



Emily Pitts

Principal,
Inclusion/Diversity

Emily Pitts began her career with Edward Jones in 1995 as a financial advisor in Atlanta and quickly established herself as a leader.

She was named a limited partner in the firm in 2001 and a principal in 2004. That same year, she relocated to the firm's St. Louis home office to implement marketing of credit cards and mortgage services.

Today Pitts is charged with fine-tuning and implementing the firm's comprehensive inclusion initiative, designed to create and sustain a work environment that attracts, welcomes, supports and develops a diverse team of outstanding associates and energizes each member to achieve his or her full potential.

Pitts was instrumental in developing and rolling out the firm's first cross-cultural development program (CCDP), which helps minority financial advisors network. She also developed the firm's Women's Leadership Forum, Minority Leadership Forum and Home Office Inclusion Mentoring Program. In addition, Pitts oversees the EDGE (expectations, development, guidance and expertise) program, a volunteer peer resource over the firm's intranet that provides profiles and contacts for financial advisors volunteering to talk.

A native of Chattanooga, Tenn., Pitts graduated from Clark Atlanta University with a bachelor's degree in business administration and earned an executive MBA from Washington University and received the peer award of Class Ambassador in 2011. Pitts has attended several advanced management courses through Edward Jones.

Pitts is a graduate of Leadership FOCUS St. Louis and serves on the group's advisory committee. She also serves on the boards of the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, the Diversity Awareness Partnership and the St. Louis Urban League, as well as the advisory committee for the American Red Cross' Charles Drew Blood Campaign. In addition, she is a member of the diversity committees for the national Securities Industry and Financial Markets Association (SIFMA), the St. Louis University Executive Board and the Metropolitan Board of Directors for the YMCA of Greater St. Louis.

Pitts is a member of the Executive Leadership Council, an organization of African-American executives from Fortune 500 companies who work to build an inclusive business leadership pipeline and develop African-American corporate leaders.

In recognition of her value to the St. Louis business community, the *St. Louis Business Journal* named Pitts to its Most Influential Minority Business Leaders Class of 2008. She also received the St. Louis Community Empowerment Foundation's 2009 Women's Leadership Award for Corporate Excellence.