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Ask an expert

## Cut expenses to afford insurance

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**Q:** I'm going to retire at the end of this year and will have a pension along with Social Security for me and my husband. We're concerned about the cost of long-term care later, but our income will just cover our expenses. What would you advise? I have about \$150,000 in my IRA. — **K.M., Orlando**

**A:** Try to cut expenses to afford the premiums. Otherwise, you'll have to rely on your own resources and-or Medicaid. Medicaid will allow a person to keep \$2,000 of non-exempt assets and the spouse to keep \$109,560 in assets to be eligible. There are also income-eligibility tests. Consult the Florida Department of Children and Families for details. — **John Pinkley**

**Q:** What is an ETF? — **G.L., Longwood**

**A:** An ETF is an exchange-traded fund that combines the diversity of a mutual fund with the ability to trade shares during market hours like a stock. — **Cary Carbonaro**

**Q:** I have heard that I can put \$3,000 each year into an IRA or a Roth IRA. Is that correct? — **C.B., Orlando**

**A:** No, the amount has been increased. If you are under age 50, you can contribute \$5,000 a year. If you are 50 or older, you can add an extra \$1,000 to catch up, for an annual total of \$6,000. — **Dianne Webb**

Have a question? E-mail [askanexpert@orlandosentinel.com](mailto:askanexpert@orlandosentinel.com). Include your name (only your initials will be printed), hometown and phone. Questions are answered by certified financial planners from the Central Florida chapter of the Financial Planning Association. Answers are for educational purposes only; you should also consult a financial professional. Questions and answers may be edited for space considerations.