



Maryland Estate Planning Resources

Knowing where to turn for reliable information can make difficult situations easier to navigate. This guide brings together trusted Maryland resources to help you find information about estate planning, probate, and related services.

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Build Your Family Library

This guide is part of a growing series designed to help Maryland families understand estate planning, probate, and important decisions—one topic at a time.

- ☐ Understanding the Orphans' Court
- ☐ Your Family Information Organizer
- ☐ The First Week After the Loss of a Loved One
- ☐ Planning for Illness and Incapacity
- ☐ What Happens If There Isn't a Will?
- ☒ Maryland Estate Planning Resources & Glossary

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Download the complete Family Guide Library, updated editions, and additional educational resources.

Important Note

This guide is provided for educational purposes only and is not legal advice. Maryland law may change, and every family's circumstances are unique. Please consult an attorney or other qualified professional regarding your specific situation.



If I Have This Question, Where Do I Go?

Families often know they need help but do not know which office, organization, or professional to call. This guide provides a starting point. It connects common questions with reliable Talbot County, Upper Eastern Shore, and Maryland resources.

You do not need to understand every legal term before asking for help. Begin with the question you are trying to answer, and use the resource listed as a first call—not necessarily the only call.

Planning Ahead

I need to make or update a will.

Begin with: A qualified Maryland estate planning attorney.

An attorney can explain how Maryland law applies to your family, property, and wishes. If cost is a concern, Maryland Legal Aid or Shore Legal Access may be able to provide help or direct you to an appropriate program.

I need a Durable Financial Power of Attorney or advance directive.

Begin with: An estate planning or elder law attorney.

These documents serve different purposes. An attorney can help make sure they work together and reflect your wishes. A health care professional can help answer medical questions connected with an advance directive.

My aging parent needs help remaining safely at home.

Begin with: Maryland Access Point through Upper Shore Aging.

Maryland Access Point connects older adults, people with disabilities, caregivers, and families with local programs, in-home services, benefits information, and long-term-care resources.

I have questions about long-term care or Medicaid planning.

Begin with: Maryland Access Point and, when legal planning is involved, an elder law attorney.

Maryland Access Point can explain available programs and services. An elder law attorney can provide legal advice about Medicaid, long-term-care planning, assets, and documents.

I am concerned about dementia or a loved one's ability to make decisions.

Begin with: A healthcare professional and an elder law attorney.

Capacity is a medical and legal issue. A diagnosis alone does not automatically mean that someone needs a guardian. Begin with appropriate medical evaluation and seek legal advice before making major changes or starting a guardianship case.

