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Dollar-Cost Averaging vs High-Interest Savings: Which is right for you?

Are you worried about market volatility? Manulife offers segregated fund investment options that can help provide peace of mind, including the Dollar-Cost Averaging Program or the High-Interest Savings Fund. This quick guide breaks down the differences between the two options in simple terms, helping you choose the one that suits your financial goals.

Dollar-Cost Averaging Program

If you're concerned about market volatility and the right time to invest, the Manulife Dollar-Cost Averaging (DCA) Program offers a solution. It is a fund that allows you to spread out your segregated fund purchases in equal installments over a pre-determined period of time. DCA doesn't tell you which segregated fund to buy (that's between you and your advisor), but it does take the guesswork out of figuring out when to buy.

Example:

John invests \$6000 into the DCA Program fund and after that allocates \$500 to a selection of segregated funds every month. With fluctuations in the marketplace, sometimes the cost per unit he purchases will be higher, and sometimes it will be lower. When the price is lower, John ends up buying more units than when the price is higher. With regular allocations, John doesn't try to *time* the market. Thus, he doesn't worry about investing at a *high* point in the market or missing an opportunity to invest at low prices. As a result, he may receive, over time, a more average investment price with less worry about market ups and downs.

High-Interest Savings Fund

If you're looking for a secure and flexible way to accumulate assets for a specific goal or grow your savings while you consider your investment options, Manulife High Interest Savings Fund (or HISA) is tailored to meet your needs. With a competitive interest rate, your deposits can steadily increase as you explore your options.

Example #1:

Michael has not yet decided on which investments to allocate his savings towards. Instead of letting his funds sit idle, he takes advantage of the Manulife High Interest Savings Fund. Regardless of market conditions, Michael's savings continue to grow steadily over time, offering him a stable financial base. By utilizing HISA, Michael can confidently explore different investment avenues. This approach ensures that his savings are growing, providing him with the flexibility to make wellinformed decisions about his financial future.

Example #2:

Having received an inheritance, Sara seeks a highinterest, liquid solution while she shops for a cottage. She chose the Manulife High Interest Savings Fund, appreciating its liquidity and competitive interest rate, which allows her to grow her inheritance. Upon finding her dream cottage, Sara easily accesses her funds, benefiting from the interest accrued, without incurring any fees.

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Comparison snapshot

	Dollar-Cost Averaging Program	High-Interest Savings Fund
Typical goal	To benefit from volatility	To earn interest until funds are needed
Typical investment horizon	Within 12 months of allocation to the program	You decide
Available in GIF Select InvestmentPlus	✓	~
Available in MPIP Segregated Pools	✓	~
Available in Manulife Segregated Fund RESP	✓	✓
Management Expense Ratio (MER)	0%	0%
Eligible for transfers to other segregated funds	✓	✓
Fees if transferred	No fees	No fees

* Fund allocation instructions to the destination fund(s) are required within 90 days from deposit. Where instructions are not provided, the investment will be moved to the Manulife High Interest Savings fund.

For more information, visit <u>www.manulifeim.com/retail/ca</u> or speak to your advisor.

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Estate planning advantages of segregated fund solutions

Few investment solutions help minimize the trials and tribulations of estate planning the way a segregated fund contract can.

Speed

Settling an estate can be lengthy, frequently taking months or even years if the will is challenged. With a named beneficiary other than the estate, death benefit proceeds of a segregated fund contract can pass directly to the beneficiary and avoid delays.

Privacy

Bypassing the estate, and therefore probate where applicable can preserve confidentiality as probate is a matter of public record. Payments made to named beneficiaries of an insurance contract don't flow through the estate and are, therefore, a private matter.¹

Cost

Legal, estate administration, and probate² erode the value of an estate, diminishing the amount of money beneficiaries receive. The proceeds of a segregated fund contract can bypass these fees.

Control

Use the <u>annuity settlement option</u> to automatically transfer segregated fund proceeds at the time of death into an annuity. Replace a lump-sum benefit with smaller, scheduled payments while saving legal, estate administration, and probate fees, and gaining increased privacy, and potential creditor protection.



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Protection

Having the death benefit proceeds bypass the estate offers potential protection from estate creditors and will challenges.

¹ In Saskatchewan, assets are identified on the application for probate despite the fact that they do not flow through the estate and are not subject to probate fees.

² Probate does not apply in Quebec.