



**BEACON HILL**  
FINANCIAL EDUCATORS

51A Middle Street Newburyport MA 01950  
Phone: 800-588-7039 Fax: 877-902-4284  
[contact@bhfe.com](mailto:contact@bhfe.com) [www.bhfe.com](http://www.bhfe.com)

**BEACON HILL *Course-in-a-Book™ Series***

***ADVISING CLIENTS DIVORCING AFTER 50***

**#195622**



Course information	2
Learning Objectives	3
Chapter List	4

## Course Information

Number of continuing education credit hours recommended for this course (CFP®, CDFA®): **9**  
CFP Board sponsor number: 1008  
IDFA (CDFA®) sponsor number: 105392

## Course Description

This course covers the emotional and financial challenges faced by clients who divorce later in life and who can face complicated issues of blended families, health care concerns, and retirement planning.

The course addresses:

- Divorce options (including mediation and collaborative divorce)
- How to receive the best guidance from lawyers
- Dividing marital property fairly
- Retirement plan rules
- Spousal support (alimony)
- How divorce affects estate planning
- Keeping good health care through various plans, including the Affordable Care Act and Medicare

## Course content

Course Text: **Divorce After 50** by Janice Green, J.D. (5th e., 2022, Nolo).

Study Guide: Course information, learning objectives, outline.

Final exam (online): Forty-five multiple-choice questions.

## Subject Codes

CFP Board: *General Principles of Financial Planning*

NAPFA: *Financial Planning Process*

IDFA (CDFA®): *Financial Planning (Divorce)*

## Level of Complexity

### Overview:

CFP Board: Programs that provide a general review of a subject from a broad perspective or dive into basic knowledge on a specific skill or topic. Best suited for CFP® professionals seeking knowledge in an unfamiliar subject area and with entry level experience.

IDFA: Programs provide a general review of a subject from a broad perspective or dive into basic knowledge on a specific skill or topic. Best suited for CDFA® professionals seeking knowledge in an unfamiliar subject area and with entry level experience.

## Instructions for Taking This Course

- **You must complete this course within one year** of purchase (If the course is "Expired," contact us and we will add the latest edition of the course to your account (no charge).
- **Complete the course by** following the learning objectives listed for the course and studying the text.
- **Once you have completed studying the course** and you are confident that the learning objectives have been met, answer the final exam questions (online).

### Instructions for Taking the Online Exam

- **Log in to your secure account at [www.bhfe.com](http://www.bhfe.com). Go to "My Account."**
- A passing grade of at least **70%** is required on the exam for this course.
- You will have three attempts to pass the exam (call or email us after three unsuccessful attempts for instructions).
- The exam is not timed, and it does not need to be completed in one session.
- For a **printed copy** of the exam questions, open the exam and press "Print Exam."
- Once you pass the exam, the results (correct/incorrect answers) and certificate of completion appear in "My Account." A confirmation email is also sent.
- CFP Board and CDFA credit hours, if applicable, are reported on Tuesdays and at the end of the month.

**Have a question?** Call us at 800-588-7039 or email us at [contact@bhfe.com](mailto:contact@bhfe.com).

## Learning Objectives

As a result of studying the course-book, you should be able to meet the following learning objectives:

- Differentiate between the various divorce options (including mediation and collaborative divorce)
- Determine how to receive the best guidance from lawyers
- Recognize how to divide marital property fairly
- Recall retirement plan rules
- Identify key elements of spousal support (alimony)
- Understand how divorce affects estate planning
- Recognize how to keep good health care through various plans, including the Affordable Care Act and Medicare

## Chapter List

### 1. How Did I Get Here? The Rhyme and Reason of Late-Life Divorce

- Why Is This Happening?
- Bitterness Is Not Your Friend

### 2. Getting Guidance - The Professional Side

- The Role of Lawyers in Divorce
- Working With a Divorce Lawyer
- Unbundled Legal Services: The a la Carte Approach
- Working With Other Advisers

### 3. Getting Guidance - The Personal Side

- What You May Hear From Your Spouse, and How to Respond
- Family and Friends
- Adult Children and Divorce
- Surrogate Decision Making: When a Divorcing Spouse Needs Extra Help
- Getting the Help You Need

### 4. Your Divorce Options

- Alternatives to Divorce
- Litigation
- Arbitration
- Mediation and Collaborative Divorce

### 5. Marital Property: Steps to a Fair Division

- Four Steps in Analyzing Marital Property
- Identify
- Characterize
- Value
- Divide

- Basic Financial Principles
- The Next Phase

## 6. The Big-Ticket Items: Your Home, Your Retirement, and Your Family Business

- Your Home
- Demystifying Retirement Plans and QDROs
- Businesses and Professions

## 7. More About Assets - And What They're Worth to You

- Liquid Assets
- Nonliquid Assets
- Employment Benefits: Beyond Retirement
- Personal Property
- A Major Accomplishment

## 8. The Bad News: Debts and Taxes

- Identifying and Characterizing Debts
- Types of Debts and How to Divide Them
- Bankruptcy
- Don't Forget the Tax Consequences
- Taxes in the Year of Divorce
- How Taxes Affect Value

## 9. The Health Care Puzzle

- Early Warning
- Group and Individual Coverage
- Health Insurance Under the Affordable Care Act
- COBRA and Similar Military Coverage
- State Insurance Risk Pools
- Medicare

- Medicaid
- Long Term Care
- Bridging the Gap

## 10. Your Financial Survival

- Budgeting - The Four You've Gotta's
- Exploring Potential Income Streams
- Being Inventive in Your Financial Life

## 11. Estate Planning and Divorce

- Before the Divorce: Beware the Traps
- During: Watchdogging the Status Quo
- After: Taking Care of Business

## 12. The End Game: Finishing Up and Moving On

- The Marital Settlement Agreement
- Post-divorce Details
- Moving On
- You, Divorced

## 13. Survival Stories

- Survival Stories
- Your Survival Story

## Appendixes

- A. Inventory of Assets and Liabilities
- B. State Risk Pool Contact Information
- C. Assessing Your Living Expenses

## Index