

A Powerful Piece of Paper Why a Will Is the Way

Establishing a financial footprint starts with three basic documents—a birth certificate, driver's license and a Social Security card. With those simple pieces of identification, you can open a bank account, apply for a job or buy a car or home.

But what document helps your loved ones manage those assets after your passing? A will. Without one, those closest to you may endure unnecessary stress because they don't know your intentions.

What a Will Can Do

No matter if you're 21 or 101, a will should be among your most important documents. When you create one, you ensure that the individuals and causes you care about now are being taken care of after your lifetime. With a will, you can:

- Direct the division of your property the way you choose, not the way the state decides.
- Make special financial arrangements for family members who are minors, disabled or unfamiliar with money management.
- Select an executor who is qualified to settle your estate promptly and economically with careful attention to your wishes.
- Name a guardian for any minor children.
- Devise an estate plan—with the help of a qualified attorney and other advisors—to ensure that all your assets are passed on pursuant to your wishes.
- Support the charitable organizations and causes that are important to you.

Use Your Will for Good

If you're creating or updating your will and would like to include a future gift to the School of Dentistry, contact us today to learn how you can make a difference.

Keep It Updated

Already have a will? Keeping it up to date is just as important as the document itself. If you've experienced life changes such as a birth, death, marriage, divorce or other major life event, consider taking a second look at your will and making changes accordingly.



LADIES ONLY

A Woman's Guide to Estate Planning

Consider this scenario: Anne is just 30 years old when her mother passes away. In the months following the funeral, Anne discovers that her mother—a widow—never drafted a plan for her estate. In the absence of a plan, state law determines how her mother's assets will be distributed.

According to a study by the National Center for Women and Retirement, 80 to 90 percent of women will make

financial decisions on their own at some point in their lives. Whether single, divorced or widowed, having an effective estate plan is part of being independent. Estate planning not only ensures financial stability during your lifetime, but also allows you to choose how your assets will be distributed after your lifetime.

Here are four key elements of a successful estate plan that anyone can follow.



Start Planning NOW

When making your estate planning decisions, you will benefit from the counsel of your legal and tax advisors. If you would like to include us in your plans, we would be happy to help you discuss ways you can secure the greatest benefit for yourself and us, with no obligation.



1] A Will

- Ensures that your assets will be distributed the way you intend.
- Allows your dependents to receive the care and financial security they need.
- Gives charitable organizations like ours your support into the future.



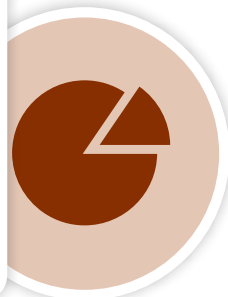
2] Life Insurance

- As a general rule, should be equal to five times your annual salary.
- Covers your family's financial obligations, goals and everyday expenses.
- Should be enough to pay off mortgages, other liabilities and final taxes.



3] A Living Trust

- Avoids probate for your estate.
- Appoints a trustee of your choosing to handle your affairs.
- Provides care for another individual, a disabled spouse or child, and appoints a guardian to care for the individual and take care of his or her financial needs.



4] Charitable Gifts

- Provide ways to reduce taxes and can be given now or later.
- Support a future for our organization and those we serve.
- Connect your legacy with the organizations and causes you care about the most.

Estate Planning for Kids

Creating a Safety Net for When You're Not There to Protect Them

Becoming a parent means doing everything you can to love and protect another human being. It's evident in the precautions you took the first time he or she went swimming or rode a bicycle.

The same level of care should be taken when making your estate plan. Putting your intentions on paper will help secure a safer future for your children when you aren't there to protect them yourself. This plan should include provisions for:

Minor children. Use your will to name a guardian for any minor children. If you are married, your spouse will likely raise your children if you pass away first, but also take into consideration what could happen when he/she passes away. You may also wish to place the assets you want your children to inherit in a trust until they are older. This prevents court battles if a judge has to name someone as their conservator.

Assets and property. Spelling out the distribution of assets to your children will ensure they receive what was intended for them. Remember, assets aren't only items with financial value. Sentimental items—like heirlooms and family photos—can be noted and passed to your children, as well.

An executor. If your children are of legal age, you can appoint them as executors, or choose a trusted friend or family member.

Beneficiary designations. Life insurance, annuities, retirement benefits and IRAs are usually payable to a named beneficiary and do not pass under your will. Review and update these documents—adding your children's names or a trust for their benefit—to make certain assets are left to your intended heirs.

CHILD FREE?

Estate planning is for everyone, regardless of your marital status, income or age. If you don't have children to plan for in your estate, consider the following questions:

- 1 How would you like your assets distributed?
- 2 Who will make health and financial decisions on your behalf if you are no longer able?
- 3 Who will care for you in the event of illness or disability?
- 4 Are there charitable organizations you wish to support?

SECURE THEIR FUTURE

When you create or update your estate plan, the needs of your family come first. Our new guide,



Your Loved Ones Are Counting on You, covers important information when creating a plan with your parents, spouses, siblings and children in mind. Use the enclosed reply card to request your copy today.

Make Your Plan Work for Us, Too

When creating or updating your estate plan, consider including a gift to our organization.

We would be glad to work with you on solutions that meet your giving needs. Please contact us for more information on how you can get started.

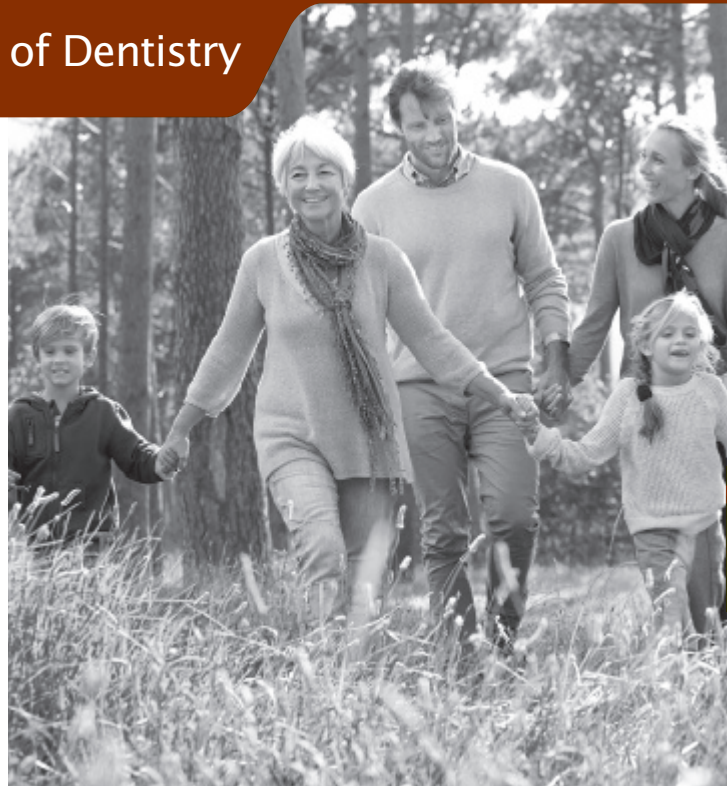
A Family-First Philosophy

Care for Your Own and Then the School of Dentistry

They say charity starts at home, and that can be especially true during uncertain economic times. If you're worried that you won't be able to provide for your family, you might overlook a gift to the organizations and causes that also need your support.

Through gift planning, you can choose a method of giving that protects your family's needs and offers greater tax savings. Here are a few ways you can support the UAB School of Dentistry.

- **A gift in your will.** You may find the flexibility of naming the School of Dentistry in your will or living trust appealing because you can change your mind at any time. By leaving a percentage of your estate to us, gifts to family members and other loved ones remain proportional no matter how your estate fluctuates over the years.
- **Retirement plan assets.** Because retirement plan assets can be heavily taxed when left to family, it can be tax-savvy to leave these assets to charity through beneficiary designations.
- **Life insurance.** Life insurance is a simple way to make a big impact on those we serve. You can leave all or a portion of your life insurance policy to the UAB School of Dentistry.



Looking for other ways to give to the School of Dentistry? Visit our website or contact us to find a gift that's best for you. We're happy to help!

Your Next Steps

1

RETURN the enclosed reply card to get your FREE guide **Your Loved Ones Are Counting on You** to help create a plan that addresses the needs of your family.

2

BROWSE our website to find the type of gift that best fits your financial and charitable goals.

3

CONTACT US to begin a conversation on how we can help you take your generosity to the next level.

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