

# PRECIOUS METALS IRA

## INVESTMENT OVERVIEW

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The trend of adding alternative assets to retirement portfolios has been steadily increasing throughout the first decade of the 21st century. During volatile economic times, some investors seek to further diversify their portfolios by adding tangible assets such as gold, silver, platinum and palladium.

These investors may also be looking toward investing in gold and other precious metals as a hedge against inflation or as stability during challenging economic climates. Although the Internal Revenue Code states that collectibles cannot be held in IRAs, certain precious metals that meet the requirements specified in Section 408 of the Code may be held in individual retirement accounts and they are:

#### GOLD COINS

- American Buffalo
- American Eagle
- Australian Kangaroo/Nugget
- Austrian Philharmonic
- Canadian Maple Leaf

#### SILVER COINS

- America the Beautiful
- American Eagle
- Australian Kookaburra
- Austrian Vienna Philharmonic
- Canadian Maple Leaf
- Mexican Libertad

#### PLATINUM COINS

- American Eagle
- Australian Koala
- Canadian Maple Leaf
- Isle of Man Noble

In addition to these coins certain gold, silver, platinum and palladium bars and rounds produced by a manufacturer accredited by NYMEX/COMEX, NYSE/Liffe, LME, LBMA, LPPM, TOCOM, ISO 9000 or a national government mint and meeting minimum fineness may also be held in an IRA.

#### *Minimum fineness required:*

Gold	.995+	Silver	.999+
Platinum	.9995+	Palladium	.9995+



### GETTING STARTED WITH A PRECIOUS METALS IRA

Investors seeking to add gold, silver, platinum or palladium to their retirement portfolio are encouraged to establish Precious Metals IRAs with custodians, like Millennium Trust, who are able to assist with the directed investment in precious metals. It is important to establish and fund the Millennium Trust Precious Metals IRA prior to negotiating a purchase as most dealers require timely payment usually prior to shipping.

✓ Establish your Precious Metals IRA and fund it through a contribution, transfer or rollover.

- ✓ Research and select your precious metals dealer and negotiate the purchase.
- ✓ E-mail a completed Precious Metals Purchase/Sale Direction, which can be found at [www.mtrustcompany.com](http://www.mtrustcompany.com), and a signed copy of the dealer invoice with payment instructions to [alternatives@mtrustcompany.com](mailto:alternatives@mtrustcompany.com).
- ✓ Millennium will issue payment from the account and will send shipping instructions to the dealer if the purchase/sale direction and invoice match.
- ✓ The precious metals depository will send delivery confirmation to Millennium.

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### SAFEKEEPING PRECIOUS METALS INVESTMENTS

Due to the physical nature of precious metals coins and bars, custodians normally identify a specialized depository for the actual physical safekeeping of the precious metals assets.

Millennium Trust Company currently uses Delaware Depository Service Company to provide safekeeping of the physical metals held in its Precious Metals IRAs. Delaware Depository is licensed by the New York Mercantile Exchange, New York Commodity Exchange and is approved by the Commodity Futures Trading Commission. For more information on Delaware Depository, visit the depository's web site: [www.delawaredepository.com](http://www.delawaredepository.com).

### PRECIOUS METALS GLOSSARY OF TERMS

**BULLION** – Precious metals in the form of bars, ingots or plates that are at least 99.5% pure. Bullion dealers usually sell to manufacturers who then fabricate the metal into consumer goods such as jewelry and coins.

**MINT** - A place where the coins of a country are manufactured by authority of the government.

**FINENESS** - The measurement of purity of a precious metal measured in 1,000 parts of an alloy. For example, a Canadian Maple Leaf coin has fineness of .999 meaning that it is 99.9% pure.

**SPOT PRICE** - The market price for immediate delivery of a commodity such as gold, silver, platinum and palladium. Daily pricing of precious metals can be found at various web sites on the web including: [kitco.com](http://kitco.com), [ngccoin.com](http://ngccoin.com) or [bullionvalues.org](http://bullionvalues.org).

### BECOME AN EDUCATED PRECIOUS METALS INVESTOR

Since most Precious Metals IRAs are 'self directed', it is the responsibility of the account owner to identify, investigate and negotiate with a precious metals dealer for the purchase of precious metals for the IRA. It is important to perform due diligence on the dealer before committing to a purchase for your retirement account and the U.S. Mint and American Numismatic Association offer consumer education and information on precious metals investing. The account owner acknowledges and assumes all the risk in the selection and performance of a precious metals dealer.

### INTERESTING FACTS ABOUT PRECIOUS METALS

- It is believed that the Egyptians mined **gold** as long ago as pre-2000 BC and gold is unique in that it is both a monetary asset and a commodity.
- **Silver** was used as a form of currency as early as 700 BC and has bactericidal properties that are employed to sanitize water and wounds.
- **Platinum** is approximately 30 times more rare than gold – it takes approximately 10 tons of ore to produce an ounce of platinum!
- **Palladium** is a metallic element occurring naturally with platinum and is often alloyed with gold to produce white gold jewelry.

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### COMPANY PROFILE

Millennium Trust Company is an industry leader in administrative and custodial services. Millennium custodies alternative and traditional assets in IRAs, Solo 401(k)s and custody accounts, offers private fund custody services, customized Automatic Rollover programs, provides integrated Health Savings Account solutions and designs unique trading platforms for Investment Advisors.

Millennium Trust performs the duties of a custodian and, as such, does not provide investment advice or sell investments, nor offer any tax or legal advice.