

Terminating a Defined Benefit Plan & DOL Guidelines for Selecting an Annuity Provider

The Department of Labor's Interpretive Bulletin 95-1 requires the plan fiduciary engage in an objective, thorough and analytical search for the purpose of identifying and selecting providers from which to purchase annuities.

As a qualified independent expert, **New England Retirement Consultants** provides fiduciary consulting services to provide a "safe harbor" for plan sponsors to meet these requirements.

New England Retirement Consultants provides the plan fiduciary with an evaluation of the claims-paying ability, creditworthiness, and the cost of potential annuity providers to absorb the liabilities of your terminated plan.

In accordance with the DOL Safe Harbor, our evaluation will include:

- **The quality and diversification of the annuity provider's investment portfolio.**
 - **The size of the insurer relative to the proposed annuity contract.**
 - **The level of the insurer's capital, surplus and reserves.**
 - **The lines of business of the annuity provider and other indications of an insurer's exposure to liability.**
 - **The structure of the annuity contract and guarantees supporting the annuities, such as the use of separate accounts.**
 - **The availability and extent of additional protection through state guaranty associations, and the extent of their guarantees.**
-

NEW ENGLAND
Retirement Consultants

Improving plans for tomorrow