

STUDENT ACTIVITY**Chapter 15****Internet Connection
Planning for Your Retirement****EXPLORE**

Retirement planning can help you gain a sense of control over your financial future and security. Opening an Individual Retirement Account (IRA) is a simple way to begin investing in your future.

Keywords: _____

DIRECTIONS

Using an Internet search engine, find information on Individual Retirement Accounts (IRAs). Complete the worksheet below and answer the questions that follow.

NET RESULTS

List three retirement information Web sites (site names and addresses)

What is the difference between a traditional IRA and a Roth IRA?

Describe the process involved in opening an IRA.

List the eligibility requirements to opening an IRA.

What are the penalties for withdrawal of IRA funds before age 59^{1/2}?

What is the age at which investor is required to withdraw funds from IRA?

CRITICAL THINKING QUESTIONS



1. Why is an IRA not considered to be the best primary retirement investment deal?

2. Why is it important to understand the withdrawal penalties associated with IRAs?

3. What are Education IRAs? What kinds of penalties should be considered for this type of investment?

EXTENSION EXERCISE



Banks offer a variety of retirement investment opportunities. Find the Web site for your bank, your family's bank, or a local bank in your community. Answer the following questions.

1. Does the Web site offer a section devoted to retirement planning? If so, what tools or information are presented?
2. What information does the site offer on IRAs?
3. What information does the site offer on mutual funds?
4. Can an IRA account be opened online? If so, what is the process for opening an account online?

