Issued by Midland National® Life Insurance Company

Annuity



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Financial roadmap for unexpected life events

Dealing with death, divorce, and disability

EMPLOYEE OWNED

Navigating the road ahead

From the joyous to the tragic, major life events can impact your finances in expected and sometimes unexpected ways. While we can't cover everything that may need to be addressed in your individual circumstances, we've listed some considerations you may wish to discuss with your financial professional, lawyer, or tax advisor to determine how they apply to your situation.

Death of a spouse or long-time partner

While healing is a personal journey with many steps, your financial professional can be a helpful resource when it's time to review – and potentially revise – your retirement and other financial plans. Even the smallest adjustment to your plans can play a significant role in helping you reach your goals.

Key actions and considerations		
Employer-based retirement plans	• **Gather statements:** Collect current plan details for both you and your spouse. • **Consider rollover to IRA:** If funds aren't needed right away, a rollover may offer tax advantages. • **Adjust deferrals:** Modify contributions if you had joint savings goals or income changes.	Notes
Life insurance	• **Review and file claims:** Notify insurers, including any through your partner's employer. Forms available at MidlandNational.com. • **Search for unknown policies:** Use online databases or contact your state insurance commissioner if no documentation is found. • **Update your own policies:** Change beneficiaries if your spouse was listed. Consider setting up a trust for minor children with legal and tax guidance.	Notes
Annuities	• **Claim available death benefits:** You may receive the remaining account value. Forms are available at MidlandNational.com. • **Consider spousal continuance:** If you're the beneficiary or joint owner, you may be able to continue the contract under a spousal continuance provision. Since the contract is not being surrendered, surrender charges generally do not apply. • **Confirm changes to payouts:** If you are now the sole owner or receiving joint payouts, ask your financial professional to assess how this impacts your overall income. • **Update and review beneficiaries:** Make changes to beneficiaries as needed. Consult a tax advisor for income or tax implications.	Notes
Social Security	• **Confirm death notification:** The funeral home usually reports a death, but call 800-772-1213 to confirm. • **Apply for survivor benefits:** If your spouse worked 10+ years, you may qualify. Eligibility may vary. • **Request $255 one-time payment:** This is available to surviving spouses under certain conditions.[1]	Notes
Investments	• **Identify all holdings:** Learn about any previously unknown accounts or assets. • **Reassess portfolio:** Review goals and risk tolerance with your financial professional. • **Secure documentation:** Keep stock certificates or ownership records handy.	Notes
Other insurance	• **Secure health coverage:** Use Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act (COBRA) if you lose access and need temporary insurance. • **Review Medicare status:** Your eligibility is based on your age and remains unchanged. • **Consider disability income coverage:** With one income, you may want protection in case of future illness or injury.	Notes

Divorce or separation

When it comes to your family's retirement plan, your financial professional can bring to light important financial considerations and decisions you may face after a divorce or separation of a long-term relationship. Factors such as your age, years until retirement, and current retirement savings will impact whether minor tweaks or major changes are needed to help you stay on track with your goals.

Key actions and considerations		
Employer-based retirement plans	• **Gather recent account statements:** Include both you and your ex-partner's plans. • **Adjust deferral amounts:** If joint savings were in place, modify contributions to match your new goals. • **Review beneficiaries:** Update them regardless of divorce decree language to avoid confusion. • **Consider a trust for minor children:** Especially if they could inherit a large sum. You may want to use a trust attorney and tax advisor, not just your divorce lawyer.	Notes
Life insurance	• **Review beneficiary designations:** Review and update beneficiary designations in accordance with your divorce decree and applicable state law. Consult a legal professional if required to maintain coverage for support obligations. • **Assess coverage needs:** If children or alimony are involved, evaluate whether you or your ex-spouse should maintain coverage for financial protection. • **Consider policy ownership and payment responsibility:** Clarify who will own and pay for existing policies, especially if required by the divorce settlement. • **Consider a trust for minor children:** A trust can ensure life insurance proceeds are managed for the benefit of minor children. You may want to use a trust attorney and tax advisor, not just your divorce lawyer.	Notes

Retirement accounts and income	• **Review beneficiaries:** Update IRA, Roth, and 401(k) beneficiaries to reflect your post-divorce wishes. • **Assess post-divorce income needs:** You may need to revise how you draw from your retirement savings to support two households. • **Check Social Security[2] eligibility as a divorced spouse:** If you were married at least 10 years, you may be entitled to benefits on your ex's record. • **Consult a tax advisor:** Roth and traditional accounts have different withdrawal tax rules. Understand the implications before withdrawing or restructuring. • **Review asset allocation:** Work with a financial professional to align your retirement savings and income strategy with your new goals.	Notes
Annuities	• **Review beneficiaries:** Make updates based on your current wishes. • **Understand contract terms:** Determine whether the annuity is eligible for division under your divorce settlement, and to understand any associated surrender charges, tax consequences, or ownership restrictions. • **Reevaluate impact on retirement strategy:** Have your financial professional review potential effects on future income. • **Consult a tax advisor:** Understand any tax implications of dividing or withdrawing funds.	Notes
Investments (stocks, mutual funds)	• **Identify all holdings:** Get familiar with any accounts you didn't previously manage. • **Reassess alignment with goals and risk tolerance:** Work with a financial professional to discuss. • **Understand liquidity and withdrawal impacts:** Unlike retirement products, some assets may be more accessible, but others could still trigger penalties.	Notes
Other insurance	• **Secure health insurance coverage:** If coverage was through your ex-spouse's plan, consider COBRA, a new employer plan, or marketplace options. • **Consider disability income insurance:** With reduced household income, protecting your earning potential can become more important. • **Review long-term care or supplemental insurance:** If you relied on a joint policy or shared premium costs, determine what adjustments are needed.	Notes

Sudden disability

Adjusting to an unexpected disability – whether temporary or long-term – can have a profound impact on your financial situation. This season may require both immediate decisions and long-term planning. Your financial professional can help you evaluate your options and make adjustments that support your current needs while still working toward your future goals.

Key actions and considerations

Employer-based retirement plans	• **Review access to funds:** You may qualify for a hardship withdrawal or disability exception but be mindful of penalties and taxes. • **Explore rollover or consolidation options:** If you're leaving the workforce, consider rolling assets into an IRA or simplifying accounts. • **Update beneficiaries:** Health changes can be a good prompt to review designations.	Notes
Life insurance	• **Review beneficiaries and coverage needs:** Consider whether current coverage still meets your family's financial protection needs. • **Use living benefits if available:** Some policies offer accelerated death benefits for terminal illness or critical conditions.	Notes
Social Security	• **Evaluate Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) eligibility:** If under retirement age, SSDI may offer monthly benefits if you meet the work and medical requirements. • **Consider how disability affects future retirement benefits:** If you qualify for SSDI, your disability benefit generally converts to your retirement benefit at full retirement age with no change in amount. However, early disability can affect overall retirement income planning.	Notes
Investments	• **Reassess liquidity and income generation:** You may need to shift toward more accessible or income-producing assets. • **Review with a financial advisor:** Make adjustments to match your new cash flow needs and risk tolerance.	Notes
Other insurance	• **File a claim if you have disability insurance coverage:** Short-term or long-term disability benefits may replace a portion of your income. • **Understand terms and timelines of your disability insurance:** Look at elimination periods, maximum benefit durations, and income replacement percentages. • **Confirm ongoing health insurance coverage:** If you're unable to work, COBRA or a spouse's plan may offer continuity. Medicaid or marketplace plans could be options depending on income. • **Understand what's covered under your health insurance:** Review deductibles, co-pays, prescription benefits, and coverage limits.	Notes



Each of these life events brings its own set of unknowns and emotional challenges.

When you are ready, your financial professional can help bring certainty and clarity during this time of transition.

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Neither Midland National, nor any agents acting on its behalf, should be viewed as providing legal, tax or investment advice. Consult with and rely on your own qualified advisor.

This is a general summary that can be used when considering your financial future at various life stages. The information presented is for educational purposes only and is meant to help supplement additional information specific to your situation.

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1. "If you are the survivor," Social Security Administration, https://www.ssa.gov/planners/survivors/ifyou.html

2. "Do You Qualify for Social Security Spouse's Benefits?" Social Security Matters, https://blog.ssa.gov/do-you-qualify-for-social-security-spouses-benefits-2/

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