

Wednesday, March 06, 2013

Subject: Independent Financial Advisors on Campus

Please share with your employees who may be interested or impacted.

UAMS employs many highly compensated individuals. This makes us attractive to financial and investment firms. Such firms and independent advisors may contact you or your employees to request a group meeting on the work site. If this occurs, politely decline, citing that as a public institution, only our established, board-approved vendors (such as TIAA-CREF, Fidelity,) are authorized to hold employee group meetings. UAMS and the University of Arkansas System do not and cannot endorse any particular financial or investment firm.

Employees are certainly welcome to employ the services of a personal financial advisor. Such assistance could be valuable to those planning their retirement, estate, children's education, and other financial goals. However, this is their personal decision. Employees should meet with their personal advisor away from the workplace and on their own time.

Please see the attached. It describes how you can authorize a personal investment advisor to manage your TIAA-CREF retirement account. Fidelity has a similar set-up. It is important to note that TIAA-CREF and Fidelity do not endorse particular advisors or firms -- any registered investment advisor in good standing can request this access through TIAA-CREF and Fidelity. The personal advisor will charge a fee to manage your retirement investments, and this fee can be deducted from your UA retirement plan. But again, such personal advisors are NOT authorized to hold group meetings on campus, even after-hours.

If you have questions or concerns, please contact me at (501) 686-6552.

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Benefit or HR questions? Check out www.hr.uams.edu.
Or contact HR Employee Services, (501) 686-5650, askhr@uams.edu.