

What Happens if I Pass Away Without an Estate Plan?

Creating a will might cost a minimum of a few hundred dollars, but the cost of dying intestate—without a will or trust—can easily total much more than that. Someone who dies intestate must have a court approve the settlement of their estate. This can be very expensive, sometimes costing tens of thousands of dollars. Planning today can help save costs and better provide for your family and future.

Prepare for Your Meeting with an Estate Planning Attorney

Whether you are meeting with an attorney to discuss your first will or trust or to revise your existing estate plan, there are ways you can prepare for your meeting today.

1. Write down a list of questions you have for your attorney. We can help you think through your needs and goals in advance to help ensure that the meeting with your attorney is efficient and effective.
2. Gather and organize your information. Complete our free Wills Guide or use the online Wills Planner available on our website to document information about your family, assets, and goals.
3. Review our website for planning ideas. Learn about the ways you can provide for your family, create gifts of income, save on taxes, and benefit UCR with your plan.
4. Meet with a qualified estate planning attorney. Contact us or visit our website for a referral to an attorney that has a relationship with UCR.

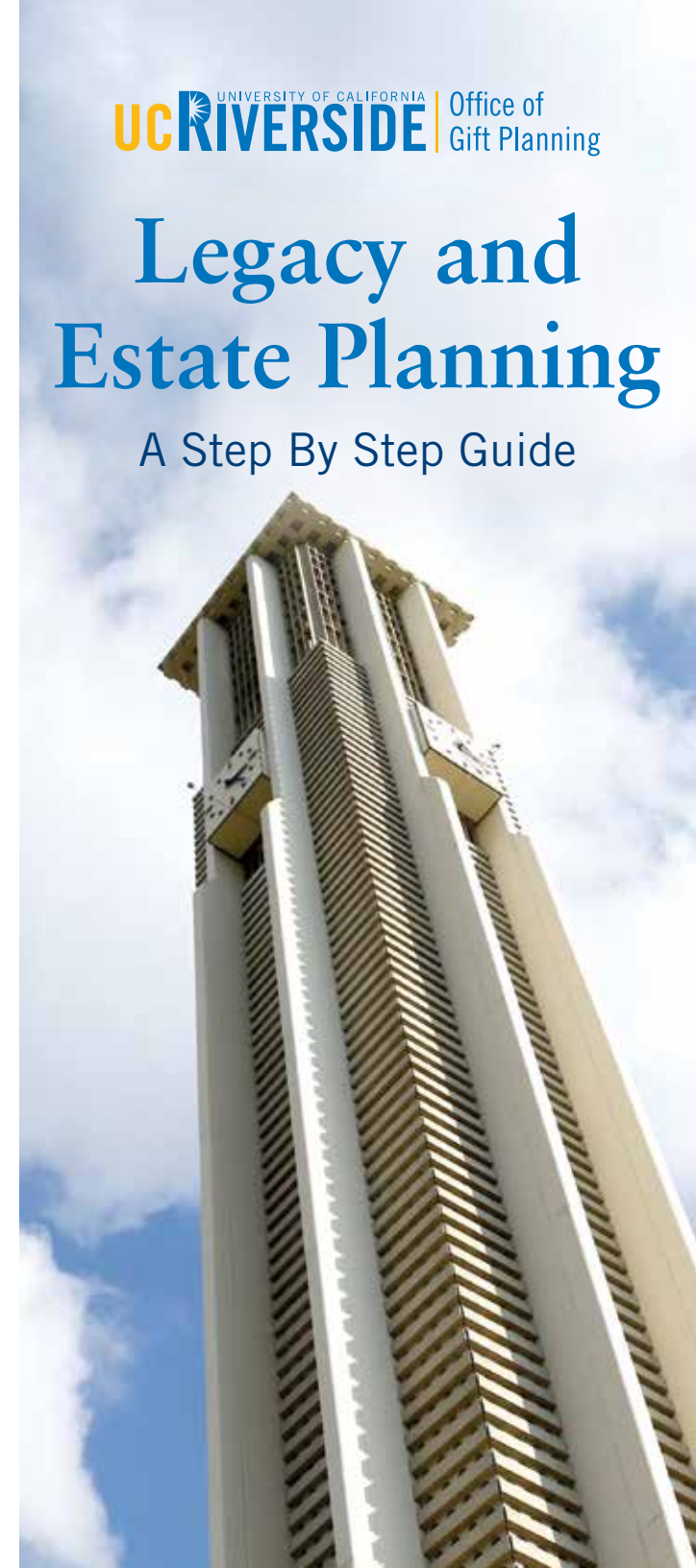
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UCRIVERSIDE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA Office of Gift Planning

Legacy and Estate Planning

A Step By Step Guide



How Can We Help?

- I would like more information on wills or living trusts.
- I am interested in more information on charitable estate planning.
- I have already included UCR in my will or trust.
- Please send me your FREE wills guide.

The best way to contact me is by:

- Email Mail Telephone

Name _____

Street _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

Email _____

DOB _____

Please complete and return.

All inquiries are treated with complete confidentiality.

This information is not intended as tax, legal, or financial advice. Gift results may vary. Consult your personal financial advisor for information specific to your situation.

Why Do I Need a Will?

1. A will can help you decide who will receive your property.
2. You can appoint a guardian for your minor children in your will.
3. A will allows you to appoint an executor to administer your estate.
4. A will can help reduce taxes for your heirs and your estate.

Do I Need a Living Trust?

A living trust operates similarly to a will but has several added benefits. A person can transfer assets to the trust and continue to manage property during his or her lifetime. Unlike a will, the provisions of a living trust document remain confidential. When an individual passes away, a living trust typically allows for an estate to be settled in less time and at a lower cost than a will. This is because an appointed trustee will pay any debts and make distributions based on the terms of the trust document without the need for court approval.

When Do I Need to Make Changes to My Plan?

If you have recently experienced a life-changing event such as a marriage, a death in the family, or the birth of a child or grandchild, you should consider talking with an attorney to update your estate plan.

