



# BENEFICIARY DESIGNATION

One of the simplest ways to give is by naming the University as a beneficiary of a **retirement plan, life insurance policy, or financial account**. You can designate the University as a primary, contingent, or cobeneficiary.

**i** If you are married, you need a **spousal consent** form to name anyone other than your spouse as the death beneficiary of your 401(k) or pension plan.

## BENEFITS

**Flexible:** You can change your beneficiary designation at any time.

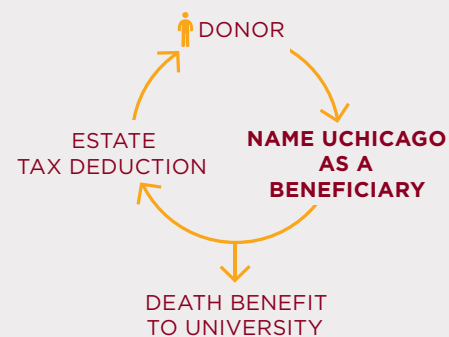
**Revocable:** You remain in control of your assets during your lifetime.

**Tax deductible:** You avoid or reduce estate and income taxes.

**i** Beneficiary designation forms **override wills and living trusts**, so be sure to name contingent or secondary beneficiaries as well.

## HOW IT WORKS

- 1**  
You request a beneficiary designation form from your plan custodian, insurance agent, or bank branch.
- 2**  
You designate the University as a beneficiary.
- 3**  
Your gift is distributed to the University upon your death.



**“The College just gets better and better, and I wanted to be part of that. My wealth is principally my retirement assets, so that’s where I thought it would make sense to designate the College as a beneficiary.”**

—Barbra Goering, AB’74, JD’77

## LEARN MORE

Visit [giftplanning.uchicago.edu/beneficiary](https://giftplanning.uchicago.edu/beneficiary).



Office of  
Gift Planning