

Back to the Future: Innovation Meets Proven Performance

BROUGHT TO YOU BY NEW YORK LIFE STABLE VALUE INVESTMENTS

As the investment landscape continues to evolve, so does the architecture of retirement planning. A notable trend gaining momentum is the inclusion of alternative investments as plan options—particularly, private credit, private real estate, and private equity.

The surge of interest in private investments within retirement plans signals a welcome wave of innovation. It reflects creative thinking and an acknowledgment that the traditional 60/40 portfolio and off-the-shelf funds may not always serve the best interests of long-term savers. Yet as plan sponsors and consultants explore these new options, it is worth remembering that many of the touted advantages of alternative investments have been available through time-tested vehicles like stable value funds for many years. Put simply, stable value funds are a decades-old solution that remains ahead of their time.

New York Life's Guaranteed Interest Account (GIA) demonstrates this legacy and is a compelling example. GIA has delivered consistent, competitive returns by utilizing a diversified credit strategy, along with a New York Life guarantee that has provided limited volatility over multiple economic cycles for over 15 years. GIA was effectively a pioneer of retirement “alts” before the term existed—an original alternative in the retirement space that has already proven its worth.

Before alternative investments were “cool,” New York Life's GIA was quietly doing what today's private equity and private credit funds now aspire to: giving everyday workers access to institutional-style advantages and reliable income from a broad spectrum of asset classes without jeopardizing their retirement nest egg. Achieving this within the strict framework of providing daily liquidity and transparency for 401(k) plans is no small feat and a testament to GIA's prudent design and sound risk management.

For plan fiduciaries evaluating investment options, there is a critical lesson: do not overlook the enduring power of tried-and-true, proven strategies. A well-managed general account stable value fund can potentially address many of today's top concerns, including inflation-adjusted returns, downside risk mitigation, and participant-friendly liquidity.

As the retirement industry navigates the balance between innovation and fiduciary responsibility, New York Life's GIA serves as a powerful reminder that newer is not always better. Sometimes, the quiet achiever that is built on a foundation of experience and trust can be the most reliable performer and deliver on the promise that new entrants are only just starting to talk about.

Ultimately, the goal is to help participants retire with confidence. Whether through a cutting-edge private markets fund or a stable value solution that has quietly served investors for years, consistency and trust will be the ultimate benchmarks of success in the evolving alternatives landscape.



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All investments are subject to market risk and will fluctuate in value. Past performance is not a guarantee of future results. Alternative investment strategies are intended only for qualified investors and are suitable only for individuals with adequate financial resources who do not require liquidity and who can bear the economic risk, including the potential for a complete loss, of their investment.

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