

FEE-ONLY

Fee-only firms are registered investment advisors with a fiduciary responsibility to act in their clients' best interest. They do not accept any fees, commissions or third-party compensation based on product sales, but are paid directly by their clients. This gives fee-only advisors fewer inherent conflicts of interests, allowing them to provide more comprehensive advice.

Commission-based agents and brokers may call themselves "fee-<u>based</u>." This usually means that in addition to charging a fee they will also be able to receive commissions on the products they recommend.