

Since 1983, consumers across the country have looked to the National Association of Personal Financial Advisors (NAPFA) for access to financial professionals who meet the highest membership standards possible for professional competency, comprehensive financial planning, and Fee-Only compensation.

It all began at a Society of Independent Financial Advisors meeting in 1982 in Atlanta where the experienced Fee-Only practitioners in attendance had begun to receive numerous requests from prospective planners desiring to start their own businesses. These same planners were firm believers in their Fee-Only mission – to provide financial advice free from contingency on the purchase or sale of a financial product. Excited to set a new course for the industry, the planners established a new level of professional standards and reputation for excellence. In February 1983, the Fee-Only practitioners called another meeting in Atlanta, where anyone interested in starting their own Fee-Only planning service was invited. More than 125 people attended that meeting and NAPFA was born.

Since then, NAPFA has lived up to its original expectations and standards, attracting more than 2,000 members. The continued presence of NAPFA in the media and the public provides for the promise of further growth in the years to come.

Significant NAPFA Milestones, include:

- 1982 – The concept for NAPFA begins at an Atlanta meeting of the Society of Independent Financial Advisors.
- 1983 – The first Fee-Only planning meeting is held – NAPFA is born.
- 1990 – NAPFA issues first definition of Fee-only planning.
- 1997 – NAPFA introduces Fee-Only certification mark.
- 1998 – NAPFA requires all members to sign a *Fiduciary Oath* pledging to always place the interests of clients first.
- 2001 – More than 700 members, affiliates and exhibitors attend NAPFA's National Conference in Phoenix, AZ.
- 2002 – NAPFA creates the NAPFA-Registered Financial Advisor credential to define its highest level of membership.
- 2003 – NAPFA achieves the 1,000 member level.
- 2005 – NAPFA creates the Consumer Education Foundation and launches Focus on Fiduciary campaign.
- 2006 – NAPFA creates NAPFA University, a continuing education program for financial advisors.
- 2007 – A record 7,700 consumers participate in January's Kiplinger/NAPFA *Jumpstart your Retirement Plan* days.
- 2008 – NAPFA celebrates 25 years of comprehensive fee-only financial planning.
NAPFA and the NAPFA Consumer Education Foundation launch the Your Money Bus tour which travels 14,000 miles to 70 cities over eight months to promote financial literacy.
- 2009 – NAPFA joins the CFP Board of Standards and the Financial Planning Association to form the Financial Planning Coalition to advocate for professional standards for financial planners and a fiduciary standard of care for all financial advisors.
More than 300,000 consumers use NAPFA's Find An Advisor search tool to identify potential Fee-Only financial planning professionals across the country.
NAPFA launches the Consumer Webinar Series to offer free, monthly online education opportunities to consumers on a wide range of financial topics.
- 2010 – Your Money Bus travels 12,000 miles to 27 cities to continue educating consumers on the need for financial literacy.
NAPFA launches the NAPFA Personal Finance Blog with FiGuide.