

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549

SCHEDULE 14A

**Proxy Statement Pursuant to Section 14(a) of the
Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (Amendment No. __)**

Filed by the Registrant

Filed by a Party other than the Registrant

Check the appropriate box:

- Preliminary Proxy Statement
- Confidential, for Use of the Commission Only (as permitted by Rule 14a-6(e)(2))
- Definitive Proxy Statement
- Definitive Additional Materials
- Soliciting Material Pursuant to §240.14a-12

Raymond James Financial, Inc.

(Name of Registrant as Specified In Its Charter)

(Name of Person(s) Filing Proxy Statement, if other than the Registrant)

Payment of Filing Fee (Check the appropriate box):

- No fee required.
- Fee computed on table below per Exchange Act Rules 14a-6(i)(4) and 0-11.

(1) Title of each class of securities to which transaction applies:

(2) Aggregate number of securities to which transaction applies:

(3) Per unit price or other underlying value of transaction computed pursuant to Exchange Act Rule 0-11 (set forth the amount on which the filing fee is calculated and state how it was determined):

(4) Proposed maximum aggregate value of transaction:

(5) Total fee paid:

Fee paid previously with preliminary materials.

Check box if any part of the fee is offset as provided by Exchange Act Rule 0-11(a)(2) and identify the filing for which the offsetting fee was paid previously. Identify the previous filing by registration statement number, or the Form or Schedule and the date of its filing.

(1) Amount Previously Paid:

(2) Form, Schedule or Registration Statement No.:

(3) Filing Party:

(4) Date Filed:

(The following is the text of information to be posted by management on various Company internal communications media, sent by e-mail, or provided by means of oral presentations to groups of employees.)

EMAIL TO ESOP PARTICIPANTS - JANUARY 22, 2019

From: Raymond James Communications

Subject: Important Notice to ESOP Participants: Proxy Materials for Shareholders Meeting



IMPORTANT NOTICE TO ESOP PARTICIPANTS

Proxy materials for the Raymond James Financial, Inc. Annual Shareholders Meeting

To: All Employee ESOP Participants

The purpose of this message is to provide you with proxy materials for the 2019 Annual Meeting of Shareholders of Raymond James Financial, Inc. (“Annual Meeting”). Because the company common stock has been allocated to your Employee Stock Ownership Plan (“Plan”) account, you are entitled to instruct the Plan trustee how to vote these shares.

Annual Shareholders Meeting

The Annual Meeting will be held at **4:30 p.m. ET on Thursday, February 28, 2019**, at the Raymond James Financial Center, located at 880 Carillon Parkway, St. Petersburg, Florida.

Proxy Materials

Please click on the links below to access the proxy materials, which contain important information about the matters to be voted on at the Annual Meeting.

We encourage you to access and carefully review all of the information in the proxy materials before instructing the Plan trustee on how to vote the shares allocated to your Plan account. The proxy materials consist of:

- The 2019 Proxy Statement; and
- The 2018 Annual Report.

If you would like to receive a paper copy of the proxy materials, you must request one (at no charge) by **February 5** to facilitate timely delivery. Send your request to:

Raymond James Financial, Inc.
Attn: Secretary

880 Carillon Parkway
St. Petersburg, Florida 33716

Your proxy voting card, which contains control/identification numbers necessary for you to vote, will be mailed to your address on file with the Plan separately in hard copy. You cannot vote the shares allocated to your Plan account in person at the Annual Meeting.

Voting Details and Recommendations

The following proposals will be voted upon at the Annual Meeting:

1. To elect twelve (12) directors to the Board of Directors, to hold office until the annual meeting of shareholders in 2020;
2. To hold an advisory vote on 2018 executive compensation;
3. To approve the Amended and Restated 2003 Employee Stock Purchase Plan;
4. To ratify the appointment of KPMG LLP as the company's independent registered public accounting firm for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2019; and
5. To consider and act upon such other business as may properly come before the meeting or any adjournment thereof.

The Board of Directors recommends a vote "FOR" Items 1, 2, 3 and 4.

The shares allocated to your Plan account will be voted as you instruct the Plan trustee. There are three ways to vote:

- By returning the proxy voting card that we are mailing separately to you,
- By the Internet, or
- By telephone.

Please follow the instructions included on your proxy voting card on how to vote using one of the three methods.

Note: If you do not vote the shares allocated to your Plan account, your shares will nevertheless be voted by the trustee in the same proportion as it votes the shares of ESOP participants who have instructed the trustee on how to vote.

To allow sufficient time for voting by the trustee of the Plan, our transfer agent must receive your vote no later than 5 p.m. ET on February 25, 2019.

RAYMOND JAMES®

RJNET NEWS ITEMS

Let Your Voice Be Heard: Vote Your RJF Shares

Review the Raymond James Financial, Inc. (RJF) proxy materials and learn how to vote your shares. Your vote is important, no matter the size of your holdings.

2019 Annual Meeting of Shareholders

All associates and shareholders are invited to attend the 2019 Annual Meeting of Shareholders at **4:30 p.m. ET on Thursday, February 28, 2019**, at the Raymond James Financial headquarters in St. Petersburg, Florida.

Be Heard: Your Vote Matters

RJF shareholders have the right to vote in Board elections and on certain other significant matters. Please vote all of your shares, and keep in mind that:

- As a shareholder, you may hold your Raymond James shares in up to three different ways.
- If you own shares in more than one form, you will have to vote each separately.
- Different deadlines apply to voting different forms of share ownership, so be sure to review the proxy statement for full details.

Learn how to vote your shares:

- View the image below (click to view full screen), and
- Read voting deadlines and instructions.


Be heard Your vote matters

As an RJF shareholder, you have the right to vote in Board elections and on certain other significant matters. You may hold your Raymond James shares in up to three different ways.


If you own shares in more than one form, you will have to vote each separately. Please vote all of your shares. In addition, different deadlines apply to voting different forms of share ownership – please see the proxy statement for full details.

1  **What are the different forms of share ownership?**

- Beneficial owner, holding shares in a regular brokerage account (including via the Employee Stock Purchase Program)
- Participant in the Employee Stock Ownership Plan (ESOP)
- Registered shareholder (whose name is directly listed on our share register)

2  **How will you receive your proxy materials?**

- Physical mail, if you are a record holder or beneficial owner
- Email, if you are a beneficial owner, who has elected to receive communications from your broker electronically, or an employee participating in the ESOP

3  **How can you vote your shares?**

- By mail
- Online
- By telephone
- In person at the Annual Shareholders Meeting (for record holders and beneficial owners who have made advance arrangements; this does not apply to shares in an ESOP account)

Voting Proposals and Guidance

The following proposals will be voted upon at the Annual Shareholders' Meeting:

1. To elect twelve (12) directors to the Board of Directors, to hold office until the Annual Shareholders' Meeting in 2020;
2. To hold an advisory vote on 2018 executive compensation;
3. To approve the Amended and Restated 2003 Employee Stock Purchase Plan;
4. To ratify the appointment of KPMG LLP as the company's independent registered public accounting firm for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2019; and
5. To consider and act upon such other business as may properly come before the meeting or any adjournment thereof.

The Board of Directors recommends a vote "FOR" Items 1, 2, 3 and 4.

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