2025 · WHAT ISSUES SHOULD I CONSIDER WHEN STARTING A NEW JOB?



CASH FLOW ISSUES	YES	NO
Has your income changed substantially? If so, consider how the change in income will impact your ability to reach your goals and your ability to save.		
 Do you need to plan for any anticipated changes in your compensation throughout the year? If so, consider the following Review your pay frequency (e.g., bi-weekly, monthly, semi-monthly, etc.), and be mindful of how any changes in your payroll timing might affect your cash flow and budgeting. Review your company's policies for paid time off, and consider how to best plan for any unpaid leave (e.g., vacation days, sick leave, maternity/paternity leave, etc.). Be mindful of any irregular or variable sources of compensation (e.g., bonuses, commissions, equity compensation, etc.), and consider how best to fit these into your overall cash flow and savings strategy. 	;;	
 Do you need to update your cash flow planning? If so, consider the following: Review your pay stub and adjust your net income and tax projections. See "Pay Stub Review" flowchart. Account for any new or lost employer perks (e.g., cellular benefits health and wellness incentives, professional development, and other assistance programs). Adjust your budget as necessary for additional commuting, home office, and other out-of-pocket expenses. 		

EMPLOYER-PROVIDED BENEFIT ISSUES	YES	NO
Are there significant changes in the amount or type of employer-provided benefits? If so, consider how this will impact your financial situation (such as individual disability coverage).		
 Will your health insurance coverage change as a result of taking a new job? If so, consider the following: Coordinate insurance coverage, so there are no gaps in coverage (such as COBRA). Check to see if your current doctors and health care providers are still in-network. (continue on next column) 		

	EMPLOYER-PROVIDED BENEFIT ISSUES (CONTINUED)	YES	NO
	Did you have an HSA with your former employer and do you expect to have one with your future employer? If so, consider the benefits and trade-offs of transferring the funds from your old HSA into the new HSA.		
	 Did you have an FSA with your former employer? If so, consider the following: Make sure to spend all of the funds before you leave that company. Check with your employer to see if they have COBRA continuation coverage for the FSA. If you contributed to an FSA with your former employer, consider contributing to the new employer's FSA plan as well. Each FSA has its own annual limit. They are not combined. 		
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	RETIREMENT PLANS & DEFERRED COMPENSATION ISSUES	YES	NO
	> Do you have a 401(k) with your former employer? If so, reference "Should I Roll Over My Dormant Traditional 401(k)?"		
	flowchart to determine what you should do with your old 401(k).		
	flowchart to determine what you should do with your old 401(k). Will you have a retirement plan with your new employer? If so, consider the following: Enroll in the plan as soon as you can. Consider contributing at least enough to receive the full		
	flowchart to determine what you should do with your old 401(k). Will you have a retirement plan with your new employer? If so, consider the following: Enroll in the plan as soon as you can. Consider contributing at least enough to receive the full employer match, if any.		

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	RETIREMENT PLANS & DEFERRED COMPENSATION ISSUES (CONT.)	YES	NO
>	Do you have any deferred compensation with your former employer? If so, review plan documents to understand the vesting schedule, distribution schedule and the distribution options available, such as yearly or lump sum.		
}	Did you own stock (or stock options) in a private company for which you were also employed? If so, consider the impact of the shares being illiquid and if there are any clawback or repurchase rights.		

TAX PLANNING ISSUES	YES	NO
Do you expect there to be any changes to your taxable income (due to a change in salary)? If so, consider strategies to mitigate the tax liability.		
Do you need help deciding on the amount of withholding you should elect?		
Do you need to make estimated income tax payments?		
Did you receive severance pay from your former employer, or claim unemployment benefits? If so, both will be taxable income in the year of receipt.		
Will (or did) you sell your primary residence to relocate for you new job? If so, you may be eligible for the maximum exclusion (\$250,000 or \$500,000 if MFJ) or a partial exclusion of capital gains.	r	
Will you need to file income tax returns in multiple states?		

OTHER PLANNING ISSUES	YES	NO
Are you subject to non-solicitation or non-compete agreements from your former employer and/or will you be signing such agreements for your new role? If so, review and understand the terms to which you are/will be bound, and maintain these agreements in a safe place.		
 Do you have student loans? If so, consider the following: Check to see if your new employer offers student loan repayment assistance. Review your eligibility for loan forgiveness or discharge programs (e.g., the PSLF Program, Teacher Loan Forgiveness, etc.). Update your records for any IDR programs in which you currently participate, as your new salary may impact your repayment plan. Adjust your payments and/or consider consolidating/refinancing as appropriate. 		
Do you need to update your contact information for emergency contacts, professional organizations, licenses, networking platforms, etc.? If so, be sure to take action to ensure that you do not leave loose ends with your former employer, or experience any gaps in communication.		

What You Should Know About Prism Planning and Solutions Group



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