Make sure loved ones are taken care of after you're gone.

Name a beneficiary to ensure your retirement savings go where you want.

Your retirement account requires its own beneficiary designation. Here's what else you need to know:

If you don't name a beneficiary:

If you're married, your retirement savings generally go to your spouse automatically. Naming a beneficiary is important if you intend on leaving money to your children or another recipient.[1]

If you're single, your savings generally become part of your estate, and the courts will decide how it is distributed. This can be a long, expensive process for your loved ones.

If you name a minor as a beneficiary:

You'll need to pick a custodian to manage the money in your beneficiary's interest. If you don't, the state may decide for you.[2]

When to update your beneficiary

Your account's beneficiary designation can override a will—it's that important. Review and update it after life changes such as:

- Marriage
- Divorce
- Birth or adoption of a child
- Death in the family

Have questions? We can help.

Call **800-547-7754** to talk to a retirement specialist.

Name your beneficiary now.

Scan the QR code or log in to principal.com/beneficiary.

[1] Naming someone other than a spouse requires the spouse's signature.

[2] A minor is generally a person under 18. The age of a majority can vary by state. Be sure to know the rules regarding naming a custodian and the age of majority for your applicable state.

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Beneficiary designations are legal designations that are needed whenever a qualified retirement plan provides benefits to beneficiaries of deceased participants. They state who is to receive the benefits and how benefits are to be paid in the event of a plan participant's death. Certain beneficiary designations cannot be completed online. Instead, a paper form must be completed and signed. If needed, you will be given the option to print the paper beneficiary form from the website. Based on your marital status, your designation may require spousal approval.

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