



SEC

Before You Invest, [Investor.gov](https://www.investor.gov)



Protect Your Investments

Investing for Older Americans

Paid for by the United States Securities and Exchange Commission

Free Tools and Resources: Investor.gov

The screenshot shows the Investor.gov website. At the top left is the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission logo. To its right is the 'Investor.gov' logo and the text 'U.S. SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION'. On the top right, there are links for 'About Us', 'Contact Us', 'Follow Us', and 'Información en Español', along with a search bar containing the text 'Search Investor.gov' and a 'Search' button.

Below the header is a navigation bar with four categories: 'Introduction to Investing', 'Financial Tools & Calculators', 'Protect Your Investments', and 'Additional Resources'. The main content area features a large banner with the text 'Check Out Your INVESTMENT PROFESSIONAL' and a search input field with a dropdown menu set to 'Individual' and the placeholder text 'Name or CRD#'. Below the banner is a paragraph: 'It's a great first step toward protecting your money. Learn about an investment professional's background, registration status, and more.' Below this is a grid of six resource categories: 'Resources for Older Investors', 'Crypto Assets', 'Financial Tools and Calculators', 'Investment Products', 'Understanding Fees', and 'Investing Quizzes'.

At the bottom, there are three featured information boxes. The first, 'Featured Information', includes a star icon and a section titled '"Never Stop Learning" Public Service Campaign' with a brief description. The second, 'Investor Alerts and Bulletins', includes a star icon and two bulletins: 'Updated Investor Bulletin: An Introduction to ABLE Accounts Sep 15, 2023' and 'Subscription-based Advisory Fees: Investor Bulletin Sep 6, 2023'. The third, 'Get Help', includes a folder icon and a warning: 'Beware of Communications Falsely Appearing to Come from the SEC' and a note: 'If you have been contacted by the SEC, confirm that the communication is authentic by contacting SEC staff directly.'

Take Steps to Avoid Fraud

- If it sounds too good to be true, it is
- Be careful if you are asked to pay for an investment with gift cards, cryptocurrency, or wires overseas
- Don't be pressured to buy quickly
- Take your time to do research with unbiased resources
- Testimonials are easy to fake and influencers are often paid to endorse



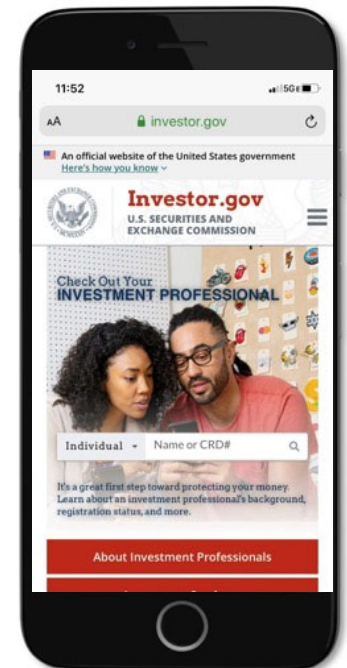
[Investment Opportunity](#)

[Educational Video](#)

Research Professionals

Do a free background check on any broker or investment adviser on Investor.gov - find out:

- Are they registered or licensed?
- Do they have customer complaints or disciplinary history?
- Read the firm's Client/Customer Relationship Form (CRS) to understand what services the investment firm and professional can offer and what you will pay for them.



Information on Crypto Assets

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Introduction to Investing | Financial Tools & Calculators | Protect Your Investments | Additional Resources

Check Out Your **INVESTMENT PROFESSIONAL**

Individual

It's a great first step toward protecting your money. about an investment professional's background, registration status, and more.

Resources for Older Investors | Crypto Assets | Financial Tools and Calculators

Investment Products | Understanding Fees | Investing Quizzes

Featured Information ★

"Never Stop Learning" Public Service Campaign
Check out our new resources for older investors. Never stop learning when it comes to protecting your hard-earned money and investing for their future.

Director's Take: Is My Money Going to Run Out in Retirement?
To live the life you want to lead in retirement, start early, set goals and create an investing plan that will help you achieve those goals.

Investor Alerts and Bulletins ★

Subscription-based Advisory Fees: Investor Bulletin
Sep 6, 2023

Updated Investor Bulletin: 10 Questions to Consider Before Opening a 529 Account
Aug 31, 2023

Updated Investor Bulletin: An Introduction to 529 Plans
Aug 31, 2023

[More Alerts and Bulletins](#) ▶

Get Help 📁

Beware of Communications Falsely Appearing to Come from the SEC

If you have been contacted by the SEC, confirm that the communication is authentic by contacting SEC staff directly.

[Submit Questions and Complaints](#)

Ask a question or report a problem concerning your investments, your investment account or a financial professional.

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Introduction to Investing | Financial Tools & Calculators | Protect Your Investments | Additional Resources

HOME > Additional Resources

Crypto Assets

You should know that those who are offering crypto asset investments or services may not be in compliance with applicable law, including federal securities laws. These investments also can be speculative, risky, and volatile. If you are considering an investment opportunity involving crypto assets, you may be wondering if it is legal, if it is right for you, or even whether it might be a scam. We urge you to be cautious in considering whether crypto asset investments are appropriate for you.

Here are some resources to help you better understand these complex topics:

Investor Alert: Exercise Caution with Crypto Asset Securities

Thinking About Buying the Latest New Cryptocurrency or Token?
Read our Director's Take article to learn about investing in crypto assets.

Celebrity Endorsements
Be cautious with celebrity endorsements of investment products. Watch this video to learn more.

SEC Crypto Assets and Cyber Enforcement Actions
Learn about actions involving crypto assets that the SEC's Division of Enforcement has brought.

Investor.gov Alerts

- Exercise Caution With Crypto Asset Securities
- Identity Theft, Data Breaches and Your Investment Accounts
- Self-Directed IRAs and the Risk of Fraud
- Social Media and Investment Fraud
- Digital Asset and “Crypto” Investment Scams

View Alerts Related To:

Investment Fraud and Scams <i>Enforcement</i>	Mutual Funds, ETFs, and Registered Investment Advisers <i>Investment Management</i>	Broker-Dealers and Exchanges <i>Trading and Markets</i>	Public Companies and Disclosure Information <i>Corporation Finance</i>
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Year	Keyword	News Type	
All	<input type="text"/>	- Any -	Apply

Report Suspected Elder Abuse

Involving brokers or investment advisers:

- The SEC: 800-732-0330
- FINRA Seniors Helpline: 844-574-3577
- State securities regulators: [ServeOurSeniors.org](https://www.ServeOurSeniors.org)

For elder abuse in general:

- Contact Eldercare Locator (Adult Protective Services) at 800-677-1116 or [Eldercare.acl.gov](https://www.Eldercare.acl.gov)

Other Resources for Seniors

- U.S. Dept. of Justice: www.StopFraud.Gov
- Federal Trade Commission: www.ftc.gov
- Do Not Call Registry: www.donotcall.gov
- Consumer Financial Protection Bureau: www.consumerfinance.gov/older-americans
- Area Agencies on Aging (N4A): www.n4a.org

Let's Stay In Touch...

Investor Assistance:

- **800-732-0330**
- **help@sec.gov**



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Outreach@SEC.gov

Your local office:

SEC San Francisco Regional Office

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