

CHOOSING A BENEFICIARY IS IMPORTANT. WE CAN HELP.

SELECTING WHO WILL GET YOUR LIFE INSURANCE PAYMENT

You've made a great choice to help protect the security of your loved ones with a Life insurance plan from The Hartford. Now, you have another important choice to make: who will be your beneficiary?[1]

A beneficiary is the person or legal entity who receives the Life insurance payment if the insured person dies.[2] An example of a legal entity is a trust fund you may have set up.

To help make your beneficiary decision simpler, here are some key things to consider.

7 TIPS TO CONSIDER WHEN CHOOSING A BENEFICIARY

1. YOU CAN NAME AS MANY BENEFICIARIES AS YOU WANT.

Specify whether you want each to be one of the following:

- Primary beneficiary
- Contingent beneficiary

The contingent beneficiary receives a payment only if there is no primary beneficiary entitled to payment.

Just remember to provide each person's full name, Social Security number and his or her relationship to you.

2. YOU CAN DESIGNATE A TRUST AS A BENEFICIARY.

When the insured person dies, the Life insurance payment can go to the trust as beneficiary.

3. YOU CAN DECIDE HOW YOU WANT THE BENEFICIARY PAYMENT DIVIDED.

- Use percentages. Make sure the total adds up to 100 percent.
- You can also choose to have the payment evenly divided among beneficiaries.
- Avoid using dollar amounts since your coverage amount may change.

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4. THERE MAY BE A COURT PROCESS IF YOU DESIGNATE YOUR ESTATE AS A BENEFICIARY.

That process, known as probate, may be used to settle an estate. It will:

- Resolve all claims and distribute property under a valid will.
- Protect the deceased's instructions.
- Confirm who is the personal representative of the estate.
- Protect the interests of family members who may have claims against the estate.
- Protect the personal representative against claims and lawsuits.

5. THERE MAY BE A COURT PROCESS IF A MINOR IS A BENEFICIARY.

If the beneficiary is a minor, a court may need to decide who should be the guardian or conservator of the minor's property before payment can be made.

6. SUBMIT YOUR BENEFICIARY DESIGNATION.

Use the paper form or the online portal, if there's one set up.

7. BE SURE TO REVIEW YOUR BENEFICIARY CHOICES FROM TIME TO TIME.

- Check to see if the decisions you made still fit your plans, especially after major events like a birth, marriage or divorce.
- Beneficiary designations can't be signed or changed by a power of attorney.

If you need help choosing or changing your beneficiary, contact your employer's benefits representative. Or call us at **888-563-1124**.

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[1] You may want to talk to an estate planner, accountant or attorney before you make your decision.

[2] A benefit will be payable if the insured person, who must be eligible for coverage under the plan, suffers a covered loss while coverage is inforce. Limitations and exclusions may apply.

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