

GIVE YOUR FUTURE A HEALTHY START

Your Kroger 401(k) Retirement Plan

March 2016

Retirement Date Fund: A “One-Choice” Investment Portfolio

According to our records, you are currently investing in three or more Retirement Date Funds under your Kroger 401(k) retirement plan. Because each Retirement Date Fund is designed primarily as a “one-choice” investment portfolio based on a single “target” retirement age, investing in more than one may not be your best investment strategy.

In fact, this strategy could have an adverse effect on your financial goals. That’s because each Retirement Date Fund is intended to provide a mix of investments appropriate for a specific target retirement date. If you choose more than one fund, the investment objectives of one fund could counter the investment objectives of another.

Here is a quick reminder on the key features of the Retirement Date Funds, and how you could go about choosing one for your account.

How does a Retirement Date Fund work?

Each Retirement Date Fund is an asset allocation strategy professionally managed to a specific target retirement year. Each fund is gradually adjusted over time to become more conservative as the target retirement date approaches. In other words, as each fund approaches the target retirement date, it will invest more in bonds and less in stocks.

How do I select a Retirement Date Fund?

If you believe investing in a Retirement Date Fund is appropriate for you, you generally would decide what year you think you will retire, or will need to begin to withdraw the money from your account. Then, select the Retirement Date Fund with a title closest to that year. (For example, if you plan to retire in or around 2029, you would select the 2030 Retirement Date Fund.)

Changing your Investment Elections

You can change your investment elections, including current balance and future contribution elections, at any time. Just visit Benefits OnLine® or call Merrill Lynch.

- Benefits OnLine: www.benefits.ml.com
- Retirement & Benefits Contact Center: (800) 2-KROGER (800-257-6437)

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Why should I invest in only one Retirement Date Fund?

Each Retirement Date Fund is intended as a “one-choice” investment portfolio for those who plan to retire, or withdraw the money, in (or close to) the year in the fund’s title. Selecting more than one Retirement Date Fund could potentially work against the intended asset allocation strategy of each fund. In other words, the objectives of one fund could be contrary to the objectives of another.

More information about all of your Kroger retirement plan investment options is available on Benefits OnLine. If you have any questions, please call Merrill Lynch at (800) 2-KROGER (800-257-6437).

Are Retirement Date Funds guaranteed?

No. The principal value of these funds is not guaranteed at any time, including at the target retirement date.

What is the retirement date for these funds?

The target retirement date for these funds is the approximate date when an investor plans to start withdrawing the assets from his or her account. These funds are designed to become more conservative over time as the target retirement date approaches.

The Retirement Date Funds are not mutual funds registered under the Investment Company Act of 1940. Prospectuses are not available and shares are not publicly traded or listed on exchanges.

As a “fund of funds,” each of these funds, as a shareholder of underlying funds, will indirectly bear its pro rata share of the expenses incurred by the underlying funds.

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