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# **Top 10 Best Financial Advisors in Boston, MA | 2019 Ranking**

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## **2019 RANKING & REVIEWS BEST FINANCIAL ADVISORS IN BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS**

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### **AdvisoryHQ's Ranking of 2019's Best Financial Advisors in Boston, Massachusetts**

Boston, Massachusetts is one of the country's oldest cities and it played an important role in the founding of the United States of America. Its rich history in commerce has made it an attractive base for multiple Boston financial advisors and wealth management firms.

Whether you have dreams of a travel-filled retirement, saving up to fund your child's college education, or would just like some guidance on your investment portfolio, the right financial planner can make all the difference in how fast you reach your goals.

But choosing the best financial manager in Boston can be a time-consuming task and one that not everyone can fit into their busy schedules. Yet, such an important decision shouldn't be left to the first page of Google search results.

That's where AdvisoryHQ comes in. We've done the legwork for you to give you a summary and review of the top-rated wealth management firms in Boston, Massachusetts. We'll go over their fee structure, the category of clients they work with, and things that make these firms worth considering.

The fact is that your finances are more than just money, they're your family's security and a path to live the lifestyle you want, and the perfect financial advisor is an important way to protect and grow your wealth.



*Award Emblem: Top 10 Best Financial Advisors in Boston, MA*

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## **Top 10 Best Financial Advisors in Boston, MA | Brief Comparison & Ranking**

<b>Best Financial Advisors in Boston</b>	<b>2019 Ratings</b>
Birch Hill Investment Advisors	5
Boston Financial Management	5
Compass Planning Associates	5
Darrow Wealth Management	5
Lexington Wealth Management	5
McAdam Financial	5
Modera Wealth Management	5
North American Management	5
Boston Private Wealth	3
Congress Wealth Management	3

*Table: Top 10 Best Financial Advisors in Boston | Above list is sorted by rating*

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## **Financial Advisors in Boston FAQ: What is Fee-Based and Fee-Only?**

You're going to run across two main fee structures when researching financial advisors in Boston, and they sound so similar that many people aren't quite sure of the difference.

How do you know whether a "fee-only" or "fee-based" Boston wealth manager is the better option for you? We've got a short overview for you that will help demystify the terms and let you know exactly what each means when it comes to your financial guidance.

### **Fee-Only**

Investment firms or financial advisors in Boston, MA that do not accept any commissions or third-party referral payments by recommending financial products are known as "fee-only."

This means they accept client fees only for their services and this payment structure minimizes the inherent conflicts of interest that could come with an incentive-based recommending and selling of investment products.

### **Fee-Based**

Wealth management and investment firms in Boston that are paid both by client fees and also can receive commissions from the companies who provide financial products they recommend are known as "fee-based."

Using a fee-based structure can create a perception of some potential conflicts of interest due to there being an incentive for an investment advisor to recommend a particular financial product to a client, which they may not need.

However, fee-based Boston financial advisors are aware of this perception, so many become fiduciaries. This means they take on a fiduciary commitment and are legally responsible to fully disclose any conflicts of interest and are required to put the interests of their clients ahead of their own, which helps balance the fee-based structure.

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## **2019 AdvisoryHQ's Selection Methodology**

What methodology does AdvisoryHQ use in selecting and finalizing the credit cards, financial products, firms, services, and products that are ranked on its various top-rated lists?

Please click here “[AdvisoryHQ's Ranking Methodologies](#)” for a detailed review of AdvisoryHQ’s selection methodologies for ranking top rated credit cards, financial accounts, firms, products, and services.

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## Detailed Review – Best Wealth Management Firms in Boston, Massachusetts

Below, please find the detailed review of each firm on our list of 2019 best wealth management firms in Boston. We have highlighted some of the factors that allowed these financial advisors in Boston to score so high in our selection ranking.

Click on any of the names below to go directly to the review section for that firm.

- [Birch Hill Investment Advisors](#)
- [Boston Financial Management](#)
- [Compass Planning Associates](#)
- [Darrow Wealth Management](#)
- [Lexington Wealth Management](#)
- [McAdam Financial](#)
- [Modera Wealth Management](#)
- [North American Management](#)
- [Boston Private Wealth](#)
- [Congress Wealth Management](#)

Click below for previous years’ rankings:

- **2018 Review:** [Top 10 Best Financial Advisors in Boston, MA](#)
- **2017 Review:** [Top 10 Best Financial Advisors in Boston](#)
- **2016 Review:** [Top 9 Best Financial Advisors in Boston](#)

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## Birch Hill Investment Advisors Review

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Founded in 2007, [Birch Hill Investment Advisors](#) is a Boston financial advisory firm that was created to offer a distinctive investment management style and allow clients to work directly with the firm’s principals.

This wealth manager in Boston, Massachusetts is a [fee-only](#) Registered Investment Advisor (RIA), meaning they do not accept any third-party commissions and operate only being paid by client fees. Birch Hill acts as a fiduciary to its clients, providing individuals, families, and institutional clients with unbiased advice.

## **Key Factors That Enabled Birch Hill to Rank as a Top Wealth Management Firm in Boston**

### **Generations of Trust**

The four principals at Birch Hill have over 100 years of combined experience in financial planning and wealth management. Giving this financial advisor in Boston, Massachusetts one of the most experienced teams you'll find anywhere.

A testament to the trust its clients place in Birch Hill the fact that some of the firm's clients have been entrusting their family wealth to Birch over multiple generations.

Another unique aspect of this Boston financial advisor that builds trust is the fact that you work directly with one of the firm's principals for your financial planning needs. This allows a level of personal service not always found at other firms.

### **Focused on Your Long-Term Needs**

As a top-rated financial advisor in Boston, that's also a fee-only fiduciary, Birch Hill is dedicated and incentivized to deliver for their clients both financially and emotionally.

Because there is no inherent conflict of interest, investors know this Boston wealth manager is focused on their long-term financial objectives only. Additionally, Birch Hill approaches each portfolio with a long-term view of developing personalized strategies.

The advisors on the Birch Hill team prioritize long-term value and stability over the short-term, unsustainable gains. They want to see you grow your portfolio through fundamentally sound principles that are matched with your risk tolerance.



*Boston's Top Investment Advisors*

## Rating Summary

Birch Hill Investment Advisors has both a focus on providing unbiased expert financial services and a personal touch, making them competitively unique among Boston financial advisors.

Generations of families have trusted this wealth manager in Boston to provide financial guidance they can always rely on. The firm's strong business values, which include intellectual curiosity, proactively solving problems and successfully helping clients meet their goals all garner respect and trust.

With a firm foundation of experience and industry knowledge, a hands-on philosophy, and a value-driven approach, Birch Hill is one of the top Boston wealth management firms to consider in 2019.

***See Also: Top Financial Advisors in Greensboro, Chapel Hill, and Winston-Salem, North Carolina***

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## Boston Financial Management Review

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[Boston Financial Management](#) was founded in the bicentennial year of 1976 and is a financial advisor in Boston, MA that specializes in providing deep wealth management expertise and sound investment perspective well into the future for their clients.

While BFM notes they are a [fee-based](#) Boston financial advisor, they are also a fiduciary and take on that additional legal obligation for complete transparency and to put their client's interest ahead of their own.

This Boston wealth manager works with clients that have a minimum asset size of \$2 million.

### **Key Factors That Enabled Boston Financial Management to Rank as a Top Wealth Management Firm in Boston**

#### **Large, Multi-Faceted Team**

The team of Boston financial advisors at BFM come from multiple disciplines and bring a variety of experience and credentials to their clients' wealth management experience.

This top financial investment management firm in Boston has six different teams working together to provide clients with a well-rounded and in-depth financial management strategy. These teams include:

- Wealth Managers
- Investment & Research
- Planning & Trust Services
- Client Service & Operations
- Executive Management
- Administration

Clients have easy access to professional biographies with full contact details for each member of the team, supporting transparency between Boston Financial Management and its clients.



*Top-Rated Wealth Managers in Boston, Massachusetts*

### **Little Client Turnover & Generational Trust**

The sign of a financial firm in Boston that you can trust is whether or not their clients stay with them. Their focus on their clients' long-term needs and forming relationships

built on trust are two reasons BFM has a very low client turnover and why families trust them for generations.

This financial advisor in Boston brings a wealth of expertise to the table along with a view of helping clients navigate the unique challenges that come with wealth. Their personalized perspective is appreciated by the individuals, families, endowments, and not-for-profit organizations they work with.

### **Rating Summary**

Although BFM is fee-based, the firm does act as a fiduciary, pledging and being legally bound to act in their clients' best interest. This garners an extra level of trust that offsets any potential conflict of interest.

High-net-worth clients can benefit significantly from working with BFM due to their specialization in this area and their diverse, experienced team and dedication to serving generations of families. All these factors have earned this Boston financial advisor an overall 5-star rating.

***Don't Miss: Best Financial Advisors in Seattle, Bellevue, Kirkland (Washington State)***

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## **Compass Planning Associates Review**

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[Compass Planning Associates](#) is a hands-on wealth management firm in Boston and Wellesley Hills. They pride themselves on offering personalized service to their clients and believe that no matter the size of your bank account or your age, it's never too early or late to get a financial plan in place.

Compass is an independent, [fee-only](#) financial advisor in Boston that provides an accessible, stress-free financial management environment that fosters open communication.

### **Key Factors That Enabled Compass Planning Associates to Rank as a Top Financial Advisor in Boston**

#### **Financial Advice for Individuals & Families**

Whether you're making financial plans for yourself or have a whole family of financial needs, this top-rated Boston wealth manager can provide you with the right guidance on how to grow and preserve your wealth.



A Boston financial advisor at Compass can help both individuals and families with a detailed custom financial plan designed for retirement, saving for college, future large purchases or anything else that may come in life.

This wealth management firm in Boston, Massachusetts also has expertise in generational wealth and assisting families with a plan for transferring wealth to ensure their heirs and the family fortune does not get hit with unnecessary taxes or fees.

### **Financial Advice for Businesses**

If you own a business, Compass Planning Associates can develop a portfolio with you that takes your business needs into consideration and helps you plan for a secure future.

A Boston wealth management firm offers support for businesses in a number of areas, including employer retirement plans, how to reduce business costs, and even how to set up succession plans to live comfortably when it's time to retire.

As one of the best financial advisors in Boston, Compass Planning goes above and beyond for their clients, including businesses. They offer Compass MoneyWise Seminars that are purely educational and designed specifically with businesses in mind.



*Top-Rated Financial Advisors in Boston*

### **Rating Summary**

Compass Planning may not be one of the larger Boston financial advisors on our list, but that allows them to provide a hands-on, personalized financial management experience that larger financial advisors in Boston often can't replicate.

In addition to individualized attention, Compass Planning also maintains a friendly, welcoming, atmosphere for clients of at all financial levels, making them a perfect choice for clients working with a Boston financial advisor for the first time.

An additional item of note is that the firm was founded by Jennifer Lane and has an expert team led by women, making them a stand-out in an industry where female financial advisors are historically underrepresented.

Their fee-only structure that puts the client first and warm, personalized approach to basic financial services, have earned Compass Planning a 5-star rating and a ranking as of the best Boston financial planners to consider partnering with this year.

***Related: Top Financial Advisors in New York, NY – Ranking & Comparison***

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## **Darrow Wealth Management Review**

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For over 30 years, [Darrow Wealth Management](#) has worked to provide a friendly alternative to impersonal investment firms for hard-working professionals. This financial advisor in Boston, MA is fee-only and offers family wealth management and investment advisory services.

As an independent fiduciary, clients of this financial planning firm in Boston can rest assured that they will receive unbiased advice, free from conflicts like commissions, transactions fees, or sales charges.

### **Key Factors That Enabled Darrow Wealth Management to Rank as a Top Financial Advisor in Boston**

#### **Client-Centric Philosophy**

Darrow Wealth Management puts its clients' best interest at the heart of everything they do. This philosophy has three distinct, client-centric beliefs:

- Long-Term Wealth & Creation—Growing and preserving long-term wealth requires a shared dedication to financial planning and investment. These Boston financial advisors gain a deep understanding of your goals and develop a strategy as formal or informal as your situation dictates.
- Wealth Management as an Evolving Process—Part of what makes Darrow Wealth Management a successful Boston financial advisor is their agility and recognition of the life changes that impact financials. Financial plans they create are made to meet inevitable challenges, evolving along with each client's needs.

- Fiduciary Duty—As fiduciaries, the Boston financial planners at Darrow Wealth Management are legally obligated to act in the client’s best interest. This commitment permeates all aspects of their wealth management and financial planning services.



*Best Boston, Massachusetts Wealth Management Firms*

## **Client Specializations**

Darrow Wealth Management may be a smaller financial advisor in Boston, Massachusetts, but this gives them the ability to specialize their focus to provide expert services to an exclusive group of clients. This includes professionals within the following sectors:

- Physicians and Doctors
- Software and Technology
- Biotech and Pharma
- Self-Employed Business Owners

Having a top Boston wealth management firm that completely understands your sector’s unique financial challenges and opportunities is a huge benefit to professionals in these fields. Darrow is able to tailor its wealth management and financial planning services better than a firm that doesn’t have the same industry knowledge.

## **Rating Summary**

As a boutique financial advisor in Boston, Darrow Wealth Management provides a personalized touch to their clients from an experienced staff.

They also have the flexibility to create financial plans that are more formal or informal in nature and that can weather fluctuations in the market while still providing value to their clients and helping meet their growth goals.

With a fee-only structure, fiduciary commitment, and client-centric philosophy, Darrow Wealth Management earns a 5-star rating as one of the top financial advisors in Boston to consider in 2019.

***Popular Article: Top Financial Advisors in Denver, Colorado Springs, and Boulder (Colorado)***

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## **Lexington Wealth Management Review**

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[Lexington Wealth Management](#) was founded in 2000 to offer financial advisory services that include truly custom-built solutions. This financial advisor in Boston is located just 30 minutes outside the city, in Lexington, MA. They serve a high-net-worth clientele.

As an independent, [fee-only](#) wealth management firm in Boston, their goal is to simplify the complex and emotional process of money management and provide a strategic path to financial success for their clients.

### **Key Factors That Enabled Lexington Wealth Management to Rank as a Top Financial Advisor in Boston**

#### **Client-Centric Solutions**

Lexington Wealth Management was founded with a mission to make a difference by providing concierge financial services and completely customized plans.

There are four key types of clients that this Boston financial advisor serves:

- [Next Phase](#)—Clients that are facing important financial decisions that often come with life transitions like retirement, inheritance, home purchases, caring for family members, and more.

- Women—Lexington Wealth Management is committed to empowering women through clear, honest, and respectful approaches to inheritance, divorce, family care, and wealth management.
- Entrepreneurs—These Boston financial advisors offer guidance to busy entrepreneurs, helping them manage resources, create stock options and company retirement plans, and more.
- Simplify—For clients that want an easy, streamlined approach to financial planning and are looking for help prioritizing, creating, and reaching wealth management goals.



*Top-Rated Financial Advisors in Boston, MA*

### **360 Degree View**

This Boston wealth management firm doesn't just look at a few things when designing your portfolio, they take a full 360-degree view of your entire financial world, including need, resources, and goals.

They also work with other professionals as needed to complete your financial picture, including CPAs, estate attorneys, divorce attorneys, and other professionals. Their goal is to make your life as drama-free as possible while guiding you on your financial path.

Of significance is that LWM is one of the first financial advisors to include a psychiatrist as a part of their team, providing expertise in helping clients manage the stress and emotions that come with major life events and financial decisions.

## **Rating Summary**

Lexington Wealth Management's multi-faceted approach to financial planning makes them a stand-out in the landscape of Boston financial advisors.

By taking a full-rounded strategy that works to identify what motivates you as well as how you structure your finances, Lexington's financial advisors get a clearer understanding of your life and relationships and thus can custom-design a plan that fits you like a glove.

With a fee-only structure, a "client first" focus, and a unique, friendly approach to Boston wealth management, LWM earns a 5-star rating as one of the best Boston financial advisors to consider working with this year.

***Read More: Best Financial Advisors in Oklahoma City & Tulsa, Oklahoma***

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## **McAdam Financial Review**

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Award-winning firm, [McAdam Financial](#) has a footprint that goes beyond just one city. This Boston financial advisor has offices in Philadelphia, Tysons Corner, Chicago, and Central New Jersey, in addition to Boston.

The firm prides itself on completely reinventing the concept of financial advice to offer value to their clients at a whole new level. This wealth management firm in Boston, MA is one of the largest in the country, with hundreds of advisors.

As a [hybrid RIA](#), McAdam provides a unique fee structure for financial planning and wealth management. The hybrid RIA model is a newer trend in the market, and it means that the firm provides both fee-only financial planning and fee-based investment management services to clients.

### **Key Factors That Enabled This Firm to Rank as a Top Wealth Management Firm in Boston**

**Advanced Advisory Model™**

Always one to break the mold, McAdam's financial approach, the Advanced Advisory Model™ is designed to bring a new facet to the process of financial planning. It integrates three key areas: Financial, Personal, and Professional.

The model identifies factors in each area of a person's financial life to aid in designing a fully integrated and robust financial path that takes all into account. This helps ensure a portfolio that is forward-looking and resilient.

Each area and their subsets include:

### **Financial**

- Products
- Knowledge
- Trends
- Opportunities

### **Personal**

- Lifestyle
- Family
- Retirement
- Special Needs

### **Professional**

- Career Landscape
- Benefits Landscape
- Risk Landscape
- Investment Landscape



### *Boston's Top-Rated Financial Advisory Firms*

#### **Comprehensive Services**

As one of the best Boston financial advisors, McAdam offers clients a large array of services they can take advantage of to enhance their financial health.

Their services are spread between their various services - Financial Planning, Wealth Management, Tax, and Insurance Strategies, and Business Owner Services – and include, but aren't limited to:

- 401(k) Strategies
- Retirement, Education, and Estate Planning
- Investment Income Strategies
- Investment Advisory Services
- Tax-Sensitive Investment Management
- Advanced Insurance Architecture
- Actuarial Plan Design
- Business Continuity Planning
- Qualified Retirement Plans
- Key Employee Retention Plans

#### **Rating Summary**

If you like working with an innovate trail-blazer, then McAdam is definitely a financial advisor in Boston to consider. Their novel approach to financial planning and a vast array of services offer excellent value to a variety of clients.



With legal [maximum fees](#) ranging from 2.50% for accounts up to \$250,000 and 1.25% for accounts above \$10,000,000, you could potentially find McAdam's investment management fees higher than some other financial advisors in Boston on our list.

However, the firm's in-depth and unique approach can more than justify their cost for many clients, maintaining the firm's position as a top financial advisor in Boston.

With their forward-thinking, strategic approach to wealth management and advanced financial advisory model, McAdams puts themselves on the map as one of the top wealth management firms in Boston and earns a 5-star rating.

***Related: Best Financial Advisors in Austin, TX (RIAs, Wealth Managers, Planners)***

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## Modera Wealth Management Review

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[Modera Wealth Management](#) is a 100% employee-owned Registered Investment Advisor. This financial advisor in Boston is [fee-only](#) while also upholding a fiduciary commitment to put their clients' interest above all else.

Modera is a boutique firm with the resources of a large investment firm. In addition to their Boston, Massachusetts location, they also have offices in Florida, Georgia, New Jersey, and North Carolina.

### **Key Factors That Enabled Modera to Rank as a Top Wealth Management Firm in Boston**

#### **Wealth Management**

The Boston financial planners at Modera believe that no two clients are alike, so no two financial plans should be alike either. After a thorough analysis of your financial picture, they custom tailor a plan just for you.

Modera clients enjoy the advantage that comes from an integrated approach when they seek wealth management services from this Boston financial advisory firm. Specific wealth management services include:

- Investment management
- Cash flow analysis
- Retirement income planning
- Tax planning
- Education funding

- Estate planning
- Insurance analysis
- Strategic goal planning

Modera's team of Boston financial advisors additionally collaborate with any financial or legal professionals you are currently working with to provide a fully integrated approach to your wealth management.

### **Comprehensive and Responsive Financial Planning Process**

Organization, detail, and transparency are all part of Modera's client-advisor relationship. The firm's financial planners follow a streamlined methodology to ensure the most successful financial outcomes for their clients. It works as follows:

- Identify, understand, and prioritize personal goals
- Gather plan for financial data
- Analyze and develop a financial plan and investment strategy
- Implement recommendations
- Monitor strategies
- Communicate and update



*Best Financial Advisors in Boston, MA*

## **Rating Summary**

Modera Wealth Management's Boston financial advisors take a fully integrated approach to analyze a client's existing financial situation, discuss current and future needs and goals to custom tailor the most productive financial pathway.

Whether it's helping clients save for retirement, buying a second home, or planning the trip of their dreams, this financial advisory firm in Boston believes that close collaboration with clients is the best way to create personalized financial solutions that are successful.

With an independent mindset, fiduciary commitment, and a fee-only structure, we've scored Modera with a full 5-star rating and consider them one of the top financial advisors in Boston to consider partnering with in 2019.

***Don't Miss: Top Advisors and Wealth Managers in Ohio***

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## **North American Management Review**

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[North American Management](#) is one of the oldest firms on our list, being founded in 1928. This Boston financial advisor also has a presence in St. Louis, Missouri.

In the past NAM has operated as a fee-only wealth management firm in Boston, MA, however, there is no clear reference to their status as fee-only or fee-based, other than this mention in their [ADV](#), "NAM does not accept compensation for the sale of securities or other investment products."

This Boston financial planner works with clients on the higher end of the financial spectrum. Clients are required to have a minimum of \$1 million in investable assets and institutional/charitable clients must have a minimum of \$3 million.

### **Key Factors That Enabled North American Management to Rank as a Top Wealth Management Firm in Boston**

#### **Dynamic & Flexible Planning**

Effective wealth planning requires a good understanding of how dynamic and fluid both the markets and people's lives can be. Transitional events such as divorce or inheritance can completely alter a person's financial situation, NAM financial advisors understand that any financial plan has to account for these situations.

This top-rated wealth manager in Boston is on top of all the latest updates, regulations and trends in the financial sector, monitoring legal decisions, and keeping aware of probate actions to give their clients the best possible advantage for their financial future.



*Top Investment Management Firms in Boston, MA*

## **Investment Management**

North American Management's investment management team assists their clients with asset allocation, security research and manager selection, and portfolio construction and monitoring, giving them all the tools they need to choose the best investment vehicles.

Some of the important factors your Boston financial planner will take into consideration when allocating your assets are:

- Economic and secular trends
- Monetary and fiscal policy
- Global interest rates
- Capital flows

This Boston wealth management firm prioritizes value-creating assets and security. Their team of researchers will analyze potential investments before recommending them to clients, tailoring portfolios according to:

- Risk tolerance
- Time horizon
- Sources of risk and return
- Investment objectives

## **Rating Summary**

A firm principle-driven foundation and flexible approach to financial management make North American Management one of the top and most competitive financial firms in Boston and a great option for those with at least \$1 million in investable assets.

The Boston financial advisors at NAM are committed to serving their clients with honesty, continuity of purpose, and stability, forming a long-term foundation of trust between clients and advisors.

We do recommend confirming their specific fee structure used with any financial advisor in Boston that isn't completely clear whether they are fee-only or fee-based, so you can make an informed decision.

With a philosophy of keeping fees low to help their clients' reach their financial dreams faster and a long-term commitment to serving clients through an ethical lens, NAM earns a 5-star rating and is one of the top financial advisors in Boston to consider partnering with this year.

***Popular Article: Top Financial Advisors in Portland, Oregon***

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## **Boston Private Wealth Review**

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Founded in 1986, [Boston Private Wealth](#) works with affluent individuals, family businesses, entrepreneurs, business owners, professionals, nonprofits, and private partnerships in key regions of the country.

Besides being a top financial advisor in Boston, the firm serves clients in northern and southern California as well as Florida, expanding both organically and through acquisitions over the years.

Boston Private Wealth is a [fee-based](#) financial advisor in Boston and is under the umbrella of Boston Private Bank & Trust Company. We've included Boston Private Wealth due to their client-centric approach as one of the elite financial advisory and wealth management firms in the country.

**Key Factors That Enabled Boston Private Wealth to Rank as a Top Financial Advisor in Boston**

**Comprehensive Financial Planning Services**

As one of the best Boston financial advisors, Boston Private takes believes in taking a well-balanced approach to investing that involves both short-term and long-term strategies to help clients navigate varying market conditions.

Clients can benefit from the following financial planning services:

- Investment Advice—These Boston financial planners can advise clients on asset location, portfolio construction and rebalancing, private investments, college funding, and more.
- Financial Decision Making—Gain valuable, expert insight on life-changing financial decisions like purchasing a home, debt restructuring, corporate benefits programs, charitable giving, and more.
- Retirement Planning—This service helps clients achieve a savings target with personalized strategies for pensions, savings, cash flow, IRA withdrawals, and more.
- Insurance Consultations—These Boston financial planners will review insurance policies and ensure that you have the best and most cost-effective coverage for your needs.
- Tax Planning—Boston Private’s tax professionals work closely with your Boston financial advisors to provide sophisticated tax planning strategies that incorporate estate tax strategies, transaction analysis, and review impacts of tax law changes.
- Trust & Estate Planning—All wills, trusts, and gifting strategies are reviewed to ensure the efficient transfer of wealth, and outside professionals consulted as needed.

## **Experienced and Credentialed**

For those clients looking for a robust range of experience, these Boston financial advisors have a lot to offer. Their team members have extensive backgrounds in a range of assets such as fixed incomes, international equities, and domestic equities.

Along with their many years of experience, the diverse backgrounds of these Boston financial planners have catapulted the company into one of the most sought-after Boston wealth management firms. Professional credentials include:

- Certified Financial Planner
- Chartered Financial Analyst
- Master of Business Administration
- Certified Investment Management Analyst
- Juris Doctor

## Rating Summary

This top-rated wealth management firm in Boston, Massachusetts has a lot to offer its clients. Their experienced and highly credentialed staff, varied approach including both short-term and long-term strategies and multiple services, including private banking services, provide exceptional value.

This Boston financial advisor has also grown to offer services in other key areas of the U.S., which gives their clients even more flexibility. And despite their large size, Boston Private Wealth still maintains a personal, boutique-like service to their clients.

Ultimately, we rated Boston Private with 3-stars due to offering less transparency about their fee structure and no evidence of a fiduciary commitment to act in the clients' best interest.

On the plus side, this Boston financial advisor is deeply committed to serving their community and investing in low- and moderate-income people and neighborhoods. They also serve a wider range of clients – including first-time homebuyers, Nonprofits, and small and middle-market businesses – than some of the other financial managers on our ranking.

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## Congress Wealth Management Review

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[Congress Wealth Management](#) is an SEC-registered independent wealth management firm in Boston that believes each client's needs are unique, so they tailor their financial solutions accordingly. They serve high-net-worth individuals and families, endowments, and foundations.

While Congress does not explicitly state whether they are a fee-only or fee-based Boston financial advisory firm, their [website FAQ](#) states "we do not receive commissions on transactions and we accept no other forms of compensation from investment product providers or financial institutions."

This would indicate this Boston investment advisor is most likely working under a fee-only structure, which is why we have included Congress in our ranking in addition to their other standout services. However, we recommend that prospective clients confirm the fee structure of any financial firm they're working with.

### **Key Factors That Enabled Congress Wealth Management to Rank as a Top Wealth Management Firm in Boston**

## **Three-Tiered Financial Solutions**

This top-rated financial advisor in Boston, MA provides three tiers of financial planning and wealth management solutions.

- Investment Management—A detailed, customized investment plan is created that reflects the client’s financial health and future goals. Each client is assigned their own account administrator who serves as their key portfolio contact.
- Financial Planning— Clients work with a Congress financial advisor in Boston to develop a holistic financial plan based upon their goals. This area also includes tax advisory, insurance review, cash flow analysis, and concierge services.
- Family Office Services—Congress financial advisors guide you and your family through the multi-faceted aspects of your financial life and decisions needed to meet your family-related goals. Some of these goals include children’s education, wealth transfer, and charitable giving.

## **Diversified Approach**

Congress Wealth Management advisors believe in “conviction in diversification” when creating the right financial plan for their clients. The framework they use assesses both the quantitative and qualitative issues of asset allocation.

Key factors that go into determining your objectives are:

- Focus on economic/business cycles
- “Dynamic” vs “static” asset allocation
- Overweight fundamentals/data, underweight noise/rhetoric
- Looking at a three-year cycle of benchmarks and strategies
- Incorporating an expectation of market volatility

By focusing on diversification in a portfolio, these top Boston wealth managers work to maximize their clients’ return and minimize risk.

## **Rating Summary**

With a strategic mindset and sound investment strategies, Congress Wealth Management has established itself as one of the best Boston wealth management firms to consider.

Another highlight that stood out to us was their community commitment. Congress strongly encourages each employee to get involved in the community and their firm supports multiple charitable organizations.



We are awarding Congress with an overall 3-star rating, with the only thing holding them back from a higher rating, is a lack of transparency regarding their fee structure and fiduciary commitment.

Though Congress Wealth Management does mention not accepting commissions, they don't explicitly state whether they are a fee-based or fee-only firm, which can make a potential client's decision more difficult.

We also did not see mention that they were a fiduciary, which would establish a legal obligation to act in a client's best interests. Taking on the role of a fiduciary and improving transparency about their fee structure could easily improve their rating as a top Boston financial advisor in the future.

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## **Conclusion - Top 10 Best Financial Advisors in Boston, Massachusetts in 2019**

From firms that provide concierge services to high-net-worth investors to financial planners that welcome first-time investors at any income level, there is no lack of options to choose from among the top Boston wealth management firms.

Whether your goals include planning for an active retirement, funding your children's college educations, or transferring your estate to family members without an unnecessary tax burden, this elite group of Boston financial advisors can give you a roadmap to reach your dreams and goals.

Taking the first step for an initial consultation is your most important move to start securing your financial future with essential insights and expertise to guide you along the way.

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## **Rate Table Disclaimer**

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