



**Brighthouse**

FINANCIAL®

Build for what's ahead®

# Learn the Essentials

Discover how a level of protection and participation in growth opportunities can lead to a brighter financial future.

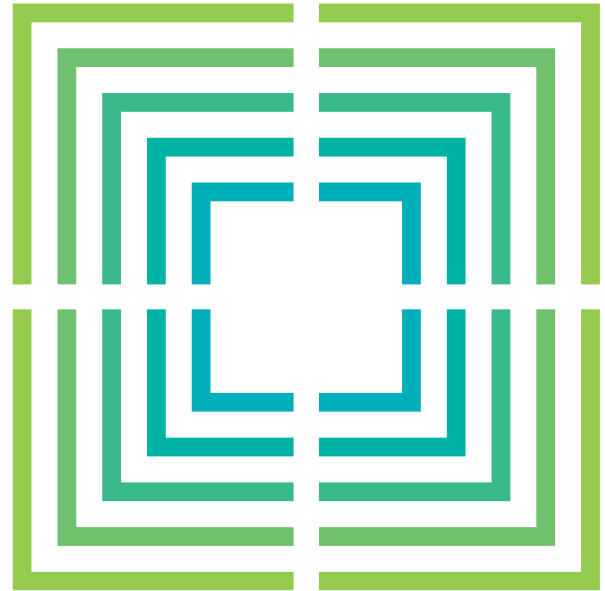
**ANNUITIES** | SINGLE PREMIUM DEFERRED

**Brighthouse Shield®  
Level Annuity**

This material provides a general overview of Brighthouse Shield® Level Select 6-Year Annuity, a single premium deferred annuity product referred to as "Shield® Level annuity" or "Shield® annuity." Please refer to the product fact card and prospectus for complete details regarding this annuity. Product availability and features may vary by firm.







# Brighthouse Shield Level Annuity



## Protect retirement assets

A Brighthouse Shield® Level Annuity provides a level of protection to help ensure that losses are limited when markets turn volatile.



## Participate in growth opportunities

With a Shield annuity, balance is built in. This means that even with a guaranteed level of protection, there are opportunities to take advantage of market growth.



## Pay no annual fees

Unlike many financial products, there are no annual fees with a Shield annuity.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Withdrawals may be subject to withdrawal charges.





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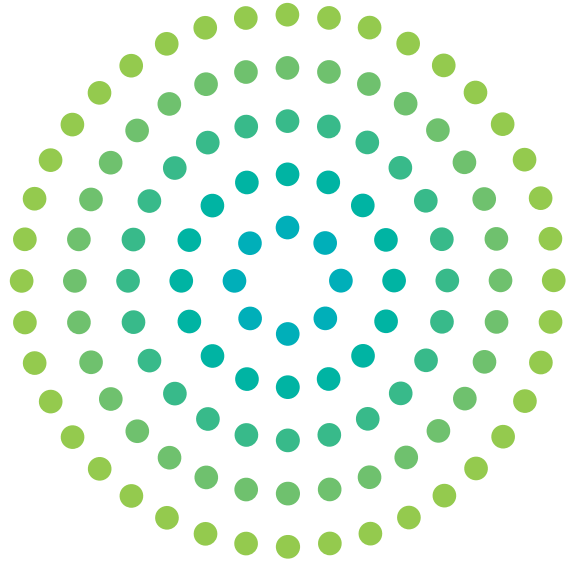
# What is an index-linked annuity and how does it fit into a portfolio?

Index-linked annuities are long-term financial products designed to help you save for retirement. This type of annuity lets you participate in growth opportunities, up to a certain percentage, by tracking the performance of a market index while allowing you to enjoy a level of protection in down markets.

A Brighthouse Shield Level Annuity offers growth opportunities by linking to well-known market indices. And with a level of downside protection, it can help limit the impact of market volatility.<sup>2</sup> Plus, a Shield annuity features no annual fees.

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<sup>2</sup> Your account value will be reduced by any negative index performance beyond your elected level of protection. If you do not elect the Fixed Account, you could see a substantial loss if the index declines more than your level of protection.



# Protect Retirement Assets

Achieving financial goals can take more than one strategy – and index-linked annuities can play an important role.

When planning for retirement, you can't risk everything and you can't protect everything. But there is a way to achieve some of both. A Shield annuity from Brighthouse Financial® can help use a portion of retirement assets to participate in market growth opportunities with a level of downside protection other investment options may not provide. A Shield annuity is designed to help provide some protection in an unpredictable endeavor – investing.



# Participate in Growth Opportunities

Equities. Don't be afraid – they can still be a great retirement asset.

Sure, investing in equities has its ups and downs, but anyone who has looked at historical returns knows the truth.<sup>3</sup> Equities can offer a great opportunity for your retirement assets to potentially grow, which is eye-opening when you look at the numbers.

**For example, 5.9%.** That's how much the average investor has underperformed the broader market over the past 20 years.<sup>4</sup> Why? Because some investors may sell at the first sign of bad news.<sup>5</sup> What about your retirement portfolio? Are your numbers telling this same story?

A Shield annuity is specifically built to help take advantage of some of the potential growth opportunities equities offer. But what about the possibility of a significant market downturn? We've got that covered too. With a Shield annuity, balance is built in, so there's potential for equity-like returns while still protecting a portion of assets against loss.<sup>6</sup>



## 5.9%

The average investor has underperformed the broader market by 5.9% over the past 20 years.<sup>4</sup>

<sup>3</sup> Past performance does not guarantee future results.

<sup>4</sup> The average investor performance since 2002 is 3.6% while the S&P 500 Index average performance since 2002 is 9.5%. Guide to the Markets. J.P. Morgan Asset Management, September 30, 2022.

<sup>5</sup> This chart shows why investors should never try to time the stock market. CNBC, March 24, 2021.

<sup>6</sup> Participate in rising markets up to your Cap Rate or Step Rate. The issuing insurance company will absorb losses up to your level of protection in falling markets. Your account value will be reduced by any negative index performance beyond your elected level of protection. If you do not elect the Fixed Account, you could see a substantial loss if the market declines more than your level of protection.



# Pay No Annual Fees

A Shield annuity won't add to overall investment portfolio fees.

A Shield annuity has no annual fees. Brighthouse Financial is able to realize earnings through the assets deposited in the product. Importantly, any money we earn is not taken from the growth provided by the selected index beyond the Cap Rate or Step Rate specified in the Shield annuity.

Remember that a Shield annuity is designed to work over the full length of the selected term by providing exposure to equities that may help accumulate funds. After the first contract year, if a need arises, up to 10% of the account value (as of the previous contract anniversary) can be withdrawn each year without a withdrawal charge.<sup>7</sup>



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## Tax treatment – another bright spot.

Worried about tax implications? Rest easy. A Shield annuity is tax-deferred.<sup>8</sup>

This generally means that taxes aren't paid until money is withdrawn. And because taxes aren't paid on the earnings each year, hard-earned money stays hard at work until ready for use.

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<sup>7</sup> Withdrawals of taxable amounts are subject to ordinary income tax. Withdrawals made before age 59½ may also be subject to a 10% federal income tax penalty. Distributions of taxable amounts from a non-qualified annuity may also be subject to the 3.8% Net Investment Income Tax that is generally imposed on interest, dividends, and annuity income if the modified adjusted gross income exceeds the applicable threshold amount. Withdrawals will reduce the death benefit and account value. Withdrawals may be subject to withdrawal charges.

<sup>8</sup> Buying an annuity to fund a qualified retirement plan or IRA should be done for the annuity's features and benefits other than tax deferral. Tax deferral is generally a feature of a qualified retirement plan or IRA, so an annuity would not provide an additional tax deferral benefit. References throughout this material to tax advantages, such as tax deferral and tax-free transfers, are subject to this consideration. The product described in this material is not made available to employer-sponsored qualified retirement plans. For non-qualified annuities, tax deferral is not available to corporations and certain other entities.

# How a Shield Annuity Works

In a perfect world, retirement portfolios would enjoy uninterrupted growth, leaving you with few decisions outside of where you will spend your comfortable retirement. But that's not the way saving for retirement goes. Losses are very real and can drag the entire value of your portfolio down.

## Diversify Retirement Planning

### A Brighthouse Shield Level Annuity



Participate in rising markets up to your Cap Rate or Step Rate. The issuing insurance company will absorb losses up to your level of protection in falling markets. Your account value will be reduced by any negative index performance beyond your elected level of protection. If you do not elect the Fixed Account, you could see a substantial loss if the market declines more than your level of protection.



# A Valuable Portfolio Asset

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## The right level of protection

Like its name implies, a Brighthouse Shield Level Annuity is able to protect account assets from some of the losses that can derail portfolio performance. The best part is that there is a built-in level of protection – or Shield Rate – as well as potential growth opportunities offered by the index or indices selected.

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## Locking in potential growth

- The Cap Rate is the maximum growth that can be earned for the term
- The Step Rate credits a predetermined percentage of growth if the chosen index is either flat or up for the term

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## Tailored to suit individual needs

A Shield annuity immediately puts money to work and allows participation in some of the growth opportunities the market offers, up to the Cap Rate or Step Rate. At the end of each term, the index value at the beginning and end of the term will be compared – factoring in the level of protection as well as the Cap Rate or Step Rate – which will result in a new account value.

At the end of the term, the investment allocation can be kept the same or adjusted to meet changing needs. The fact card enclosed in the Shield annuity materials provides more information. Your financial professional can also tell you which options, features, and indices are available with your Shield annuity.

# Tailored to Individual Needs

Ready to get started? Use these simple steps.

With an investment time horizon in mind, consider how a Shield annuity might fit your future needs.

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**01 Decide what portion of retirement assets should be allocated to help protect from loss.**

This money will not only benefit from a level of protection, it can also allow you to participate in potential growth opportunities. Remember that a Shield annuity is designed to work over the full length of the term by providing equity exposure via index tracking.

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**02 Choose the Shield Options that best fit individual goals.**

Each Shield Option is a combination of term (length of time), index, and Shield Rate (level of protection), and either a Cap Rate or Step Rate. The available Shield Options are listed on the fact card and new contract rate flyer.

**Select an index or indices:**

- S&P 500® Index<sup>A</sup>
- Russell 2000® Index<sup>B</sup>
- MSCI EAFE Index<sup>C</sup>

A Shield annuity is an index-linked annuity that doesn't invest directly in the chosen index or indices, but rather tracks their performance. Index choices are diversified among large-cap, small-cap, and international stocks (see page 12 for descriptions of indices).

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**03 Participate in up markets with a level of protection in down markets.**

At the end of each term, the account value will be reduced only by the amount that exceeds the level of protection.<sup>9</sup> For example, if 10% of the account value was protected and the index selected dropped by 15%, the account would experience only a 5% loss. At the end of the term, choose one or more Shield Options or keep the same selections for the next term.<sup>10</sup> Available term lengths are listed on the enclosed fact card.

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<sup>9</sup> You could see a substantial loss if the index declines more than your level of protection.

<sup>10</sup> Please visit [brighthousefinancial.com/shieldrates](http://brighthousefinancial.com/shieldrates) for current rates, which generally update on the 1st and 15th of every month.

# Shield Annuity in Action

This is a hypothetical example for illustrative purposes only and does not take taxes, fees, and any other expenses into account.

## Term 1

### The Shield Rate goes to work

Jack and Kristin, who are 10 years from retiring, are exploring ways to diversify and grow their savings. After meeting with their financial professional, they decide to move \$100,000 – a portion of their retirement assets – into a Shield Option with a 1-year term, their chosen index, and Shield 10 level of protection. At the end of the term:

- Their chosen index declined by **14%**
- Because of the Shield Rate, Brighthouse Financial absorbed **10%** of their loss
- Jack and Kristin avoided **\$10,000** in losses

## Term 2

### Enjoying the growth

A Shield annuity protected a portion of Jack and Kristin's assets by limiting their loss. Their Shield Rate then renews for another 1-year term. At the end of the term:

- Their chosen index grew by **15%**
- In exchange for **10%** protection against loss, their Cap Rate was **8.5%**
- Jack and Kristin's account grew by **8.5%**

## The moral of the story

A Shield annuity worked for Jack and Kristin. But what if instead of purchasing a Shield annuity, they had directly invested in an investment that tracks the same market index but does not provide a level of protection?

### WITH Shield 10 Protection

After term 1 → \$96,000  
After term 2 → \$104,160



### WITHOUT Shield 10 Protection

After 1 year → \$86,000  
After 2 years → \$98,900

A difference of \$5,260



# Discover a Brighter Future

A Brighthouse Shield Level Annuity is designed to provide the one thing that is toughest to achieve – diversified growth opportunities with a level of protection in a volatile market.



Ready for more? Use the Customization Guide to see how a Shield annuity can help use a portion of retirement assets to participate in market growth with a level of downside protection.

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Talk to your financial professional to see if a Shield annuity is the right product to help get you where you want to go. Or visit [brighthousefinancial.com](https://brighthousefinancial.com) to find out more about how to pursue growth opportunities with a level of protection.

# We're Brighthouse Financial

We are on a mission to help people  
achieve financial security.

As one of the largest providers of annuities and life insurance in the U.S.,<sup>11</sup> we specialize in products designed to help people protect what they've earned and ensure it lasts. We are built on a foundation of experience and knowledge, which allows us to keep our promises and provide the value they deserve.

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<sup>11</sup> Ranked by 2021 admitted assets. Best's Review®: Top 200 U.S. Life/Health Insurers. A.M. Best, 2022.



# Need-To-Know Info

<b>Annual Fees</b>	<b>No annual fees.</b> Withdrawal charges, premium tax, and other taxes may apply.
<b>Cap Rate</b>	The maximum performance that can be earned for the term. This rate will vary by Shield Option.
<b>Death Benefit</b>	<p>For purchasers age 75 and younger, the death benefit pays the greater of the account value or the purchase payment, reduced proportionally for withdrawals, including applicable withdrawal charges</p> <p>For purchasers age 76 or older at issue, the death benefit pays back the account value.</p>
<b>Interim Value</b>	<p>The value of each Shield Option calculated on any business day prior to the end of the term. The Interim Value is the amount available for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Partial withdrawals or full surrenders (reduced by withdrawal charge, if applicable)</li> <li>• Annuitization</li> <li>• Death benefit<sup>12</sup></li> </ul> <p>For each Shield Option, the Interim Value is calculated based on the performance of the associated index on a given day, up to the accrued Shield Rate and either the accrued Cap Rate or accrued Step Rate.</p>
<b>Lifetime Income</b>	<p>Available through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fixed Life Annuity, with and without guarantee periods</li> <li>• Fixed Joint and Last Survivor Annuity, with and without guarantee periods</li> </ul>
<b>Market Indices</b>	<p><b>S&amp;P 500 Index</b> Includes 500 large-cap stocks from leading companies in leading industries of the U.S. economy, capturing approximately 80% coverage of U.S. equities.</p> <p><b>Russell 2000 Index</b> Measures the performance of the small-cap segment of the U.S. equity universe and includes approximately 2,000 of the smallest securities based on a combination of their market cap and current index membership.</p> <p><b>MSCI EAFE Index</b> A free, float-adjusted market capitalization index designed to measure the equity market performance of developed markets, excluding the U.S. and Canada. As of the date of the prospectus, the index consists of the following 21 developed market country indices: Australia, Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Hong Kong, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Portugal, Singapore, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, and the United Kingdom.</p>

<sup>12</sup> For contracts issued with a Return of Premium Death Benefit, the Interim Value may be lower than the death benefit.

<b>Nursing Home Waiver</b>	If applicable, after the first contract year, a withdrawal charge will be waived if the owner or the joint owner becomes confined to a hospital or nursing home for at least 90 days. This waiver is available to people age 80 or younger when they purchase the annuity. See the prospectus for details and restrictions.
<b>Purchase Payment (single premium)</b>	Minimum: \$25,000 Maximum: \$1 million (without issuing insurance company approval)
<b>Step Rate</b>	The Step Rate credits a predetermined percentage of growth if the index performance is either flat or up at the end of the term. In exchange for a predetermined percentage of growth, Step Rates are generally lower than Cap Rates for the same Shield Options.
<b>Terminal Illness Waiver</b>	If applicable, after the first contract year, a withdrawal charge will be waived if the owner or the joint owner becomes terminally ill and is not expected to live more than 12 months. This waiver is available to people age 80 or younger when they purchase the annuity. See the prospectus for details and restrictions.
<b>Transfers</b>	Transfers between the Shield Options or Fixed Account are permitted within 5 days after the end of each term.
<b>Withdrawals<sup>13</sup></b>	<p>Upon request for a withdrawal, you will receive a net withdrawal amount adjusted for any applicable withdrawal charge and/or taxable amount as described below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Free Withdrawals: After your first contract year, the Free Withdrawal Amount, if applicable, is equal to 10% of the account value as of the prior contract anniversary</li> <li>• Withdrawal Charge: If applicable, a percentage charge is applied to a withdrawal amount in excess of the Free Withdrawal Amount in a contract year</li> </ul> <p>Withdrawals of taxable amounts are subject to ordinary income tax. Withdrawals made before age 59½ may also be subject to a 10% federal income tax penalty. Distributions of taxable amounts from a non-qualified annuity may also be subject to the 3.8% Net Investment Income Tax that is generally imposed on interest, dividends, and annuity income if the modified adjusted gross income exceeds the applicable threshold amount. Withdrawals will reduce the death benefit and account value. Withdrawals may be subject to withdrawal charges.</p>

<sup>13</sup> Each business day, we assign a value to each Shield Option, which is known as Interim Value. This value also represents the amount you can withdraw from each of the Shield Options on any day before the term end date. The Shield Rate and either the Cap Rate or Step Rate (depending on the Shield Option chosen) will not fully accrue until the term end date, which will affect your Interim Value. Additionally, Interim Value is used to measure the impact of a partial withdrawal on the remaining investment amount in a Shield Option. The amount of a partial withdrawal, and any applicable withdrawal charges, will reduce the investment amount for each Shield Option proportionally and may adversely impact the investment amount in your Shield Option and any future amounts available for withdrawal.

- <sup>A</sup> The S&P 500® Index is a product of S&P Dow Jones Indices LLC or its affiliates ("SPDJI") and has been licensed for use by Brighthouse Financial. Standard & Poor's®, S&P®, and S&P 500® are registered trademarks of Standard & Poor's Financial Services LLC ("S&P"); Dow Jones® is a registered trademark of Dow Jones Trademark Holdings LLC ("Dow Jones"); and these trademarks have been licensed for use by SPDJI and sublicensed for certain purposes by Brighthouse Financial. Brighthouse Financial products are not sponsored, endorsed, sold, or promoted by SPDJI, Dow Jones, S&P, or their respective affiliates; and none of such parties make any representation regarding the advisability of investing in such product(s), nor do they have any liability for any errors, omissions, or interruptions of the S&P 500 Index.
- <sup>B</sup> The Russell 2000® Index is a trademark of Russell Investments and has been licensed for use by affiliates of Brighthouse Financial, Inc. This annuity product is not sponsored, endorsed, sold, or promoted by Russell Investments, and Russell Investments makes no representation regarding the advisability of investing in this annuity product.
- <sup>C</sup> This annuity product is not sponsored, endorsed, or promoted by MSCI, and MSCI bears no liability with respect to any such products or securities, or any index on which such products or securities are based. The annuity product prospectus contains a more detailed description of the limited relationship MSCI has with affiliates of Brighthouse Financial, Inc.

**This material must be preceded or accompanied by a prospectus for Brighthouse Shield Level Select 6-Year Annuity, issued in New York only by Brighthouse Life Insurance Company of NY, which contains information about the contract's features, risks, charges, and expenses. Clients should read the prospectus, which is available from their financial professional, and consider its information carefully before investing. Brighthouse Financial reserves the right to substitute any index at any time.**

**Brighthouse Shield Level Select 6-Year Annuity is a long-term investment designed for retirement purposes. It has limitations, exclusions, charges, termination provisions, and terms for keeping it in force, and is not guaranteed by the broker/dealer, the insurance agency, the underwriter, or any affiliates of those entities from which it was purchased. All representations and contract guarantees, including the death benefit and annuity payout rates, are subject to the claims-paying ability and financial strength of the issuing insurance company. Because the client agrees to absorb all losses beyond their chosen Shield Rate, there is a risk of substantial loss of principal. Please refer to "Risk Factors" in the contract prospectus for more details.**

Withdrawals of taxable amounts are subject to ordinary income tax. Withdrawals made before age 59½ may also be subject to a 10% federal income tax penalty. Distributions of taxable amounts from a non-qualified annuity may also be subject to the 3.8% Net Investment Income Tax that is generally imposed on interest, dividends, and annuity income if the modified adjusted gross income exceeds the applicable threshold amount. Withdrawals will reduce the death benefit and account value. Withdrawals may be subject to withdrawal charges.

Any discussion of taxes is for general informational purposes only, does not purport to be complete or cover every situation, and should not be construed as legal, tax, or accounting advice. Clients should confer with their qualified legal, tax, and accounting professionals as appropriate.

Brighthouse Shield® Level Select 6-Year Annuity is an index-linked annuity issued in New York only by, and product guarantees are solely the responsibility of, Brighthouse Life Insurance Company of NY, New York, NY 10017, on Policy Form ML-22494 (12/21) ("Brighthouse Financial"). This product is distributed by Brighthouse Securities, LLC (member FINRA). All are Brighthouse Financial affiliated companies. Product availability and features may vary by firm.

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