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## Introduction

**Brown Edwards Wealth Strategies** (“BEWS”) is registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission as an investment advisor. Fees for brokerage and investment advisory services differ among broker-dealers and investment advisors and it is important you understand the differences. Free and simple tools are available to research firms and financial professionals at [Investor.gov/CRS](https://investor.gov/CRS), which also provides educational materials about broker-dealers, investment advisors, and investing.

## What investment services and advice can you provide me?

We offer wealth management services to retail investors, which include financial planning and portfolio management services. We provide periodic advice and reviews regarding your investment goals and objectives, personal balance sheet, tax planning, risk management, retirement, education, cash flow and investment planning. In our portfolio management services, we will continuously monitor your investment accounts over which you provide us with such authority and provide advice. In your investment advisory agreement with us, you give us discretion to determine the investments to buy and sell on your behalf and the authority to select other investment advisers on your behalf, which means we will make the ultimate decision regarding the investments purchased and sold in your account. You may impose reasonable restrictions on our discretionary authority. Any restrictions must be provided to us in writing and accepted by us. As part of portfolio management services, we will continuously monitor your investments. We may select certain Independent Managers to actively manage a portion of its clients' assets. We require a minimum initial and ongoing account size for portfolio management services.

Our investment advice is not limited to certain products or types of investments; however, we generally recommend portfolios that utilize academic investing strategies such as Vanguard, Dimensional Fund Advisors (DFA) and other fund families.

We will discuss the following questions with you to help you better understand the relationship you will have with our firm: *Given my financial situation, should I choose an investment advisory service? Why or why not? How will you choose investments to recommend to me? What is your relevant experience, including your licenses, education and other qualifications? What do these qualifications mean?*

Please refer to our [Form ADV, Part 2A Brochure](https://adviserinfo.sec.gov/firm/summary/173559), located at <https://adviserinfo.sec.gov/firm/summary/173559> for more detailed information on our services.

## What fees will I pay?

We charge fees for our advisory services and those fees vary among the different types of services we offer. We charge a percentage of assets under management for portfolio management services. These fees are assessed on a quarterly basis, in advance. Please note that under this fee structure, the more assets under our management, the greater our fee will be. This creates a conflict as we have an incentive to recommend assets be included in our management.

In addition to our fees, you may incur additional fees and costs related to the investments in your account, such as custodian fees, account maintenance fees, transaction costs, surrender charges, wire transfer and electronic fund fees, internal management fees of mutual funds and variable annuities, and other product related fees such as redemption fees.

**You will pay fees and costs whether you make or lose money on your investments. Fees and costs will reduce any amount of money you make on your investments over time. Please make sure you understand what fees and costs you are paying.**

**You should carefully review our [Form ADV, Part 2A Brochure](#) to understand the fees and costs you will pay to us.**

We will discuss the following question with you to help you better understand the impact of fees and costs on investments: *Help me understand how these fees and costs might affect my investments. If I give you \$10,000 to invest, how much will go to fees and costs, and how much will be invested for me?"*

**What are your legal obligations to me when acting as my investment advisor? How else does your firm make money and what conflicts of interest do you have?**

*When we act as your investment advisor*, we have to act in your best interest and not put our interest ahead of yours. At the same time, the way we make money creates some conflicts with your interests. You should understand and ask us about these conflicts because they can affect the investment advice we provide you. Here are some examples to help you understand what this means:

- We recommend securities from fund companies who also provide us with education, promotional materials, and software. Even though we do not receive money or share in any type of revenue, we do have an inherent conflict in recommending their funds because of these additional benefits.
- We are affiliated with Brown, Edwards & Company, LLP, an accounting firm who we recommend to our clients. Additionally, employees of Brown, Edwards & Company, LLP make referrals to BEWS for investment advisory services in which they may receive a discretionary cash bonus for successful advisory client referrals. The incentive for them to recommend clients to us presents a conflict of interest.
- Certain individuals associated with BEWS are licensed insurance agents and may offer and sell term and permanent life insurance products. As such, they will be able to receive separate, yet customary commission compensation resulting from implementing product transactions on behalf of advisory clients. Any recommendation to use insurance services presents a conflict of interest as a result of the shared personnel.

We will discuss the following question with you to help you better understand the conflicts of interest we have: *How might your conflicts of interest affect me, and how will you address them?*

## **How do your financial professionals make money?**

Our financial professionals receive a salary and discretionary bonus on performance and the success of the firm. This is a conflict of interest because our financial professionals have an incentive to encourage a retail investor to increase the assets in a retail investor's accounts.

**You should carefully review our [Form ADV, Part 2A Brochure](#) for more detailed information about our conflicts of interest.**

## **Do you or your financial professionals have legal or disciplinary history?**

No, please visit [Investor.gov/CRS](https://investor.gov/CRS) for a free and simple search tool to research our firm and your financial professional.

We will discuss the following questions with you to help you better understand our disciplinary history: *As a financial professional, do you have any disciplinary history? For what type of conduct?*

## **Additional Information**

**You can find additional information about our advisory services in our [Form ADV Part 2A Brochure](#), which is located at <https://adviserinfo.sec.gov/firm/summary/173559> and may request an up-to-date information and a copy of our Relationship Summary by contacting us at (540) 345-0936.**

We will discuss the following questions with you so that you better understand who to contact with any questions or complaints: *Who is my primary contact person? Is he or she a representative of an investment advisor or a broker-dealer? Who can I talk to if I have concerns about how this person is treating me?*