



PLATTE RIVER
PRIVATE WEALTH

401(K) BASICS

START EARLY, SEEK GROWTH LONGER

TIME IS YOUR GREATEST INVESTMENT ALLY.

Did you know that the earlier you start contributing to your 401(k), the more time your money has to seek growth? Thanks to compound interest, even small contributions today can lead to significant savings tomorrow. And with **Morrow Meadows'** automatic enrollment, you're already on the path—no extra steps needed.



THE MAGIC OF STARTING EARLY— HOW TIME BUILDS WEALTH

When it comes to saving for retirement, starting early isn't just smart—it's powerful. The earlier you begin, the more time your money has to seek growth through the power of compound interest—a concept that Albert Einstein famously called the “eighth wonder of the world.”

What Is Compound Interest?

Compound interest means you earn interest not only on your original contributions but also on the interest those contributions generate. Over time, this creates a snowball effect—your money earns money, and that money earns even more.

A Tale of Two Savers

Let's look at an example:

- Alex starts saving at **age 25, contributing \$200/month.**
- Jamie waits until age **35 to start, contributing \$300/month.**

Even though Jamie contributes more each month, Alex's account will likely be larger by age 65. Why? Because Alex gave compound interest an extra 10 years to work its magic.

Here's a simplified projection (assuming a 7% annual return):

- Alex (40 years of growth):
~\$525,000
- Jamie (30 years of growth):
~\$370,000

That's a \$155,000 difference, just for starting earlier.



YOU'RE ALREADY ON THE PATH

Thanks to **Morrow Meadows'** automatic enrollment, you're already contributing to your 401(k)—which means you've taken the first step toward building long-term financial security. In fact, **Morrow Meadows** will match your contribution dollar for dollar, **up to \$6,000**.

But don't stop there. Even a small increase in your contribution rate—say, from 4% to 5%—can make a meaningful difference over time. Many employees find that they don't even notice the change in their paycheck, but they do notice the growth in their retirement account.

SMALL STEPS, BIG IMPACT

Here are some simple ways to make the most of your time advantage:

- 1 Log in and review your current contribution rate.
 - a. Log in to your account at empowermyretirement.com.
 - b. Go to your plan website and select *Register*.
 - c. Choose the *I do not have a PIN* tab.
 - d. Follow the prompts to create your *username and password*.
 - e. Contact *Platte River Private Wealth* (PRPW) for personalized assistance in determining your optimal contribution amount, selecting appropriate investments, and evaluating the best strategy for Roth versus pre-tax contributions.
- 2 Are you contributing enough to meet your retirement goals?
- 3 Consider increasing your rate by 1%.
- 4 Many plans allow you to set automatic annual increases.
- 5 Set a reminder to check in annually.
- 6 Life changes—your savings strategy should too.

YOUR FUTURE SELF WILL THANK YOU

Retirement may feel far away, but every dollar you invest today is a gift to your future self. By starting early and staying consistent, you're building a foundation to help you work toward your goals.

Whether you're just beginning your career or already a few years in, it's never too early—or too late—to take control of your financial future.

TAKE ACTION TODAY

Review your contribution rate and make sure you're maximizing your time advantage.

We're Here to Help!

Our team is dedicated to helping you navigate your 401(k) and what works best for you.



To get started, **scan the QR Code** above or visit platteriverpw.com/morrow

IMPORTANT DISCLOSURES

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