

Preserve the legacy you've built

Wealth transfer is the process of transferring your assets to future generations. If leaving a legacy is important to you, you should consider developing a strategy to enhance and protect the assets you intend to pass along.

Life insurance can play an important role in a wealth transfer strategy because it can help:

- Enhance the value of the assets you pass on to create a legacy
- Protect a family business from being liquidated if you die without a succession plan in place
- Provide the funds to pay estate and probate taxes

Planning and preparing for your heirs

Another important use of life insurance is to offset expenses your heirs may be responsible for handling. Proper planning with life insurance can provide funds to pay settlement costs without depleting the value of the assets you pass on. Without proper planning, your heirs may have to use savings, investments, liquid assets or credit to fund funeral expenses, administrative costs and probate, state death taxes and federal estate taxes. These costs can significantly deplete the total of the assets you pass on.

Tax benefits

Because of the tax-advantaged status life insurance can provide, it may be an ideal way for you to transfer wealth to future generations efficiently:

- You use a small percentage of your assets to pay your life insurance premiums, purchasing death benefit coverage.
- When you die, the death benefit is paid to beneficiaries free of federal estate and income taxes. (Please note that without proper planning, the death benefit becomes part of your taxable estate.*)
- Your heirs can use the proceeds to pay your estate settlement costs and other expenses.

In general, your life insurance premiums are a small sacrifice now that can help protect your estate later. When you compare it to other funding options, such as borrowing money or liquidating high-yield assets, life insurance can help preserve the legacy you've built for your family's future.

*Edward Jones, its employees and financial advisors are not estate planners and cannot provide tax or legal advice. You should consult with a qualified tax specialist or attorney regarding your specific situation.

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