# Retirement Plan Financial Statement Preparation Assistance

For many plan sponsors, outsourcing the preparation of their retirement plan financial statements, including the supporting trial balances and schedules, is an efficient way to ensure their financial statements comply with the reporting and disclosure requirements applicable to benefit plans.

It simplifies risk management, saves time and effort, and allows plan sponsors to gain better control over the audit process.

A&M's Retirement Plan Financial Statement Preparation Assistance solution helps companies to accurately prepare financial statements, including 5500 forms as needed, for the required annual filings.

We also prepare accurate 11-K financial statements for plans that have company stock as part of their investment portfolio. SEC independence rules specifically prohibit the plan auditors from compiling financial statements as part of the 11-K audit engagement.

We assist with compiling the financial statements and work hand-in-hand with your retirement plan auditors to help ensure a smooth audit.

# What Are the Benefits of Outsourcing Retirement Plan Financial Statement Preparation?

Managing retirement plans has become a complex task that can drain already constrained resources from an origination's focus on their core business and accounting. Outsourcing allows plan sponsors to tap the expertise of external specialists, reduce costs, and gain an assurance that their plan's financial statements are handled properly.



**Time saving:** Our Retirement Plan Financial Statement Preparation solution reduces time and effort on behalf of the plan sponsor, especially when they do not have the time or expertise in house to prepare the statements themselves.



**Better organization and control of the audit process:** We often work side-by-side with the plan sponsor's audit team and can help the plan sponsor better manage the process of preparing necessary supporting documents and audit requests.



**Early identification and correction of errors:** Our team can help discover operational errors prior to the auditors identifying them, and we can also help the plan sponsor correct any operational errors utilizing the various correction programs.

**Increased confidence:** Plan sponsors can be assured that financial statements and the Form 5500 are completed in accordance with regulations.

Fees can be covered by plan: In most cases, services can be paid out of plan assets instead of company funds.





## What Makes Alvarez & Marsal Different?

We act as an independent, strategic partner with plan sponsors to prepare accurate financial statements by working side-by-side with plan auditors. Our focus and experience enable us to provide process-improvement suggestions and insight into best practices. You can count on A&M for the following qualities:



#### **Operational Expertise**

Our team is made up of EBP auditors, so we understand technical requirements and what auditors are looking for.



#### Seamless Operations

We work hand-in-glove with the plan sponsors auditing team to get the task completed in an accurate and timely manner.



#### **Plan Operations Point of View**

We approach audits with a compliance mindset, digging down to unearth any plan operational errors that must be reported, such as late or delinquent contributions. Finding and correcting these errors early mitigates risk to the client.

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#### **ABOUT ALVAREZ & MARSAL**

Companies, investors and government entities around the world turn to Alvarez & Marsal (A&M) for leadership, action and results. Privately held since its founding in 1983, A&M is a leading global professional services firm that provides advisory, business performance improvement and turnaround management services. When conventional approaches are not enough to create transformation and drive change, clients seek our deep expertise and ability to deliver practical solutions to their unique problems.

With over 7,000 people across five continents, we deliver tangible results for corporates, boards, private equity firms, law firms and government agencies facing complex challenges. Our senior leaders, and their teams, leverage A&M's restructuring heritage to help companies act decisively, catapult growth and accelerate results. We are experienced operators, world-class consultants, former regulators and industry authorities with a shared commitment to telling clients what's really needed for turning change into a strategic business asset, managing risk and unlocking value at every stage of growth.

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