
PRECIOUS METALS

IRA FAQs





Q: Is a Precious Metals IRA different from a self-directed IRA?

A: No, a Precious Metals IRA, or Gold IRA, is a type of self-directed IRA that invests and holds precious metals. When you choose to invest in precious metals with your IRA, you determine all aspects of the investment, including the type and kind of metal, the dealer from whom the metals are purchased, as well as the approved depository at which the metals will be stored.

Q: Which precious metals are allowed in an IRA?

A: Precious metals can be held in your IRA in the form of physical gold, silver, platinum, and palladium bullion products.

The precious metals allowed in an IRA must meet their respective minimum fineness requirement.

▶ **Gold - 99.5%**

▶ **Silver - 99.9%**

▶ **Platinum - 99.95%**

▶ **Palladium - 99.95%**

Please refer to the Precious Metals Center website for more information on which metals are allowed in a Precious Metals IRA.

Q: Can I hold other types of investments in a Precious Metals IRA?

A: Yes. When you establish an IRA with Entrust, you may invest your IRA funds into any alternative assets permitted under the Internal Revenue Code.

Q: Can I contribute bullions or coins I already own into my Precious Metals IRA?

A: No. You can only fund your account in the following ways: cash contribution, cash, and in-kind rollover or transfer from another custodian to Entrust.

Q: In a Precious Metals IRA, do I own the physical metals?

A: Technically, you do not own the physical metals; your IRA owns them. You may take a distribution in-kind at any time. However, it is a taxable event and you may be subject to the early withdrawal penalty.

Q: Are precious metals certificates allowed?

A: Some IRAs allow certificates. However, Entrust does not allow precious metals certificates.

Q: Can I take possession of the precious metals?

A: You may not take possession of the metals while they are held in the IRA. Metals purchased in an IRA are transferred directly into the depository in the name of the IRA. However, you may take a distribution of the precious metal assets, which is a taxable event and you may be subject to the early distribution penalty. There may be some restrictions for international holdings.

Q: Why do I need a custodian to hold precious metals in my IRA?

A: The Internal Revenue Code requires that a custodian hold your IRA assets, including precious metals, to keep the assets in a tax-deferred environment.

Q: What does Entrust report to the government?

A: Entrust annually reports the value of the IRA to the IRS. Nothing else is reported to the government.

Q: What fees are involved with opening a Precious Metals account with Entrust?

A: All new accounts are subject to a one-time Account Establishment Fee of \$50. Annual recordkeeping fees are based on the value of your account and the number of assets you hold. Accounts with one asset valued at \$50,000 or less are charged \$199 annually. If an account with one asset is valued over \$50,000, the annual record keeping fee is \$199 + 0.15% of your account MV over \$50,000. Accounts valued at \$50,000 or less with two or more assets are charged \$299 annually. If an account with two or more assets is valued over \$50,000, the annual recordkeeping fee is \$299 + 0.15% of your account MV over \$50,000. There is also an annual storage fee from the depository you choose. Depending on the depository, these fees range from an average of \$95 to \$300.



PURCHASING & FUNDING PRECIOUS METALS

Q: How do I choose a precious metals dealer?

A: Entrust does not sell or promote any products or vendors. Precious metals may be purchased from any dealer of your choice. Entrust strongly suggests that you perform a thorough due diligence on the dealer for security, including their business ratings, the dealer history, dealer affiliations, and proper review of the terms of agreement and pricing.

Q: Can I buy metals from more than one dealer?

A: Yes, you may purchase from multiple dealers of your choice.

Q: Can Entrust coordinate the metals purchase for me?

A: Because it is a self-directed IRA, you will need to negotiate the purchase price and the type of metals with the dealer yourself.

Q: Can I use funds from my existing IRA or previous employer plans to invest?

A: Yes, any past employer or individual retirement plan can be rolled over or transferred to Entrust.

You have options when it comes to funding your Entrust self-directed retirement account. The resources below will help you understand what is the best option for you.

- ▶ **How to transfer your IRA to a self-directed IRA in 5 simple steps**
- ▶ **How to direct rollover your 401(k) in 4 simple steps**
- ▶ **Check the 2016-2017 contribution limits for IRAs and other tax-advantaged plans**

**Q: How are my metals stored?**

A: Entrust does not store your metals. Entrust performs the recordkeeping and provide custody services for your IRA. The metals are stored in an approved depository. You may choose one of 5 depository companies (with 7 nation-wide locations) that are IRA approved, regulated, and insured facilities. The list of IRA approved depositories is available on the Precious Metals Center website, or you may contact the Precious Metals Center to request this list. Please note that these depositories are third parties and charge fees associated with their holding services.

Q: How do I know when my metals are delivered to the depository?

A: Entrust will email you when the metals are delivered to the depository. You may also track it through the Entrust Client Portal. Please keep in mind that once the metals have been purchased and shipped, it may take up to three weeks to fully process your precious metals purchase.

Q: Are IRA account holders able to store precious metals at home?

A: Taking physical possession of metals while still in an IRA is not allowed by the IRS. Metals purchased in an IRA are transferred directly into your chosen depository in the name of the IRA. However, you may take a distribution of the precious metals assets, which is a taxable event and you may be subject to tax penalties. Please note that for IRAs with Entrust, you must choose one of 5 depository companies (with 7 nation-wide locations) that are IRA approved, regulated, and insured facilities. The list of IRA approved depositories is available on the Precious Metals Center website, or you may contact the Precious Metals Center to request this list.

Q: How do I know the metals I purchased are the ones delivered to the depository?

A: Entrust works with the dealers and the depository to ensure that the metals you purchased are accurately and successfully delivered to the depository. The dealer, depository and Entrust go through a multi-point verification process:

- ▶ The dealer sends the metals to the depository
- ▶ The depository determines if the metals received match the invoice
- ▶ The depository emails Entrust a delivery confirmation reporting the kind of metal and the quantity received
- ▶ Entrust enters the information into the clients account on the Entrust Client Portal

If Entrust suspects discrepancies at any point in the process, we work directly with the dealer and depository to resolve the issues.

About The Entrust Group

Entrust strives to provide personal, professional services and education that empower clients to control their investment choices. You can rely on The Entrust Group for up-to-date training and continuing education about self-directed alternative investments. Our reports, webinars, and live events can help you keep up with the increasing demand to diversify portfolios.

To learn more, visit www.TheEntrustGroup.com

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