

James Barnash, CFP[®]

National Director of Financial Planning
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James (Jim) Barnash is national director of financial planning for Ameriprise Financial. In this role, Jim is responsible for reinforcing the value of financial planning to the more than 10,000 Ameriprise financial advisors nationwide.

Barnash joined Ameriprise Financial in 2007. Prior to joining the company, Barnash was managing director for the Midwest Regional Planning Group (RPG) for Lincoln Financial Advisors, Corp. where he assisted the Midwest RPG and its financial planners to achieve high quality growth through talent acquisition, practice development, wealth management and training.

Barnash began his career with The Equitable Life Assurance Society in 1977. He worked as an employee benefits counselor and consultant in the early 1980s. In 1986 Barnash established his own private practice in the financial planning, employee benefits, and insurance areas, concentrating on working with the small business owner and corporate executive.

Barnash was president of the National Board for the Financial Planning Association in 2005 and served as chair of the association in 2006. In addition, he has been a board member of the Chicago Society of the Institute of Certified Financial Planners and served as their president in 1998. Barnash is a former adjunct faculty member for the College for Financial Planning in Denver, and currently teaches CFP[®] certification instructional courses for his alma mater, DePaul University. In addition, he has conducted training in sales and financial planning for some of Chicago's largest financial institutions. Barnash is a sought-after speaker by professional associations and consumer groups.

Barnash was named to *Investment Advisor* magazine's 25 most influential people in and around the financial planning industry in 2005 and *Financial Planning* magazine's Movers and Shakers in 2006.

Barnash received his Bachelor's degree in history from DePaul University in 1977 and his CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNER[™] certification in 1992.