Uncover hidden 401(k) and investment fees with Empower Personal Dashboard

> *“Our retirement accounts and investments have high expense ratios and hidden administrative fees eating into returns.”*

Category: operations **Setup Time:** ~20 minutes **Estimated Hours Saved:** 2 hrs/week **Direct Software Cost:** $0 / month

SOLUTION SUMMARY

Aggregate your 401(k), brokerage, and bank accounts into Empower Personal Dashboard using read-only encryption to diagnose hidden investment fees and track holistic cash flow. Run the built-in Investment Fee Analyzer to calculate mutual fund expense ratios and administrative fees that shave returns over time. Viewing consolidated monthly spending alongside net-worth projections reveals cash-flow leaks and guides low-cost index allocation.

REQUIRED TOOLS & DIRECT WHOLESALE UTILITIES

- **Empower Personal Dashboard:** **(Free Tier / Wholesale)**

STEP-BY-STEP APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

1. **Create a free Empower Personal Dashboard profile**
   Sign up on Empower's portal and verify your identity with multi-factor authentication (MFA).

2. **Link your 401(k), IRA, and brokerage accounts**
   Connect your retirement plan administrators, brokerage custodians, and operating bank accounts via read-only financial aggregators.

3. **Run the Investment Fee Analyzer**
   Open Planning > Fee Analyzer to examine the annual expense ratios, advisory fees, and administrative charges across all underlying holdings.

4. **Benchmark against low-cost index alternatives**
   Review Empower's projected lifetime fee drag calculator to determine how much compounding return is lost to high fees and adjust fund allocations toward low-cost index options.

5-POINT QUALITY VERIFICATION PROTOCOL

[ ] **Carrier & Webhook Test:** Confirm webhook listener receives test payload and returns HTTP 200 within 500ms.

[ ] **End-to-End Simulation:** Execute live test event from personal device and verify SMS/email delivery.

[ ] **Anti-Spam & Rate Limit Check:** Verify repeated submissions do not trigger duplicate messages to clients.

[ ] **Direct Ownership Audit:** Confirm all API keys, accounts, and credentials belong directly to your practice.

[ ] **Staff Notification Verification:** Verify practice manager/receptionist receives real-time push alert with dial link.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q: Does Empower Personal Dashboard cost anything?

A: No. The personal dashboard software is free on the entry plan with no mandatory fees. Empower generates revenue through optional wealth advisory management for accounts with over ,000 in assets (0.49% to 0.89% AUM, pricing checked 2026-09-18), but utilizing the dashboard does not require enrolling in advisory services.

Q: Can Empower initiate money transfers or trade stocks in my external accounts?

A: No. The dashboard maintains strict read-only aggregation with 256-bit encryption and multi-factor authentication. It cannot initiate fund transfers or trades in your linked accounts.

Source: dgfcorporations.com/fixes/hidden-401k-fees-empower-dashboard/ · Free to use, modify & deploy Master Client Ownership · Zero Agency Retainers