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IRA Beneficiary Designation Kit

For designating beneficiaries for your Vanguard IRA®

Thank you for investing your retirement assets with Vanguard. Designating beneficiaries is an important part of your estate plan because it gives you control over who will receive your assets after your death. It also can help transition your assets with less cost and delay.

To designate your beneficiaries by mail

Complete the enclosed IRA Beneficiary Designation Form, then mail it to us. You'll receive a confirmation by mail once your beneficiary designations have been updated.

To change your beneficiaries online

Log on to your account at vanguard.com. From the **My Accounts** dropdown, select **Profile & account settings**. Then select **Beneficiaries** and follow the instructions.

Questions?

If you have any questions about your beneficiary options, call us at **800-662-2739**.

Why it's important to choose wisely

The beneficiary designations on your retirement account generally supersede any other instructions—even those in your will. For example, if your will states that your spouse will inherit your IRA but your IRA designates your children as beneficiaries, your children will inherit the IRA.

You may want to consult with an estate attorney before you decide.

Your beneficiary designations on the enclosed form will completely replace any previous beneficiary designations on all holdings within the IRA types you specify. Therefore, be sure to complete the entire form, even if you're changing only part of your designation.

You may update your beneficiaries at any time, but your designations are irrevocable after your death.

How beneficiaries and backup beneficiaries differ

Your **beneficiaries** are the individuals, trusts, charities, or other parties you designate to receive your assets after your death. If any of your beneficiaries are deceased at the time of your death, their portions of your assets will be divided proportionately among your surviving beneficiaries, unless you choose the option "Children" as your beneficiary. See Section 3 of our IRA Beneficiary Designation Form for more information about this option.

Your **backup** beneficiaries will inherit your assets only if you have no surviving beneficiaries at the time of your death.

Why you should designate both beneficiaries and backup beneficiaries

If you haven't designated backup beneficiaries and your beneficiaries die before you, your assets may pass to your estate, depending on the terms of your IRA. Your assets could be subject to costs and delays that may accompany settlement of your estate, and your beneficiaries may be subject to adverse tax consequences.

Points to consider in choosing your beneficiary designations

- Your designation usually supersedes any other instructions, such as those in your will.
- If a surviving spouse is your sole beneficiary, he or she may have options that aren't available to nonspouse beneficiaries.
- Your beneficiary designations should work in harmony with your other estate planning tools, such as trusts.
- Naming your estate as beneficiary could have disadvantages, such as higher income taxes for your heirs, delayed distribution of assets, and higher settlement costs.
- You should review your beneficiary designations each time a major life event occurs, such as marriage, divorce, or the birth of a child.

The responsibility of your beneficiaries

Upon your death, your beneficiaries will need to provide information and documentation to Vanguard before we can distribute your assets. You should discuss your designations with your beneficiaries to ensure they're aware of their responsibility for notifying Vanguard of your death.

Your beneficiary designation options

You can choose one or more of the following designations for your Vanguard IRA®.

My spouse

You have two options for designating a spouse as beneficiary:

- **Spouse by name.** For this option, you need to identify your spouse by name. If you're divorced at the time of your death and haven't updated your beneficiary designation, the named individual may receive your assets unless Vanguard is provided with proof of the divorce.
- **To the person I'm married to at the time of my death.** For this option, you don't need to provide your spouse's name—or update the name of your spouse if you remarry. Upon your death, your spouse must certify that he or she was married to you at the time of your death.

Important note about community property rights. If you lived in a community property state while you were married, your spouse at that time may have certain rights to your retirement account. You may want to consult with your estate attorney for guidance on community property rights.

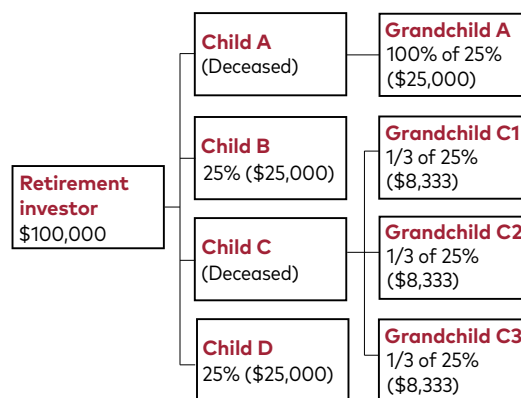
Vanguard won't assume responsibility for determining whether your IRA is subject to community property laws. Until we receive a properly documented community property claim at the time of distribution, we won't be liable to anyone for acting in accordance with the designation we have on file.

Family or Friends

You have three options for designating descendants, relatives, or other individuals as your beneficiaries:

- **Children.** This option enables you to have your assets distributed *equally* among your lineal descendants who are blood relatives or legally adopted. The first to receive your assets are your children (this doesn't include stepchildren).
 - If any of your children die before you, the entire portion of assets due to that child will be divided equally among his or her surviving children (your grandchildren), if any.
 - If your deceased child has no children, his or her portion of assets will be divided equally among your surviving children.
 - If all your children die before you, their surviving descendants (your grandchildren) will receive the assets in equal shares.

How "per stirpes" distribution works



Family or Friends (continued)

- **Grandchildren.** Your assets will be distributed equally among your grandchildren who are alive at the time of your death (this doesn't include stepgrand-children). Neither the family nor the estate of a grandchild who dies before you will receive proceeds from your retirement account.
- **Individual by name.** This option enables you to designate one or more individuals—descendants, relatives who aren't descendants, or individuals not related to you—by name. *Please provide the full, legal name for each person you designate.*

If you choose to name children or grandchildren, any additional children or grandchildren born or legally adopted after this designation is made won't be entitled to assets unless you specifically add them.

Important: If you want to designate your children or grandchildren as beneficiaries in *unequal* amounts, you must list their names under **"Individual by name"**.

Trusts

You may designate one or more trusts as beneficiary. Your assets will be payable to the trustee, who will be responsible for distributing the assets in accordance with the trust's terms. You have two options:

- **To the trustee of an existing trust created under an agreement.** This option enables you to leave assets to a trust created during your lifetime, also known as a *living trust* or an *inter vivos trust*.

- **To the trustee of a trust created under my last will.** This is for a trust that will come into effect after your death. If you create more than one trust under your will, you must specify which one will receive your retirement assets.

Note: You don't need to provide trustee names at this time. The trustee(s) will be identified at the time of your death.

Organizations or charities

You may designate one or more organizations or charities as beneficiary. Vanguard won't be responsible for contacting any organization or charity after your death nor monitoring how the assets are used. You may want to notify the organization now or advise a trusted person to do so after your death. *Please provide the proper name for each entity you designate.*

If you want to create a giving legacy that reflects your charitable values, consider naming Vanguard Charitable as your beneficiary. Visit **vanguardcharitable** for more information.

My estate

This option enables your retirement assets to pass to your estate through your will or, if you die without a will, through your state's intestacy laws. Your executor/administrator will be responsible for distributing the assets to your estate's beneficiaries.

This option has some disadvantages:

- Your retirement assets will be subject to the probate process, which may increase costs.

- Because an estate isn't considered a "designated beneficiary" under federal tax rules, your estate's beneficiaries may be subject to higher federal income tax than if they were named as beneficiaries on your retirement account.

Note: You don't need to provide the name of your executor/administrator at this time. We'll rely on the instructions of your executor/ administrator at the time of your death.



IRA Beneficiary Designation Form

Effective June 2026

Use this form to designate one or more beneficiaries who will inherit your IRA assets upon your death. Based on your choices, your assets will go directly to your chosen beneficiaries.

Submitting this form will replace any previous beneficiary designations for the IRAs you have selected in Section 2. Be sure to include **all** beneficiaries and backup beneficiaries—even if you are only making a small update.

Print clearly in capital letters using black ink.

Questions?

Call 877-662-7447
or log in to vanguard.com.

1. Account owner information

Provide your full,
legal name. >

Name <i>first, middle initial, last</i>			
Birth date <i>mm dd yyyy</i>			
Daytime phone <i>area code, number, extension</i> ☐ Mobile		Evening phone <i>area code, number, extension</i> ☐ Mobile	
Last four digits of Social Security number (SSN) or taxpayer ID number (TIN)			Zip code

2. IRA accounts you want to update

Select **one** option

If you check this box,
skip to Section 3. >

☐ Update all my IRA accounts

Your beneficiary designations will apply to **all IRA accounts** held under your Social Security number (SSN/TIN) at Vanguard referenced in Section 1.

☐ Update specific IRA account(s)

Your beneficiary designations will apply **only to the account(s) listed below**.
Please provide the account number(s):

Account number	Account number
Account number	Account number
Account number	Account number
Account number	Account number

Estates, trusts, or charities that inherit IRAs can't designate beneficiaries.

3. Beneficiaries you want to designate

Primary beneficiaries *Check all that apply.*

Those you designate as your primary beneficiaries will be first to inherit your IRA assets upon your death. Indicate the percentages of your assets to be distributed to the designated beneficiaries upon your death. The minimum percentage you can leave to a beneficiary is 1%, and the total to all beneficiaries must equal 100%.

Spouse *If completing this section, check only one of these options.*

Check only one option;
don't check both boxes. >

☐ Spouse by name		
Name <i>first, middle initial, last</i>	Birth date <i>mm dd yyyy</i>	%
or		
☐ To the person I'm married to at the time of my death If you select this option, your assets will be distributed to whoever is your spouse at that time. You don't need to provide a name.		%

Family or friends

If you select the
Children and/or
Grandchildren only
designation, don't list
the names of
your children/
grandchildren below. >

☐ Children <i>(Descendants, per stirpes)</i> Your assets will be divided equally among all your children. If any of your children pass before you, their share will be divided equally among their children (also known as per stirpes). This designation excludes stepchildren and step-grandchildren.		%
☐ Grandchildren only This option will skip your children, and your assets will be passed in equal portions directly to all your grandchildren (step-grandchildren are not included).		%
or		
☐ Individuals by name You can name any person as your beneficiary. If you would like to name your stepchildren as beneficiaries, you can add them here. If you need more space to list additional beneficiary designations, copy this page.		
Name <i>first, middle initial, last</i>	Birth date <i>mm dd yyyy</i>	%
Name <i>first, middle initial, last</i>	Birth date <i>mm dd yyyy</i>	%
Name <i>first, middle initial, last</i>	Birth date <i>mm dd yyyy</i>	%
Name <i>first, middle initial, last</i>	Birth date <i>mm dd yyyy</i>	%
Name <i>first, middle initial, last</i>	Birth date <i>mm dd yyyy</i>	%

Trusts

☐ To a trust you've already created Your assets will transfer to the trustee you designate		
Name of trust	Date of trust <i>mm dd yyyy</i>	%
☐ To a trust that will be created under your last will Your assets will transfer to the trustee you designate		
Name of trust or section of will	%	

Return ALL pages of this form.

Other

Provide the full legal name for each entity you designate. >

☐ Organization or charity		
Name of organization or charity		%
☐ My estate		
Assets will be transferred to your estate at the time of your death		%

Please ensure that the percentages listed above collectively total 100%. >

Total
100%

Backup beneficiaries *Check all that apply.*

Those you designate as your backup beneficiaries will inherit your assets only if there are no surviving beneficiaries upon your death. Indicate the percentages of your assets to be distributed to the designated backup beneficiaries upon your death. The minimum percentage you can leave to a backup beneficiary is 1% , and the total to all backup beneficiaries must equal 100%.

Spouse *If completing this section, check only one of these options.*

Check only one option; don't check both boxes. >

☐ Spouse by name		
Name <i>first, middle initial, last</i>	Birth date <i>mm dd yyyy</i>	%
or		
☐ To the person I'm married to at the time of my death		%
If you select this option, your assets will be distributed to whoever is your spouse at that time. You don't need to provide a name.		

Family or friends

If you select the Children and/or Grandchildren only designation, don't list the names of your children/grandchildren below. >

☐ Children (<i>Descendants, per stirpes</i>)		%
Your assets will be divided equally among all your children. If any of your children pass before you, their share will be divided equally among their children (also known as per stirpes). This designation excludes stepchildren and step-grandchildren.		
☐ Grandchildren only		%
This option will skip your children, and your assets will be passed in equal portions directly to all your grandchildren (step-grandchildren are not included).		
or		
☐ Individuals by name		
You can name any person as your beneficiary. If you would like to name your stepchildren as beneficiaries, you can add them here. If you need more space to list additional beneficiary designations, copy this page.		
Name <i>first, middle initial, last</i>	Birth date <i>mm dd yyyy</i>	%
Name <i>first, middle initial, last</i>	Birth date <i>mm dd yyyy</i>	%
Name <i>first, middle initial, last</i>	Birth date <i>mm dd yyyy</i>	%
Name <i>first, middle initial, last</i>	Birth date <i>mm dd yyyy</i>	%
Name <i>first, middle initial, last</i>	Birth date <i>mm dd yyyy</i>	%
Name <i>first, middle initial, last</i>	Birth date <i>mm dd yyyy</i>	%

Trusts
☐ To a trust you've already created

Your assets will transfer to the trustee you designate

Name of trust	Date of trust <i>mm dd yyyy</i>	%
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☐ To a trust that will be created under your last will

Your assets will transfer to the trustee you designate

Name of trust or section of will	%
----------------------------------	---

Other
☐ Organization or charity

Name of organization or charity

	%
--	---

☐ My estate

Assets will be transferred to your estate at the time of your death

	%
--	---

Provide the full legal
name for each entity
you designate. >

Please ensure that the percentages
listed above collectively total 100%. >

Total 100%

Return ALL pages of this form.

4. Authorization of account owner *Read carefully before signing.*

I agree to be bound by the terms and conditions established by Vanguard Fiduciary Trust Company (VFTC), the custodian of my IRA, for an IRA beneficiary designation. I understand that this designation will supersede any previous designation I have made and will become effective upon receipt in good order as determined by VFTC.

If, for any reason, I do not have a beneficiary at the time of my death, my beneficiary will be what is stated as the default under the applicable Vanguard IRA Custodial Account Agreement in effect at the time of my death.

I acknowledge that VFTC may require additional information upon my death to determine the identity or interest of the beneficiary or beneficiaries. In such event, I acknowledge that VFTC shall have no independent duty to obtain or verify such information but may instead rely upon the representations of an authorized party such as the executor or administrator of my estate or, if a trust beneficiary, the trustee of that trust (my fiduciary). I agree that VFTC shall have no liability for, and shall be fully indemnified against, any cost or damage it incurs in connection with its good-faith reliance on such representations. If no such fiduciary is appointed or if my fiduciary is unable to provide the required information, VFTC reserves the right to request whatever documentation it deems appropriate before making distributions or transferring ownership to a beneficiary.

You must sign and print your name with today's date here.

Signature of account owner	Today's date mm dd yyyy
X	M M - D D - Y Y Y Y
Print name	

Mailing information

Make a copy of your completed form for your records.

Mail your completed form and any attached information to:

Mail to: Vanguard
P.O. Box 982901
El Paso, TX 79998-2901

For overnight delivery, mail to: Vanguard
5951 Lockett Court, Suite A1
El Paso, TX 79932-1822

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P.O. Box 982901
El Paso, TX 79998-2901

Connect with Vanguard® > [vanguard.com](https://www.vanguard.com) > 800-662-2739

For more information about Vanguard funds, visit [vanguard.com](https://www.vanguard.com), or call 800-662-2739, to obtain a prospectus. Investment objectives, risks, charges, expenses, and other important information about a fund are contained in the prospectus; read and consider it carefully before investing.

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