



IRA ACCOUNT

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q WHEN MUST TRADITIONAL IRA CONTRIBUTIONS BE MADE?

Contributions must be made before the filing date for an individual's income tax return in the following year, not including extensions (generally, April 15th).

Q HOW DO I MAKE IRA CONTRIBUTIONS?

ONLINE

If you have established online access and added banking instructions to your account, you can use our website to log into your account to purchase shares at any time.

BY MAIL

To purchase shares by mail, fill out the investment slip included with your most recent transaction confirmation or quarter-end statement. When completing an investment slip be sure to state your account number, the name of the fund, and the dollar amount to be purchased. Make your check payable to "Northern Funds" and mail it with your investment slip to the appropriate address below:

REGULAR MAIL TO:

Northern Funds
P.O. Box 75986
Chicago, IL 60675-5986

EXPRESS OR REGISTERED MAIL TO:

Northern Funds
333 South Wabash Avenue
Dept. W-38
Chicago, IL 60604

Please be aware that Northern Funds is not responsible for any mail that is lost or misdirected by the U.S. Post Office or any other delivery service.

BY PHONE

You may also submit your purchase order by speaking to a Shareholder Services Representative. Our Shareholder Services Representatives can be reached at 800-595-9111, Monday through Friday, 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Central time.

BY WIRE

Unfortunately IRA contributions made via wire are not accepted at this time. If you have any questions, our Shareholder Services Representatives can be reached at 800-595-9111, Monday through Friday, 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Central time.

Q WHEN CAN I REDEEM SHARES FROM MY TRADITIONAL IRA?

Money can be withdrawn at any time. However, you may face IRS imposed penalties. To avoid the penalty, IRA proceeds must remain in the IRA until you reach age 59½. There are several exceptions that apply to the penalty for a withdrawal before age 59½ (see IRS Publication 590 for exceptions).

Q WHEN MUST I TAKE MY FIRST REQUIRED MINIMUM DISTRIBUTION (RMD)?

The first distribution is required to be taken no later than April 1st of the tax year after you attain age 70½. Subsequent distributions must be taken by December 31st of each succeeding tax year.

Q HOW CAN I REDEEM SHARES FROM MY TRADITIONAL IRA?

Redemptions can be paid by check, wire or EFT transfer only to the address or bank account of record. An IRA Distribution Form will need to be completed and sent in to the following:

FIRST CLASS MAIL TO:
Northern Funds
P.O. Box 75986
Chicago, IL 60675-5986

EXPRESS OR REGISTERED MAIL TO:
Northern Funds
333 South Wabash Avenue
Dept. W-38
Chicago, IL 60604

Please be aware that Northern Funds is not responsible for any mail that is lost or misdirected by the U.S. Post Office or any other delivery service.

Q WHAT SHOULD I EXPECT TO RECEIVE FROM MY IRA CUSTODIAN IF I REDEEMED FROM MY TRADITIONAL IRA WITHIN A GIVEN YEAR?

If you redeemed shares from your IRA account, you will receive a 1099-R generally, by January 31st of the following year.

Q WHAT SHOULD I EXPECT TO RECEIVE FROM MY IRA CUSTODIAN IF I MADE A CONTRIBUTION TO MY IRA?

Contributions are reported on Form 5498. However, the 5498's are not sent out until May 31st because shareholders have until the tax-filing deadline to make a contribution to their IRA's. You are not required to attach Form 5498 to your Form 1040.