

## **Investing Basics: Start-Up Tips**

### ***How do I get started in investing?***

Successful Investing Tip #1: First build up and maintain a cash reserve to meet short-term emergencies and other liquidity needs.

Successful Investing Tip #2: Try to develop an overall investment strategy that you are aiming for, even if you can't implement the strategy immediately.

Successful Investing Tip #3: Select mutual funds that meet your investment strategy first; use the minimum initial investment as a secondary consideration.

Successful Investing Tip #4: Select a balanced fund (for less aggressive investors) or a broad-based index fund (for more aggressive investors) for your initial investment, and build from there.

Successful Investing Tip #5: The minimum initial investment of the funds that you have selected will set the investment savings goal that you are trying to achieve.

Successful Investing Tip #6: The percentage commitment to each stock market segment will determine when you should start adding funds to your initial investments.

Successful Investing Tip #7: Don't agonize over small deviations from your overall allocation plan. For instance, if a minimum investment in a small stock fund results in a 12% or 13% commitment to small stocks, rather than your target 10%, go ahead and make the commitment. Your overall allocation goal is only a rough guide.