

# Maintain your estate assets with an irrevocable life insurance trust

An irrevocable life insurance trust (ILIT) is a trust created to own life insurance outside your estate. If it is drafted and administered properly, the death benefit from the policy is not subject to income or estate taxes upon your (and your spouse's) deaths.

## An ILIT is an ideal strategy for people who:

- Have high net worth.
- Are in blended marriages.
- Live in states with a state death tax.
- Have large illiquid assets such as businesses, farms or qualified plans.

### Benefits

- May reduce both federal and state estate taxes by taking death benefit proceeds out of your estate.
- Provides liquidity at death to pay estate taxes or increase what your beneficiaries receive.
- Allows professional management of trust assets.
- Protects the trust assets from beneficiaries' creditors.
- Allows an independent trustee (such as a corporate trustee) absolute discretion to make distributions to the beneficiaries.

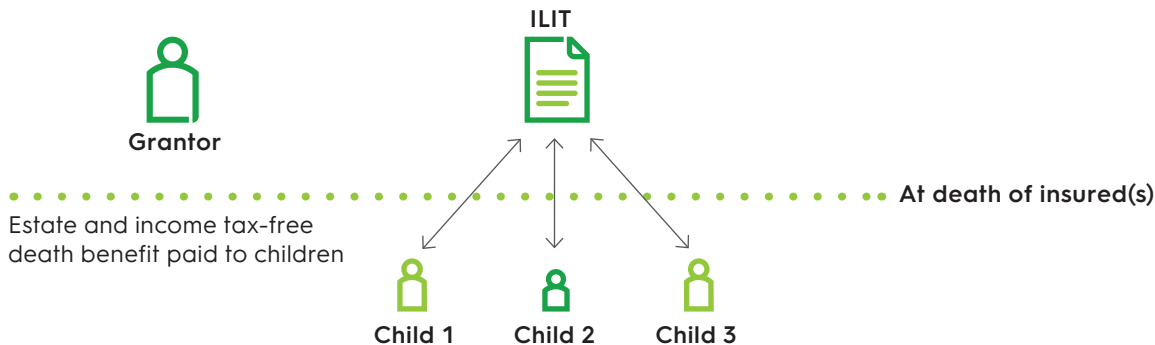
### Considerations

- Desired annual life insurance premium may be higher than annual exclusion gifts.
- The grantor cannot terminate the ILIT once it is established.
- If circumstances change, the grantor is not able to change the terms of the trust after it is established.
- Assets in an ILIT are not available for the grantor's access or use.
- Transfers of assets to an ILIT may only be used for the benefit of trust beneficiaries.

## How an ILIT works

- An ILIT is an irrevocable trust funded with life insurance.
- Because the policy is inside the trust, the death benefit is taken out of the estate.
- Typically, the grantor annually gifts the amount of the policy's premium to the trustee.
  - The trustee notifies the beneficiaries that they have an option to withdraw this gift from the trustee.
  - This process qualifies the gift for the grantor's gift tax annual exclusion.
  - Generally, beneficiaries do not exercise their withdrawal right, and the gifted amount is used by the trustee to pay premiums.
- In addition, there may be other methods to fund the ILIT.

## Irrevocable life insurance trust



## Put the future in your hands

Securian Financial's products and services can help you preserve your legacy for generations to come. Your financial professional can help you find customized life insurance solutions for your estate. For more information about ILITs, talk to your financial professional today.

Please keep in mind that the primary reason to purchase a life insurance product is the death benefit.

Life insurance products contain charges, such as Cost of Insurance Charge, Cash Extra Charge, and Additional Agreements Charge (which we refer to as mortality charges), and Premium Charge, Monthly Policy Charge, Policy Issue Charge, Transaction Charge, Index Segment Charge, and Surrender Charge (which we refer to as expense charges). These charges may increase over time, and the policies may contain restrictions, such as surrender periods. Policyholders could lose money in these products.

In some states, laws define spouse to also include a domestic or civil union partner.

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