should contact your financial professional if you believe you are eligible for sales charge waivers.

CDSC is a charge you pay upon withdrawal of money from a fund prior to the end of the fund's CDSC period. CDSC charges range from 0.00% to 5.50%. CDSC periods can range from zero to seven years. This charge typically exists only in share classes that do not have a front-end sales charge. It is sometimes referred to as the back-end load. CDSCs are not charged when you purchase a fund. The fee charged will depend on the share class purchased by the investor. A CDSC is not passed on to your financial professional. You can find a description of the amount and payment frequency of all fees and expenses charged and paid by the fund in the fund's prospectus. Fees and expenses disclosed in the fund's prospectus are charged against the investment value of the fund. Please note that 12b-1s and similar fees or compensation received in connection with our affiliated funds are not received, or are rebated, on ERISA assets held in Advisory Program accounts.

#### **Revenue Sharing**

The Firm receives from its clearing firm a share of revenue generated from ACAT Termination Fees, Inactive Account Fees, and Postage & Handling service charges to your account. The Firm also receives revenue from Margin Interest, Lending Services, and Sweep Programs. The firm also receives compensation from Mutual Funds in the nature of 12b-1 fees for support and marketing.

The firm receives compensation from the Managing Broker-Dealer of outside sponsors and issuers of directly held investments such as Direct Participation Programs, Private REITs, and other Alternative Investment sponsors and issuers. Such compensation ranges from 0% to 2% calculated upon the investment amount.

The firm also has referral arrangements with fixed insurance agencies in which the Firm is compensated for referrals of insurance customers.

#### Annuities

Under arrangements with insurance companies, we, including your financial professional, receive commissions from the insurance companies for the sale of annuities, as well as trail commissions, and they are considered indirect compensation. Commissions and trails paid to us vary by product type and may vary by insurance carrier.

Important features of Variable Annuities:

- Variable annuities are long-term investments. They should not be purchased with funds that are needed in the short term.
- Annuity proceeds are taxed as ordinary income, rather than capital gains, which also means that beneficiaries will not receive a step-up in the cost basis upon the death of the owner.
- Withdrawals made before age 59 <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> can result in a 10% tax penalty.
- While most insurance products offer a free-look period during which you may cancel without penalty, you will still bear any market losses during this period.
- Certain variable products offer bonus shares that provide for payments to you at the time of purchase, but these annuities also charge higher ongoing expenses and/or surrender fees than those not offering the bonus feature. They also may have longer surrender periods (8-9 years).
- Tax deferral features of variable annuities are not necessary when the product is sold within an IRA or tax-qualified account. As such, variable annuity purchases within an IRA or similar account should be for features other than tax-deferral such as guaranteed income, annuitization, or others. Also, it is important to remember that IRA accounts typically require minimum required distributions and selling a variable annuity to satisfy these distributions may result in a surrender charge if the RMD exceeds any penalty-free withdrawal provision in the annuity.
- Your financial professional typically earns higher compensation on variable annuity products than some other products like stocks, bonds, or mutual funds.

For additional information regarding Annuities, please reference your annuity contract and <a href="https://realtawealth.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/04/CustomerFees.pdf">https://realtawealth.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/04/CustomerFees.pdf</a>

#### Alternative Investments Information

Alternative Investment include, but are not limited to, Non-Traded REITs (Real Estate Investment Trusts), Oil and Gas Partnerships, Business Development Corporations (BDCs), Private Equity Offerings, Delaware Statutory Trusts, 1031 Exchange Programs, and Qualified Opportunity Zones (QOZs). We are compensated in varying ways depending on the terms of the offering. Commissions generally range from 3.5% to 7%. In addition, the firm may receive a dealer re-allowance fee of between 0-2% from the Managing Broker-Dealer of the selling group. For further information, please refer to your product prospectus or private placement memorandum.

Important general considerations involving alternative investments include:

• Alternative investments are typically illiquid. As a result, you may not be able to sell your alternative

investment if you need to raise money.

- You meet the suitability standards of the issuer and my state of primary residence.
- You should carefully review the alternative investment prospectus, including investment objectives and suitability standards to ensure that they align with your needs, goals, and financial objectives.
- You should carefully review the fees and expenses associated with this purchase as outlined in the Prospectus or Private Placement Memorandum.
- Alternative Investment are not publicly traded and there is no market.
- While some alternative investments may have the goal of becoming listed on an exchange, there is no guarantee. Further, should your alternative investment become listed on an exchange, then its share price will fluctuate in value.
- You may not be able to sell the Alternative Investment without taking a significant reduction in price. If there is a redemption policy offered by the sponsor, it may be limited and/or at the sole discretion of the sponsor.
- Understand that Alternative Investments are speculative and may lose some or all of their value.
- The past performance of any alternative investment is not a guarantee of future results.
- Your alternative investment does not guarantee a dividend, nor is it insured by the FDIC.
- The alternative investment you are purchasing may offer more than one share class. If there are share class options, you should carefully review the prospectus to determine whether you are eligible for share class discounts (breakpoints) which are sometimes offered for larger purchases.
- Non-Traded REITS are complex products that are designed for sophisticated investors who do not need the principal amount of investment to pay ongoing expenses.

#### Unit Investment Trusts (UITs)

Our UITs consist of Equity and Fixed-Income UITs. We, along with your financial professionals, are compensated in ways that vary depending on the type and terms of the UIT portfolio selected. The types of fees received by us are described below and are disclosed via the prospectus issued by the UIT provider. Your financial advisor can provide you with a copy of the most recent prospectus. The UIT provider deducts fees as compensation from the proceeds available for investments for marketing and distribution expenses, which may include compensating us as described in each UIT prospectus. For additional information, please see your prospectus.

#### Inverse and Leverage Exchange Traded Products

ETF's that offer leverage or are designed to perform inversely to the index or benchmark are highly complex financial instruments that are typically designed to achieve their stated objectives on a daily basis. These products are generally not suitable as stand alone, buy and hold investments. The complex investment strategies utilized in ETNs and ETFs that are inverse and/or leverage may result in a greater tax obligation than that of another security. You are encouraged to review the prospectus, which contains additional risks, prior to deciding to purchase any ETF or ETN. You should carefully consider the conflicts listed in the product prospectus. Only clients who are experienced with and capable of understanding the risks of investing in ETNs and ETFs (including leveraged and/or inverse versions of these securities) should invest.

#### **Product Exchanges**

Many mutual funds, UITs, variable annuities, alternative investments and variable universal life products are designed for long-term investing. However, under certain circumstances an investor may find that it is advantageous to switch from one investment product/company to another (e.g., mutual fund to a variable annuity). Surrender charges and/or sales concessions are often incurred when one of these products is switched to another product. For this reason, we have an incentive to recommend and exchange. Additionally, there can be tax consequences (gains, losses, income, etc..) of switches. Ask

your financial professional for a comparison of the features, risks, and costs of any product you are exchanging for another.

#### Primary Offerings/New Issues

The firm from time-to-time may receive allocations of new issues from various sources. Those sources are finite and may not be made available to all clients. For example, Initial Public Offerings of securities (IPOs) require client certification prior to being eligible for such securities. The firm receives a sales concession generally for the sale of new issues. The amount of the sales concession may be shown on your trade confirmation.

#### Cash Sweep Program/Bank Deposit Sweep/Other Float Compensation

Please refer to the Cash Sweep Disclosure Brochure at

https://www.bny.com/pershing/us/en/rates.html

#### Training and Education

We work closely with many product and service providers who provide training and education compensation to offset or reimburse us for costs incurred in conducting comprehensive training and educational meetings for our financial professionals. These meetings or events are held to educate financial professionals on product characteristics, business building ideas, successful sales techniques, suitability as well as various other topics. In addition, certain vendors such as 401k plan providers

provide free or discounted research or other vendor products and services, which can assist our financial professionals with providing services to the plan.

Likewise, from time to time, product providers will reimburse us for expenses incurred by individual branch offices in connection with conducting training and educational meetings, conferences, or seminars for financial professionals and participants. Also, financial professionals may receive promotional items, meals or entertainment or other non-cash compensation from product providers. We require all such product providers to submit a request to invite our financial professionals to such events for approval by the firm to confirm that such compensation and non-cash compensation is reasonable and to mitigate conflicts of interest.

Although training and education compensation is not related to individual transactions or assets held in client accounts, it is important to understand that, due to the total number of product providers whose products are offered by us, it is not possible for all companies to participate in a single meeting or event. Consequently, those product providers that do participate in training or educational meetings, seminars or other events gain an opportunity to build relationships with financial professionals; these relationships could lead to sales of that particular company's products.

#### **Operational Fees**

We receive compensation for various operational services provided to you through a brokerage account. Our fee schedule for these services is as follows <u>https://realtawealth.com/wp-</u>content/uploads/2025/04/CustomerFees.pdf

#### Compensation for Termination of Services

Other than any contingent deferred sales charge for a fund (as described under the Mutual Funds section above, if applicable), IRA termination fees (when applicable), and account transfer fees, the firm would not receive any additional compensation in connection with the termination of its services. If you have questions or need additional copies, contact your financial advisor.

#### Brokerage - Excluded Advisory Assets

As described above, our brokerage services differ from our advisory services. However, in some instances we may allow an advisory client to trade what are referred to as "excluded assets" within their advisory services account. Excluded assets are not subject to our advisory program fees. Instead of our advisory fees, these excluded assets are subject to our standard brokerage charges when traded.

## **Conflicts of Interest**

Conflicts of Interest exist when we provide brokerage services to you. A conflict of interest is a situation in which we engage in a transaction or activity where our interest is materially adverse to your interest. The mere presence of a conflict of interest does not imply that harm to your interests will occur, but it is important that we acknowledge the presence of conflicts. Moreover, our regulatory obligations require that we establish, maintain, and enforce written policies and procedures reasonably designed to address conflicts of interest associated with our recommendations to you.

Our conflicts of interest are typically the result of compensation structures and other financial arrangements between us, our financial professionals, our clients and third parties. We offer a broad range of investment services and products, and we receive various forms of compensation from our clients, affiliated and non-affiliated product providers and money managers, and other third parties as described above. Securities rules allow us, our financial professionals, and our affiliates to earn compensation when we provide brokerage services to you. However, the compensation that we and our financial professionals receive from you varies based upon the product or service you purchase, which creates a financial incentive to recommend investment products and services that generate greater compensation to us.

We are committed to taking appropriate steps to identify, mitigate and avoid conflicts of interest to ensure we act in your best interest when providing brokerage recommendations to you. Below you will find additional information related to our conflicts of interest. This information is not intended to be an all-inclusive list of our conflicts, but generally describes those conflicts that are material to your brokerage relationship.

In addition to this disclosure, conflicts of interest are disclosed to you in your account agreement(s) and disclosure documents, our product guides and other information we make available to you.

#### **Compensation We Receive from Clients**

#### **Transaction-Based Conflicts**

In your brokerage account you pay certain fees (commissions and sales charges) in connection with the buying and selling of each investment product, including mutual funds, variable annuities, alternative investments, exchange traded funds, equity securities, and bonds. Where these fees apply, the more transactions you enter into, the more compensation that we and your financial professional receive. This compensation creates an incentive for us to recommend that you buy and sell, rather than hold, these investments. We also have an incentive to recommend that you purchase investment products that carry higher fees, instead of products that carry lower fees or no fees at all.

#### Markups and Markdowns for Principal Transactions

When you buy or sell securities in a brokerage account, and in accordance with industry regulations, we may impose a markup (increase) or markdown (decrease) in the price of transactions we execute on a principal basis. We are compensated based upon the difference (markup) between the price you pay for securities purchased from us and the price we sell such securities to you over the prevailing market price, or the difference (markdown) between the price you sell securities to us and the price we purchase such securities from you over the prevailing market price. We maintain policies and procedures reasonably designed to help ensure compliance with the markup and markdown industry rules.

#### Account Maintenance and Other Administrative Fees

For the services we provide or make available to you with respect to your brokerage account, we charge certain account maintenance and other administrative fees, including transfer, wire, or other miscellaneous fees, as described in the fee schedule provided to you on an annual basis. The higher the fees we charge, the more we are compensated.

#### **Compensation We Receive from Third Parties**

Third-Party payments we receive may be based on new sales of investment products, creating an incentive for us to recommend you buy and sell, rather than hold, investments. In other cases, these payments are made on an ongoing basis as a percentage of invested assets, creating an incentive for us to recommend that you buy and hold investments (or continue to invest through a third-party manager or adviser).

The total amount of payments we receive varies from product to product, and varies with respect to the third-party investment management products we recommend. It also varies from the compensation we receive in connection with other products and services we may make available to you, including advisory services. We have an incentive to recommend investment products and services that generate greater payments to us. This compensation generally represents an expense embedded in the investment products and services that is borne by investors, even where it is not paid by the Product Sponsor and not directly from the investment product or other fees you pay. The types of third-party compensation we receive include:

- **Revenue Sharing.** The firm receives compensation in the nature of selling group compensation for certain products and sharing in operational and other revenue with its clearing firm as described more fully in this document above.
- **Trail Compensation.** Ongoing compensation from Product Sponsors may be received by us and shared with our financial advisors. This compensation (commonly known as trails, service fees or Rule 12b-1 fees in the case of mutual funds) is typically paid from the assets of the investment product under a distribution or servicing arrangement and is calculated as an annual percentage of invested assets. The amount of this compensation varies from product to product. We have an incentive to recommend that you purchase and hold interest in products that pay us higher trails.

#### Additional Compensation from Product Sponsors and Other Third Parties

We and our financial professionals, associates, employees, and agents receive additional compensation from Product Sponsors and other third parties including:

- Gifts and awards, an occasional dinner or ticket to a sporting event, or reimbursement in connection with educational meetings or marketing or advertising initiatives, including services for identifying prospective clients.
- Payment or reimbursement for the costs associated with education or training events that are attended by our employees, agents, and financial professionals, and for conferences and events that we sponsor.
- Reimbursement from Product Sponsors for research and technology-related costs, such as those to build systems, tools, and new features to aid in servicing clients.

**Note:** The amount of these payments is not dependent on or related to the level of assets you or any other of our clients invest in or with the Product Sponsor.

#### Product Share Classes

Some Product Sponsors offer multiple structures of the same product (i.e., mutual fund share classes)

with each option having a unique expense structure, and some having lower costs to you as compared to others. We are incentivized to make available those share classes or other product structures that will generate the highest compensation to us.

#### Compensation Related to Proprietary Products

Brokerage recommendations can include a recommendation to invest in a product or service that is managed, issued, or sponsored by us or our affiliates. We and our affiliates will receive additional compensation or economic benefits from investments by you in such products, including, but not limited to, management credits, service fees and similar revenue sharing arrangements. The compensation related to this may be greater than similar products provided by third parties. Thus, we have an incentive to recommend investments in proprietary/affiliated products.

#### **Compensation Received by Financial Advisors**

Financial professionals are compensated in a variety of ways based on the percentage of revenue generated from sales of products and services to clients, including brokerage account activity. This compensation may vary by the product or service associated with a brokerage recommendation. In addition to upfront-transaction based compensation, some products feature on-going residual or "trail" payments. Thus, financial professionals are incentivized to recommend products that have higher fees as well as those with on-going payments.

Typically, a financial professional's payout schedule (periodically adjusted by us at our discretion) increases with production and asset levels. The same payout schedule is reduced when financial professionals discount certain client fees and commissions, or client relationship asset levels are below minimums established by us from time to time.

As a result, financial professionals have an incentive to provide brokerage recommendations that result in selling more investment products and services, as well as investment products and services that carry higher fees. Financial professionals also have an incentive to provide brokerage recommendations to gather more assets under management and to increase brokerage trading activity, and to reduce the number of discounts available to you.

Financial professionals have an incentive to recommend you rollover assets from a Qualified Retirement Plan (QRP) to a brokerage Individual Retirement Account (IRA) because of the compensation they will receive. We maintain policies and procedures designed to ensure that rollover recommendations are in your best interest.

Brokerage accounts, unlike advisory accounts, do not feature an on-going fee based on assets under management. Financial professionals are incentivized (if properly licensed) to recommend you transition your brokerage services account to an advisory account to generate on-going revenue where your brokerage account has minimal activity. Further, financial professionals are incentivized to recommend you transition your brokerage account to an advisory account after you have already placed purchases resulting in commissions and/or other transaction-based brokerage fees. We have controls established to identify and mitigate this risk. Financial professionals also have an incentive to provide higher levels of service to those clients who generate the most fees.

Recruitment compensation may be provided to financial professionals who join our firm from another financial firm. This compensation, which may vary by financial professional, often includes either an upfront or backend award based upon new client assets to the firm and/or revenue generated from such client assets. This creates an incentive for the financial professional to recommend the transfer of assets to the firm, including brokerage assets, in order to earn this compensation.

Non-Cash compensation is provided to financial professionals in the form of credits toward business expenses and certain titles. Financial professionals are also compensated in the form of educational meetings and recognition trips. Portions of these programs are subsidized by external vendors and affiliates, such as mutual fund companies, insurance carriers, or money managers. Consequently,

product providers that sponsor and/or participate in education meetings and recognition trips gain opportunities to build relations with financial professionals, which could lead to sales of such product provider's products.

Financial professionals also receive promotional items, meals, entertainment, and other non-cash compensation from product providers up to \$100 per year for gifts per vendor and \$1,000 per year for meals per vendor.

#### Other Financial Advisor Activities

Financial professionals may be motivated to place trades ahead of clients in order to receive more favorable prices than their clients.

Financial professionals who are transitioning through a succession plan may be incentivized to make brokerage recommendations designed to increase the value of their "book of business" through asset accumulation or brokerage trades that are not in your best interest. Financial professionals who receive clients from retiring financial professionals are incentivized to meet growth goals and may make recommendations not in your best interest.

### Additional Resources

Form CRS

https://realtawealth.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/04/2025.03.31-Form-CRS-ws.pdf

#### Margin Disclosure

https://realtawealth.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/01/Realta-Margin-Disclosure-Statement-01022024.pdf

Cash Sweep Program

https://www.bny.com/pershing/us/en/rates.html