



# The benefits of estate planning

## One of the many benefits of your Legal Plan

Seventy percent of Americans don't have a will<sup>1</sup>, the most basic estate planning document you need to protect your assets and your family's future.

If you have assets you wish to leave behind, want to take control of healthcare decisions, or if you have young children, you should consider what estate planning documents you need.

There are several components to an estate plan that are covered with your legal plan:

**Will:** A will ensures that your property will be distributed and your family will be cared for exactly as you wish. Without a will, the courts may decide how your property is distributed.

**Living Trust:** A living trust allows you to distribute your assets and property while you are still alive, and may reduce the amount of taxes you may have to pay.

**Living Will:** This document specifies the types of medical treatments you want in the event that you become unable to express those wishes directly. A living will not only ensures that you get the care you want, but protects your loved ones from making difficult decisions on your behalf.

**Durable Power of Attorney:** In the event you become incapacitated, this document allows you to designate someone you trust to make decisions on your behalf.

**Probate Avoidance Documents:** Keep your home out of the probate process and have it pass directly to the beneficiaries of your choosing with either a transfer on death deed or revocable living trust, depending on your state.

You can meet with an attorney to discuss your estate plan and have them prepare the documents you need, or you can use our digital estate planning service to complete wills, living wills and powers of attorney online in as little as 15 minutes.

### The cost savings

Covered services	Without a legal plan	With a legal plan
Wills for employee and spouse	\$782	\$0 out of pocket
Living trust	\$1,955	\$0 out of pocket
Living will	\$391	\$0 out of pocket
Durable power of attorney	\$391	\$0 out of pocket
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$3,519<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>\$240 per year<sup>3</sup></b>

### Potential savings

**\$3,279**

### Consider this scenario<sup>4</sup>

*My spouse and I decided it was time to do our estate planning. Our attorney in San Francisco made the process easy. He listened to us, what we wanted and made great recommendations on how we can best plan for the future. He explained in simple language all the documents that we were signing.*



Even if you only use the legal plan once in a year, the plan will likely pay for itself. MetLife Legal Plans also provides coverage for many other personal legal matters — such as real estate, civil litigation defense and identity theft.



To learn more about your coverages and see our attorney network, create an account at [members.legalplans.com](https://members.legalplans.com) or call **800-821-6400**.

1. CARAVAN survey conducted by ENGINE on behalf of MetLife Legal Plans, January 2020
2. Prices based on the average amount of hours it would take, using the average hourly rate of \$391.00 based on years of legal experience, National Law Journal and ALM Legal Intelligence, Survey of Law Firm Economics (2021).
3. Cost may vary. This cost is based on an average monthly rate for MetLife Legal Plans of \$20.
4. For illustrative purposes only and not based on a true story.

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Group legal plans are administered by MetLife Legal Plans, Inc., Cleveland, Ohio. In California, this entity operates under the name MetLife Legal Insurance Services. In certain states, group legal plans are provided through insurance coverage underwritten by Metropolitan General Insurance Company, Warwick, RI. For costs and complete details of the coverage, call or write the company. Some services not available in all states. No service, including consultations, will be provided for: 1) employment-related matters, including company or statutory benefits; 2) matters involving the employer, MetLife and affiliates and plan attorneys; 3) matters in which there is a conflict of interest between the employee and spouse or dependents in which case services are excluded for the spouse and dependents; 4) appeals and class actions; 5) farm and business matters, including rental issues when the participant is the landlord; 6) patent, trademark and copyright matters; 7) costs and fines; 8) frivolous or unethical matters; 9) matters for which an attorney client relationship exists prior to the participant becoming eligible for plan benefits. Coverage for defense of criminal matters is excluded from insurance coverage for individuals located in New York. For all other personal legal matters, an advice and consultation benefit is provided. Additional representation is also included for certain matters. Please see your plan description for details.