



Structured Capital Strategies[®], Structured Capital Strategies[®] PLUS Structured Capital Strategies[®] PLUS Guard and Structured Capital Strategies[®] Income Claim to Annuity Contract Benefits — Instructions Guide

**Use This Form for Contract Owner's Deaths Occurring On or After January 1, 2020
For Contract Owner's Deaths Occurring Prior to January 1, 2020 Use Form # 148724**

How to Begin

Before you submit your claim for processing, it would be helpful to locate the annuity contract, account statements, confirmation notices or correspondence about this contract. Within all death claim forms, the word "contract" also applies to "certificates under a group contract." These items can help identify the type of annuity contract owned by the deceased and which distribution options may be available to you. If you cannot easily find these items, just call us at 1-800-789-7771 and we will provide the information from our records. Your financial professional may also be able to provide some needed information about the contract. Your distribution options can vary depending on the type and structure of the contract (Non-Qualified, Qualified Plan, Traditional IRA, or Roth IRA) and your relationship to the deceased. In this form, we use the term "contract proceeds" to refer to the distribution amount (death benefit, account value, cash value) payable under the contract. Please read *Things to Consider* on page 2 for more information on your available choices.

Please note: Your distribution election, and its tax consequences, cannot be changed once a payment has been made to you. We strongly recommend that you consult with a tax advisor before you request a distribution.

Please Note: Many of our beneficiaries are "U.S. persons", so we provide Form W-9. Read the instructions to the Form W-9 provided and fill it out, or, if the IRS Form W-9 cannot be provided because the beneficiary is not a "U.S. person", the beneficiary should provide us with the appropriate version of IRS Form W-8 which applies to their status.

Each beneficiary claiming benefits must complete additional forms needed for the distribution option(s) selected. Plus, special kinds of beneficiaries (i.e., a minor, trust, estate, partnership, corporation or non-U.S. citizen) are required to provide additional information. Also, depending on the deceased's state of residence, and the beneficiary's relationship to the deceased, a special tax form may need to be submitted before a death claim can be paid. Beneficiaries should call (800) 789-7771 before submitting a claim to check if such a form is needed in their situation.

Payout Options

Lump Sum Distribution. You can choose to receive the entire amount or a portion of the contract proceeds in a check payable to you. This option is available for *any beneficiary* and can be used in combination with other options that may be available to you. Your distribution will be taxable to you in the year it is paid. To elect this option, please complete the *Structured Capital Strategies[®], Structured Capital Strategies[®] PLUS, Structured Capital Strategies[®] PLUS Guard and Structured Capital Strategies[®] Income Lump Sum Distribution form*. This is the only available option for entity beneficiaries.

Spousal Contract Continuation Option. You may be eligible to continue the contract as the successor owner if you are the sole primary beneficiary of your deceased spouse's contract or you jointly owned the contract with your deceased spouse and the Return of Premium death benefit was not elected. For additional information please refer to the *Structured Capital Strategies[®], Structured Capital Strategies[®] PLUS, Structured Capital Strategies[®] PLUS Guard and Structured Capital Strategies[®] Income Spousal Contract Continuation form* that must be completed if you wish to elect this option.

Spousal Benefit Rollover. Spousal beneficiaries can generally roll over benefits to a Traditional IRA in their name. Please speak to your financial professional for more information. To elect this option, please complete the *Structured Capital Strategies[®], Structured Capital Strategies[®] PLUS, Structured Capital Strategies[®] PLUS Guard and Structured Capital Strategies[®] Income Spousal Rollover Acknowledgement form*.

Beneficiary Continuation Option (BCO). If you are an individual beneficiary of a Non-Qualified, Traditional IRA or Roth IRA contract, you may elect the BCO to keep amounts invested in the Contract while you take any payments required after the Contract owner's death. The requirements for choosing this option depend on the type of contract owned by the deceased and for IRA contracts, when the deceased died. Please read and complete the applicable series *Inherited Annuity Beneficiary Continuation Option (BCO) for NQ form* for a NQ contract or the applicable series *Inherited IRA Beneficiary Continuation Option (BCO) form* for a Traditional or Roth IRA contract. For all types of IRA contracts, only specified individuals who are "eligible designated beneficiaries" or "EDBs" may stretch post-death payments over the beneficiary's life expectancy. Individual beneficiaries who do not have EDB status must take out any remaining interest in the IRA within 10 years of the death. Trusts for individuals which would be considered as "see-through" trusts under the rules prior to January 1, 2020 no longer qualify to elect the beneficiary continuation option, except under narrowly defined circumstances. Also for NQ contracts, refer to the payment comparison on page 3 for more information on your available choices.

Non-Spousal Contract Continuation Option (5-year rule). Only available for NQ Contracts. This option is available to you under the *Beneficiary Continuation Option (BCO)* discussed above and also applies automatically – no form is required to elect this option – if a Non-Qualified contract was jointly owned by you and someone who was not your spouse. By law, we are required to make full payment of the contract's proceeds by the fifth anniversary of the joint owner's death. You may choose to continue the contract as sole owner until this fifth contract anniversary. If you keep the contract past the fifth anniversary Equitable will send you a Form 1099-R for the fifth anniversary value deemed distribution.

Settlement Option Election For Annuity Benefits. For NQ contracts, you may apply the contract proceeds to any of the annuity payout options we currently offer. The payout options provide periodic payments for as long as you live or for a specified period. Depending on the payout option you select, the payments may be fixed or variable. (You may contact your financial professional for a personalized quote.) This option can be used in combination with a lump sum distribution or any of the above options. To elect this option, please complete the *Structured Capital Strategies[®], Structured Capital Strategies[®] PLUS, Structured Capital Strategies[®] PLUS Guard and Structured Capital Strategies[®] Income Settlement Option Election for Annuity Benefits form*.

Things to Consider

For ALL Contracts without the Return of Premium Death Benefit:

For contracts owned by a single owner or a non-natural owner with a single annuitant, the death benefit amount is payable upon the death of the owner or annuitant, as applicable. If the contract is jointly owned, the death benefit is payable upon the death of the older joint owner. At the death of the younger joint owner, the surviving owner can choose to apply the account value or cash value (depending on the option selected) to any of the currently available distribution options. The surviving joint owner replaces any pre-existing beneficiary(ies) of the contract.

For SCS PLUS and SCS Income Contracts with the Return of Premium Death Benefit ONLY:

For contracts owned by a single owner or a non-natural owner with a single annuitant, the death benefit amount is payable upon the death of the original owner or annuitant, as applicable. If the contract is jointly owned, the death benefit is payable upon the death of the second owner. Upon the death of the first owner the contract will automatically continue. If applicable, the surviving spouse will either become the new annuitant (if the deceased spouse was the original annuitant) or become the sole annuitant (If the contract had joint annuitants).

The death benefit amount is equal to the account value, as of the date we receive satisfactory proof of the owner's (or older joint owner's, if applicable) death, any required instructions for the method of payment, forms necessary to effect payment and any other information we may require.

Once we have received notice of the Owner's death, we will not make any transfers from Segment Type Holding Accounts to Segments. Amounts in the Segment Holding Accounts will be defaulted into the EQ/Money Market variable investment option. When Segments mature, the Segment Maturity Value will be transferred to the EQ/Money Market variable investment option.

Please note that annuity benefit payout options and BCO are either not available or are limited for beneficiaries which are not individuals (such as trusts).

For Same-Sex Spouses: The determination of spousal status is made under applicable state law. However, in the event of a conflict between federal and state law regarding the determination of spousal status, we follow federal rules.

Deceased was the Sole Owner (All Contract types)	
Beneficiary is not owner's spouse:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">You can take your death benefit in a lump sum.For NQ and IRA contracts only, you can elect BCO. Please read the Terms and Conditions on each of the Inherited Beneficiary Continuation Option (BCO) forms for more information.For NQ contracts only, You can continue the contract for up to five years. You also have the option to withdraw amounts from the contract before the five-year period is over by completing the <i>Withdrawal Request form</i>.For NQ contracts, you can apply the death benefit to an annuity benefit payout option over your life. For IRA and QP contracts, you have to be an "eligible designated beneficiary" defined under Section 401(a)(9)(E)(ii) of the Internal Revenue Code to elect an annuity payout option. (Payments to you begin when the Supplementary contract is issued and remaining payments follow according to the payment frequency selected.)
Beneficiary is surviving spouse of owner:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">You can take your death benefit in a lump sum.If you are the sole primary beneficiary you can elect to become Successor Owner and keep the contract in-force under Spousal Contract Continuation; no payments from the contract are required while you are alive. (NQ and IRA contracts only)For NQ and IRA contracts only, you can elect BCO.If the contract is a traditional IRA or Qualified Plan, you may roll over the death benefit into your own traditional IRA or other eligible retirement plan.If the contract is a Roth IRA, you may roll over the death benefit into your own Roth IRA.You can apply the death benefit to an annuity benefit payout option over your life. (Payments to you begin within one year after the owner's death.)

Deceased was the older Joint Owner of the Contract	
Surviving Owner is not the spouse:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">You can take your death benefit in a lump sum.You can apply the death benefit to an annuity benefit payout option over your life. (Payments to you begin within one year after the owner's death.)You can elect BCO.You can continue the contract for up to five years. You also have the option to withdraw amounts from the contract before the five-year period is over by completing the <i>Withdrawal Request form</i>.
Surviving Owner is the spouse:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">You can take your death benefit in a lump sum.You can apply the death benefit to an annuity benefit payout option over your life. (Payments to you begin within one year after the owner's death.)You can elect BCO.You can keep the contract in-force under Spousal Contract Continuation; no payments from the contract are required while you are alive. Details of this option can be found in the Spousal Continuation form.

Things to Consider

Deceased was the Younger Joint Owner of the Contract	
Surviving Owner is not the spouse:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • You can surrender the contract and receive a lump sum payment of the cash value. • You can apply the account value or cash value to an annuity benefit payout option over your life. (Payments to you begin within one year after the owner's death.) • You can elect BCO. • You can continue the contract for up to five years. You also have the option to withdraw amounts from the contract before the five-year period is over by completing the <i>Withdrawal Request form</i>.
Surviving Owner is the spouse:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • You can become the sole owner and continue the contract with the same benefits. If your deceased spouse was the annuitant of the contract, you become the new annuitant. • You can surrender the contract and receive a lump sum payment of the cash value. • You can apply the account value or cash value to an annuity benefit payout option over your life. (Payments to you begin within one year after the owner's death.) • You can elect BCO.

How is NQ BCO Election with Scheduled Stretch-Out Payments Any Different from an Annuity Benefit Payout Option?

	NQ BCO Scheduled Stretch-out Payments	Annuity Benefit Payout Option
Payment Start Date:	Payments must begin within one year of the deceased owner's death.	Payments to you begin when the Supplementary contract is issued.
Payment Frequency:	Payments must be made at least annually.	Payments must be made at least annually.
Amount Applied to Payments:	Beneficiary's share of Death Benefit or Annuity Account Value (as applicable).	Beneficiary's share of Death Benefit, Annuity Account Value or cash value (as applicable). In certain cases, tax charges or contract fees may also apply.
Term of Payments:	<p>NQ BCO scheduled stretch-out payments are always made over a set period based on your life expectancy in the year payments start.</p> <p>If you die before the entire amount of your BCO interest (i.e., your portion of the Annuity Account Value of the deceased owner's contract) is distributed to you, we will pay any remaining amount to your estate, unless you name a beneficiary for any remaining BCO interest at your death.</p>	<p>Annuity Benefits are paid out over your life (even if you live longer than your life expectancy).</p> <p>Generally, no lump sum amounts will be payable to your estate or your beneficiary when you die. If you choose an annuity benefit option with a period certain, and you die before the period certain has elapsed, payments will continue to your beneficiary until the end of the period.</p>
Investment Flexibility:	Funds remain invested in the investment options you choose and you may have more flexibility to transfer among the investment options than if you select an Annuity Benefit Payout Option.	Although we offer variable Annuity Benefits, the BCO scheduled stretch-out payment may offer more flexibility and investment choices.
Accelerate Payments:	If you choose the NQ BCO scheduled stretch-out payment option, you can always terminate the arrangement by surrendering the contract and you can make additional withdrawals at any time.	Your ability to terminate the payments is limited according to the selected payout option.

Please review the tax treatment of all these choices carefully in the *"Equitable Beneficiary Guide"* booklet before you make your choice.

Claims Involving a Minor Beneficiary

If a minor child is designated as a beneficiary of annuity contract, the insurance company cannot pay money to the minor child because a minor cannot receive or control proceeds. In most jurisdictions, state law determines when a minor child is entitled to receive the proceeds. Depending on the state and the amount of proceeds that are payable, the company will pay the proceeds to a court-appointed guardian of the estate of the minor or if the amount payable is less than a certain amount, the company may be able to pay the proceeds to an adult member of the minor child's family. Please call our Customer Service hotline for assistance with payments involving minor beneficiaries.

Generally, if the proceeds are payable to a minor, we will require 1) documentation that a Guardian of the Estate of the Minor has been appointed by the court and 2) a certified copy of the order appointing the Guardian of the Estate of the Minor is **required** to pay a minor beneficiary.

If the death benefit that is payable is less than the threshold amount mandated by the State of the minor's residence payment may be made to the adult member of the minor's family. In that case, we will accept a notarized statement signed by both parents as natural guardian with a copy of the minor's birth certificate. Payment will be made to the adult member of the minor beneficiary's family as custodian pursuant to the applicable state Uniform Transfer to Minor's Act ("UTMA") provided the total amount of the minor's estate does not exceed the amount mandated by the State where the minor resides. In most states, presuming that the grantor has not designated a different age, an UTMA custodian will be required to turn the proceeds over to the child at an age specified by law between the ages of 18 and 25. If a minor beneficiary wants to elect the BCO, please read the Terms and Conditions on the Inherited IRA Beneficiary Continuation Option (BCO) Form for more information. Structured Capital Strategies® Form number 162152, Structured Capital Strategies® PLUS Form number 162153, Structured Capital Strategies® PLUS Guard Form number 162154, and Structured Capital Strategies® Income Form number 164176.

Where to Mail Your Claim

Your completed documents should be mailed to Equitable at the following address: **Regular**

Mail:

Equitable
Retirement Service Solutions
P.O. Box 1016
Charlotte, NC 28201-1016

Express Mail:

Equitable
Retirement Service Solutions
8501 IBM Dr, Suite 150-IR
Charlotte NC 28262-4333

Be sure to include the following items:

- a. A certified death certificate, with raised seal or colored stamp from the issuing authority.
- b. Completed forms required for the distribution options you have selected.
- c. Provide any additional required documents such as tax waivers, guardianship papers, estate documents, etc.

Additional documents may be required depending upon the contract type and beneficiary status. Please call us at (800) 789-7771 to ask whether additional documents are required to process your claim.

Next Steps

Upon receipt of your claim, we'll either distribute your benefits or we'll notify you that additional information is required to process your distribution. Please be assured that we'll make every effort to process your claim quickly and give you access to your funds.

Depending on the distribution option(s) you selected, you can expect to receive any one or more of the following:

<i>If you choose...</i>	<i>You will receive...</i>
Lump Sum Distribution	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• A check for benefits
Settlement Option	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• First payment check• Payout contract• A Direct Deposit form to mail payments to your financial institution, if desired
Spousal Contract Continuation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Confirmation letter
Spousal Benefit Rollover	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Confirmation notice
Beneficiary Continuation Option (BCO)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Confirmation notice and welcome letter
Non-Spousal Contract Continuation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Confirmation notice and letter

Questions?

You can rely on your financial professional to answer your questions or you can call Equitable at (800) 789-7771 or you can visit us at www.equitable.com/beneficiary. We appreciate this opportunity to be of service to you.