

FREE GUIDE · OCTOBER 2026 EDITION

The segregated fund RRIF

Turning your RRSP into retirement income, with guarantees and a simpler estate.

Jean Carrière · Financial Security Advisor

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AT A GLANCE

The essentials on one page

The RRIF is the RRSP that starts paying you. You keep your investments, the money keeps growing tax-sheltered, and you withdraw at least the legal minimum each year. With segregated funds, a market drop does not jeopardize what you leave to your loved ones.

Age 71

No later than December 31 of the year you turn 71, the RRSP must be converted.

Minimum withdrawal

A percentage of the January 1 value that rises with age: 5.28% at 71.

Taxable

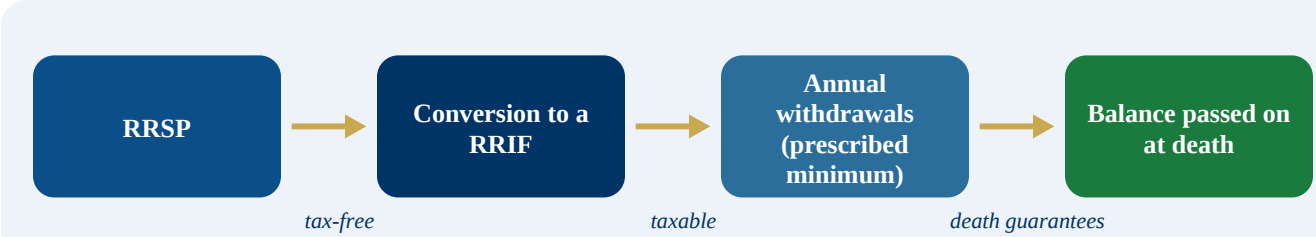
Withdrawals are added to your income for the year.

Guarantees

With segregated funds, the guarantees protect the capital passed on at death.

HOW IT WORKS

The segregated fund RRIF



You transfer your RRSP to a RRIF, with no tax. From the following year, you must withdraw at least a minimum amount, based on your age on January 1, or on your spouse's age if they are younger.

Before 71, the minimum equals the value divided by (90 minus your age). From 71, a prescribed percentage applies: 5.28% at 71, 6.82% at 80, then it climbs to 20% at 95 and over. You can always withdraw more.

Key terms

Minimum withdrawal	The mandatory amount each year; no withholding tax on that minimum.
Spouse's age	You can use a younger spouse's age to lower the minimum.
Successor annuitant	The spouse who keeps receiving the RRIF payments after your death.
Pension income splitting	From age 65, up to 50% of RRIF withdrawals can be allocated to your spouse for tax purposes.
Pension income credit	RRIF withdrawals qualify for this credit from age 65.

UNDERSTANDING THE CONTRACT

The segregated fund contract, in plain terms

A segregated fund is an investment offered by a life insurer, inside an insurance contract called an individual variable insurance contract. Your money is invested in funds similar to mutual funds, run by professional managers, but held separately from the insurer's other assets: that is where the word "segregated" comes from.

What makes the difference is that the contract adds protections you won't find in an ordinary investment account.



Maturity guarantee
On the maturity date, often 10 or 15 years after the deposit, you receive at least 75% or 100% of your deposits, depending on the series, reduced proportionally by withdrawals.

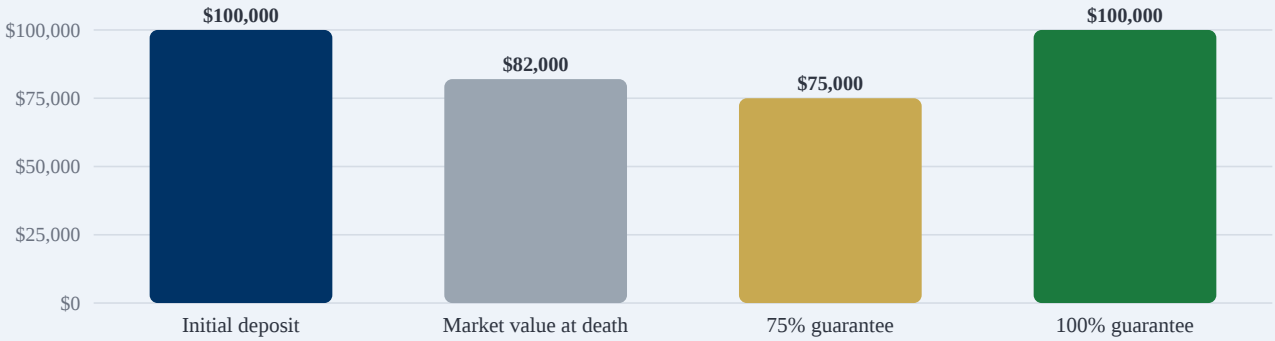


Death benefit guarantee
If you die, your beneficiaries receive at least the guaranteed amount, even if markets have fallen. It is paid directly, without waiting for the estate to be settled.



Assuris
If a member insurer were to fail, Assuris protects your guarantees up to $100,000 or 90% of the guaranteed amount, whichever is higher.

Example: $100,000 deposit, markets down at the time of death



What the beneficiaries receive, depending on the guarantee chosen

The price of protection
Guarantees have a cost, included in each fund's management expense ratio (MER). The higher the guarantee, the higher the MER. The right choice depends on your time horizon and how much the legacy matters to you.



THE BENEFITS

Why it helps

01
Tailored income
Monthly, quarterly or yearly, above the minimum as you need.

02
Growth continues
The balance stays invested and tax-sheltered.

03
Protecting the legacy
The death benefit guarantee protects the capital passed on against a falling market.

04
A simpler estate
With a successor annuitant or a beneficiary named in the contract.

WHO IT IS FOR

Is it right for you?

- **People aged 65 to 71**
  Who must convert their RRSP or want to start drawing an income.
- **Cautious retirees**
  Who want to keep investing without risking the inheritance.
- **Couples**
  To split income and protect the surviving spouse.
- **Those who want to spread out the tax**
  By starting withdrawals earlier, before government benefits.

A REAL-LIFE EXAMPLE

Claude, 71 on January 1, has $300,000 in his segregated fund RRIF. His minimum withdrawal for the year is about $15,840, or 5.28% of the balance.

He names his spouse as successor annuitant. In tough market years, he withdraws only the minimum. His death benefit guarantee protects what he will leave to his spouse and then to his children.

OPTIONS AND PITFALLS

Choosing well, without surprises

Common options

Payment frequency	Monthly, quarterly, semi-annual or annual.
Spouse's age	To reduce the minimum withdrawal.
Successor annuitant or beneficiary	Depending on your family situation.
Guaranteed lifetime income	Some contracts guarantee an income even if the account runs out.

WHAT TO CHECK BEFORE YOU SIGN

- Withdrawals above the minimum are subject to withholding tax.
- Large withdrawals can reduce the Old Age Security pension.
- The guarantees decrease with withdrawals.
- At death, with no spouse, the balance is taxable on the final return.

NEXT STEPS

The right questions to ask

Before you decide, ask yourself:

- When is the best time to convert my RRSP?
- How much should I withdraw each year so my savings last?
- Should I use my spouse's age?
- Successor annuitant or beneficiary?

I compare products from several insurers and lay the numbers out side by side. A 30-minute meeting, in person in Montréal, by Google Meet or by phone, is usually enough to see clearly.

BOOK A MEETING

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Run the numbers

Scan the code with your phone's camera: the free Maprime.ca calculator gives you a first estimate in two minutes, with no sign-up.

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Request my quote →

Jean Carrière, independent representative through Groupe Cloutier, general agent. Financial security advisor, group insurance and group annuity plans representative and scholarship plan representative, registered with the Autorité des marchés financiers (certificate 259457). Verify my registration: lautorite.qc.ca.

IMPORTANT NOTICES AND SOURCES

Please read

- This guide provides general information. It is not personalized tax, legal or financial advice, nor a product recommendation. A needs analysis is required before any recommendation.
- Any amount allocated to a segregated fund is invested at the risk of the contract holder and may increase or decrease in value. The guarantees and fees are those of the information folder, the contract and the Fund Facts, which alone are authoritative.
- The coverage, exclusions, fees and conditions that apply are those of the contract issued by the insurer, which alone is authoritative. Examples are illustrative and are not a quote.
- I am an independent representative: I am not bound to any insurer by an exclusivity agreement and I compare products from several insurers. I am paid by commission from the insurer; I will disclose it on request.
- Figures and rules in effect in October 2026; they may change. Images: Pexels photographs (Pexels licence) and illustrations generated by artificial intelligence; the people shown are models or fictional characters.

Sources consulted

- Canada Revenue Agency, prescribed RRIF minimum withdrawal factors
- Canada Revenue Agency, pension income splitting
- Assuris, segregated fund guarantees

AT A GLANCE

The RRIF in segregated funds at a glance

The essential features of this solution, on a single page.



General features for information only. Guarantees, options, limits and tax rules vary by insurer, contract and your situation.

Let's talk about your situation

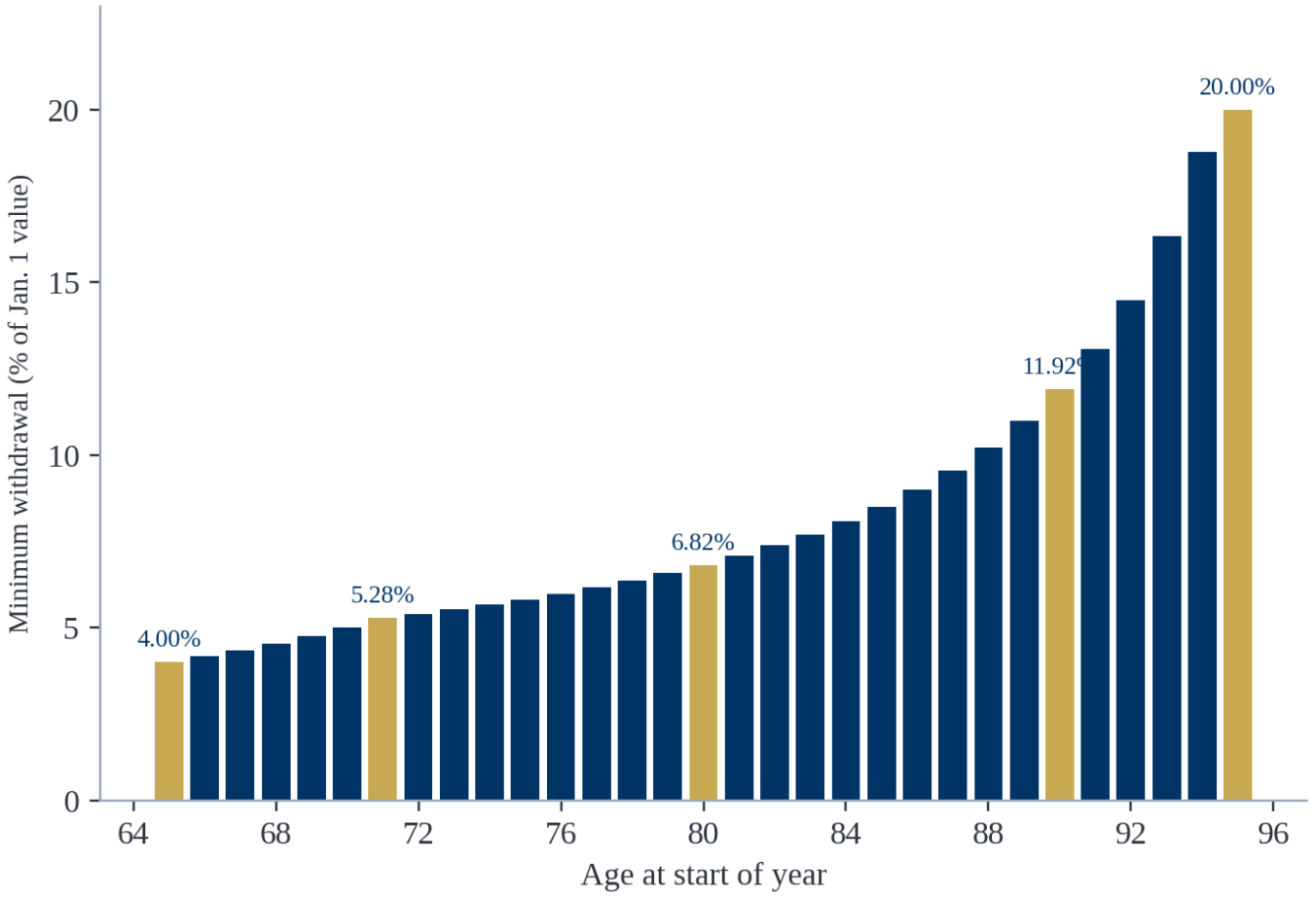
A free 30-minute meeting: 438 889-6474 · maprime.ca/rendez-vous-en · info@maprime.ca

Jean Carrière, independent representative — Groupe Cloutier, managing general agent · 438 889-6474 · info@maprime.ca

THE ADVANTAGES IN A CHART

Predictable income, framed by law

A RRIF pays at least a minimum each year, based on age. You may withdraw more, and the balance keeps growing tax-free.



Assumptions and sources

Factors prescribed by the Income Tax Regulations (before 71: 1 ÷ (90 − age)). The younger spouse's age may be used.

Your numbers, not assumptions

I'll redo this calculation with your real situation: 438 889-6474 · maprime.ca/rendez-vous-en

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