

You Can't Take it With You: Be Sure to Check Your Beneficiaries Today!

Periodically you want to touch all your financial bases to make sure that the information you have on record still reflects your current choices. One of those bases is your choice of insurance beneficiary. Frequently this choice is made when you are hired. But if your life has changed since then, a marriage, divorce, etc., the choice you made when you were hired may not be appropriate for you now. Please take a few minutes to check the beneficiaries of your retirement plans and insurance policies to make sure that your assets will be disbursed in the event of your death in keeping with your current wishes.

Below is a handy chart of contact information to assist you in your beneficiary review. Please call the vendors directly as HR & Payroll as your latest beneficiary information is with them.

Name of Vendor	Contact Information	Link to Form
Life Insurance: Virginia Retirement System	1-888-VARETIR (827-3847) www.varetire.org	http://www.varetire.org/Pdf/Forms/vrs-2.pdf
Life Insurance: Lincoln Financial (Formerly Jefferson Pilot)	1-800-450-3067 https://www.lfg.com	http://www.lfg.com/lfg/la/DownloadLL/Annuities/JPF-00062.pdf
Retirement Vendors: TIAA-CREF	1-800 842 2252 http://www.tiaa-cref.org	http://www.tiaa-cref.org/support/forms/topics/benchange/Designation_of_Benef.html
Retirement Vendors: Fidelity Investments	1-800-544-6666 http://.fidelity.com	https://www.mysavingsatwork.com/atwork.htm
Retirement Vendors: GreatWest Investments	1-866-226-6682 https://vadcp.gwrs.com/login.do	http://www.fascore.com/PDF/vadcp/457_401a_combo_beneficiary.pdf

The bottom line

It's just a simple line on a page, that signature line, for naming a beneficiary, and subsequent contingent beneficiaries if the one named first is no longer alive. But it's a very powerful tool for ensuring that your wishes are upheld after your death. Usually, it's easy to change the beneficiary on an insurance policy or retirement-plan account. Many companies don't even require a notarized signature. So check your accounts for beneficiary designations right away. You don't want to leave your money to your least-liked relative -- your Uncle Sam!