



What

Estate planning is the process of making a plan for when you are unable to handle your affairs yourself. With an estate plan, you can set out your wishes for how your assets and responsibilities should be handled if you pass away or become incapacitated.

What's involved

In creating your estate plan, you may work with a number of people, including:

- An attorney
- A power of attorney in case you become incapacitated
- An executor to represent your estate
- A financial advisor
- A guardian for your dependents
- A trustee

Your estate plan may also include a range of important documents, including:

- A durable power of attorney
- A medical directive, which can help you plan for medical decisions
- A trust
- A will

Why important

Estate planning can help you:

- Provide for your family
- Have greater control over your legacy
- Provide better care for dependents
- Leave an impact through charitable giving
- Obtain tax advantages in the treatment of your estate
- Reduce conflict among your heirs

Whether you are married or single, have or don't have children, have simple or complex finances, you can benefit from estate planning. It's never too soon to make an estate plan, but it can be too late.

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