

How to Benefit from New Hampshire's Trust Laws

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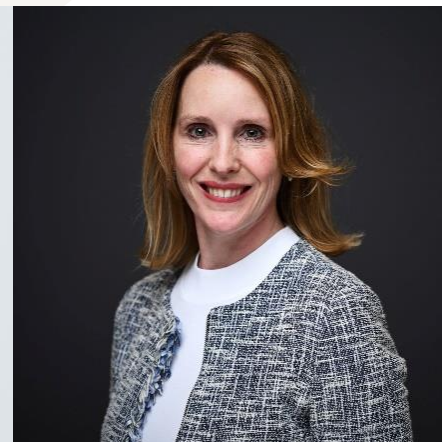
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Fiduciary Trust Overview

Experienced professionals focused on your best interests

- Fiduciary Trust of New England received New Hampshire trust charter in 2014
- Affiliate Fiduciary Trust Company founded in 1885 as a family office
- Serve over 100 third-party advisors across the country
- Private, long-term ownership
- \$34 billion in client assets under supervision
- 98% average annual client retention rate
- Recognized for Best Fiduciary / Trustee Service and Best Estate Planning Advisory Service by *Private Asset Management*



Note: Figures reflect aggregation of Fiduciary Trust Company and Fiduciary Trust of New England. Data as of September 30, 2025.

What Makes Fiduciary Trust Distinctive?

Personal service coupled with extensive expertise



A flexible offering to meet your needs

- Can serve as trustee of trusts established in most states or assist with migration to NH
- Offer delegated and directed trusts where we are responsible for distributions and a third party manages investments
- Can serve as a sole corporate trustee or a co-trustee
- Experienced with complex trusts and illiquid assets



New Hampshire:
Arguably the best trust jurisdiction

- No state income or capital gains tax on irrevocable trusts meeting certain criteria
- Asset protection provisions, Directed Trusts, Quiet Trusts
- Trust modification statute (unique to NH)
- Sustainable investing permitted (one of the few states)



Supported by a top-notch trust and estates legal team

- 12-member legal team; most attorneys having partner-level private practice experience
- Expertise enables us to identify opportunities as trust and tax laws and client circumstances change
- Deep bench enables us to make timely, well-informed distribution decisions



A firm with permanence that you can trust

- 140-year history of serving in a fiduciary capacity for high-net-worth and ultra-high-net-worth families
- Financial strength and stability, as demonstrated by 80+ consecutive years of profitability
- 20+ years average industry experience of professionals
- 98% average annual client retention rate

Note: Information based on Fiduciary Trust of New England, combined with its Massachusetts affiliate, Fiduciary Trust Company

Topics for Discussion

- The key benefits of NH's trust laws, including tax savings, asset protection, perpetual trusts, sustainable investing, and trust modification
- For Financial Advisors: Growing your practice through trust services
- How the One Big Beautiful Bill impacts trusts and estate planning
- Examples of how these trust laws have benefited families

New Hampshire Advantages Overview

No Tax

- No state income tax on accumulated income or capital gains in non-grantor, irrevocable trusts

Progressive Trust Laws

- Perpetual or “dynasty” trusts
- Self-settled domestic asset protection trusts
- Quiet trusts
- Civil law foundations (NH was the first state to allow)
- Private trust companies
- Directed trusts
- Decanting

Administrative Flexibility

- Total return trusts and power to adjust
- Virtual representation
- Sustainable Investing
- Trustee modification by statute without beneficiary consent
- Pre-mortem validation
- Adoption of many Uniform Trust Code elements, including the Principal and Income Act
- Non-judicial settlement agreements

Dispute Resolution

- Dedicated trust court

Tax Benefits of NH Trusts

Non-Grantor Irrevocable Trusts

No NH interest, dividend, or capital gains tax

No NH tax on accumulated income

No NH filing requirement for these trusts, however they are subject to Federal taxation

Distributed income: taxed to the beneficiary according to the rules of their state of residence

Grantor Trusts

Taxed to the donor

Self-Settled Asset Protection Trusts

Guiding Premise: A beneficiary's interest in a trust, even an irrevocable trust established by the donor, is not a property interest

Donor

May be a discretionary beneficiary
May retain a limited power of appointment over the assets

Asset Protection Features

General rule: trust assets are protected from most creditors four years from the date the assets are transferred into the trust, or, for creditors that exist at trust funding, one year after the creditor knew or should have known of the transfer
Exceptions: child support and basic alimony claims
Exception creditors can only attach present or future trust distributions

Trustee

Need not be a NH resident or trust company
However, it is usually helpful to name a NH trustee to solidify a strong nexus with NH and thus limit the number of states in which creditor claims may be brought

Quiet Trusts

Shhh...quiet trusts can preserve privacy

Traditional Trusts

In many states, including NH, under certain circumstances trustees must give beneficiaries notice of:

- A trust's existence
- Trustee names and contact information
- In some cases, additional information such as a copy of the trust document

New Hampshire "Quiet" Trusts

In NH, this default notice rule can be overridden by the trust's terms

A trust instrument can eliminate any part or all of the beneficiary notification requirements and other reporting requirements

Trust must include the terms of giving notice (or lack thereof) in the instrument

The trust can also designate a "notice recipient" to determine who receives notice instead of being required to send notices to the "qualified beneficiaries" otherwise required by statute

Civil Law Foundations: A Vehicle for Global Wealth Management

In 2017, NH became the first state to allow creation of civil law foundations by statute

Overview

Civil law foundations are wealth management vehicles that include features of corporations and limited liability companies, but act like a trust

These structures are utilized in many civil law countries instead of trusts (which are not recognized legal entities in many of those countries) to manage, protect and distribute family wealth

Benefits

Foundations allow assets to be held independently from the founders, directors and beneficiaries

Foundations can exist in perpetuity

A private trust company can be organized as a foundation

Civil law foundations can be a great way for international clients to hold and manage wealth

US Taxation of Foundations

For US tax purposes, a foundation is generally treated as a trust for tax purposes as long as it does not carry on business or commercial activities and its primary purpose is to preserve and manage its assets for its beneficiaries

Directed and Divided Trusts

A truly modern way to administer trusts

Overview

Divided trust: Different fiduciaries carry out tasks without interacting with other fiduciaries

Directed trust: One fiduciary is directed by another to take an action regarding the trust (ex: investment advisor directs the trustee to sign documents)

Benefits

Allows for division of trust administration tasks and responsibilities

Allows for an “open architecture” approach to trust administration

Fiduciaries are only liable for their own responsibilities, so are “excluded” from liability of other fiduciaries (different from a “delegation”)

Examples of Fiduciaries

Trust protectors

Distribution advisors

Trust advisors

Custodian of assets

Investment advisors

Notice recipients

Permitted by Statute

Directed and divided trusts are allowed by NH statute

NH case law further supports directed trusts (Shelton v. Tamposi case)

Total Return Legislation in NH

NH laws support total return investing, which can be valuable in a low-rate environment

Unitrust Conversion

After a trust is converted to a unitrust, "income" includes principal totaling 3-5% of the fair market value of the trust

Power to Adjust

This power allows a trustee to transfer principal to income to allow a total return payout to beneficiaries

A trustee does *not have an affirmative duty* to adjust between income and principal, so cannot be held liable for his or her action or inaction

Pre-Mortem Validation of Trusts

Another feature aligned with carrying out donor intent

Process for Pre-Mortem Validation

By NH statute, a donor may initiate a suit to prove the validity of a trust. This statute is consistent with NH trust law's goal of carrying out donor's intent.

If a donor anticipates a challenge to his or her estate plan, this is a useful tool in confirming the validity of a trust and clarifying the donor's intent.

Additional Limitations on Trust Contests

An action contesting the validity of a trust may not be brought more than:

- Three years after the donor's death
- Three years after certain information is sent to the trust beneficiary
- Three years after certain information, including a copy of the trust, is sent to the potential contestant

Trust Modification Tools

A study in flexibility and efficiency

Decanting by Statute

NH statute allows for transfer of assets from one trust to another trust

In some states there is no statute; reliance on case law instead

Any limits on decanting are reasonable, e.g., cannot add beneficiaries or eliminate beneficiaries with vested interests

New Hampshire allows decanting even if distributions of principal are limited

However, decanting must be consistent with donor intent and not undermine a material purpose of the trust

Statutory Trustee Modification

Allows trustees to amend administrative provisions in trust without beneficiary consent

Reasonable limits on modifications (similar to limits on decanting)

Modifications must be consistent with donor intent

Non-Judicial Settlement Agreements

Allows interested persons to enter into a binding agreement regarding provisions in a trust, including construction of trust terms, termination or modification of a trust

Trust Court

A specialty trust court was established in NH in 2014 to hear only trust litigation cases

Options for Accessing NH's Trust and Tax Advantages

NH trusts are available to grantors and beneficiaries nationwide and globally

Establish a New Trust

- Create a new trust naming a NH trustee and applying NH law to establish NH situs

Change an Existing Trust Situs

- Relocate a trust's situs from another state to NH
- Appoint a NH trustee
- Ability and process for changing situs varies by state and trust terms

Decant a Non-NH Trust to a New NH Trust

- Decant assets from an existing trust to a new NH trust with similar terms
- Ability to decant varies based on trust instrument and applicable state laws, but ideally would decant under NH law, with a NH trustee

-
- A NH trustee (such as Fiduciary Trust of New England) enables access to the NH tax and trust law advantages

One Big Beautiful Bill Act (OBBBA)

Significant Changes to U.S. Tax Code

Gift, Estate and GST Tax Exemptions

- Permanently increases gift, estate and generation-skipping transfer (GST) tax exemption
- \$15 million per person (\$30 million for married couples) beginning in 2026
- Adjusted for inflation beginning in 2027

Qualified Small Business Stock

- Reduces minimum holding period to 3 years (with a 50% and 75% exclusion if held for 3 or 4 years, respectively)
- Increases qualifying C corporation asset limit to \$75 million (up from \$50 million)
- Increases the capital gains exemption cap to \$15 million
- Effective for stock issued on or after July 4, 2025

Misc. Itemized Deductions

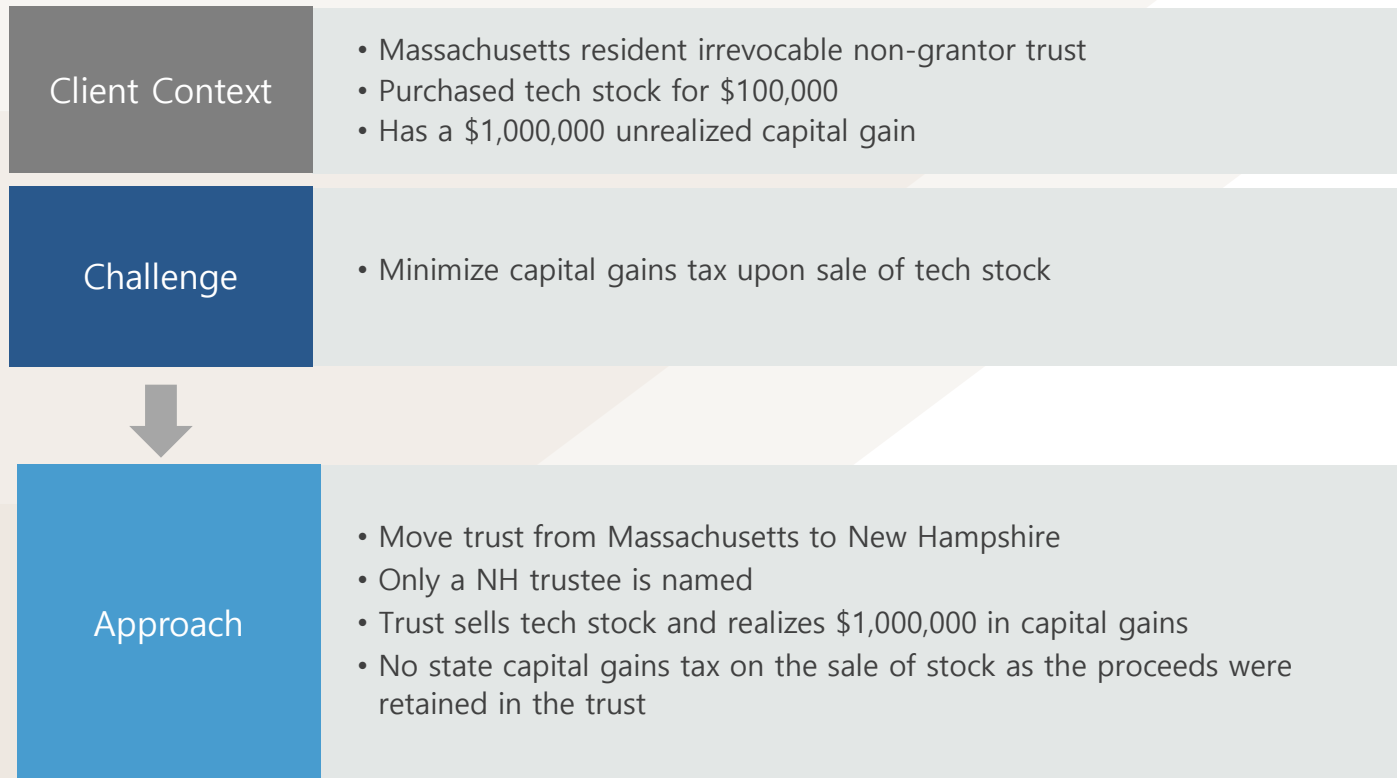
- Set to sunset on December 31, 2025 under the Tax Cut & Jobs Act
- Permanent repeal of Code 212 miscellaneous itemized deductions
- Lender Management v. Commissioner (2017 U.S. Tax Court case)

SALT Deductions

- Increases the SALT deduction cap from \$10,000 to \$40,000 (beginning 2025)
- Phase out for individuals with income over \$500,000
- Cap and the income limit will increase by 1% per year from 2026 through 2029
- Reverts to \$10,000 in 2030
- Pass through entity tax deduction can still be used

Example: Reducing State Tax Exposure

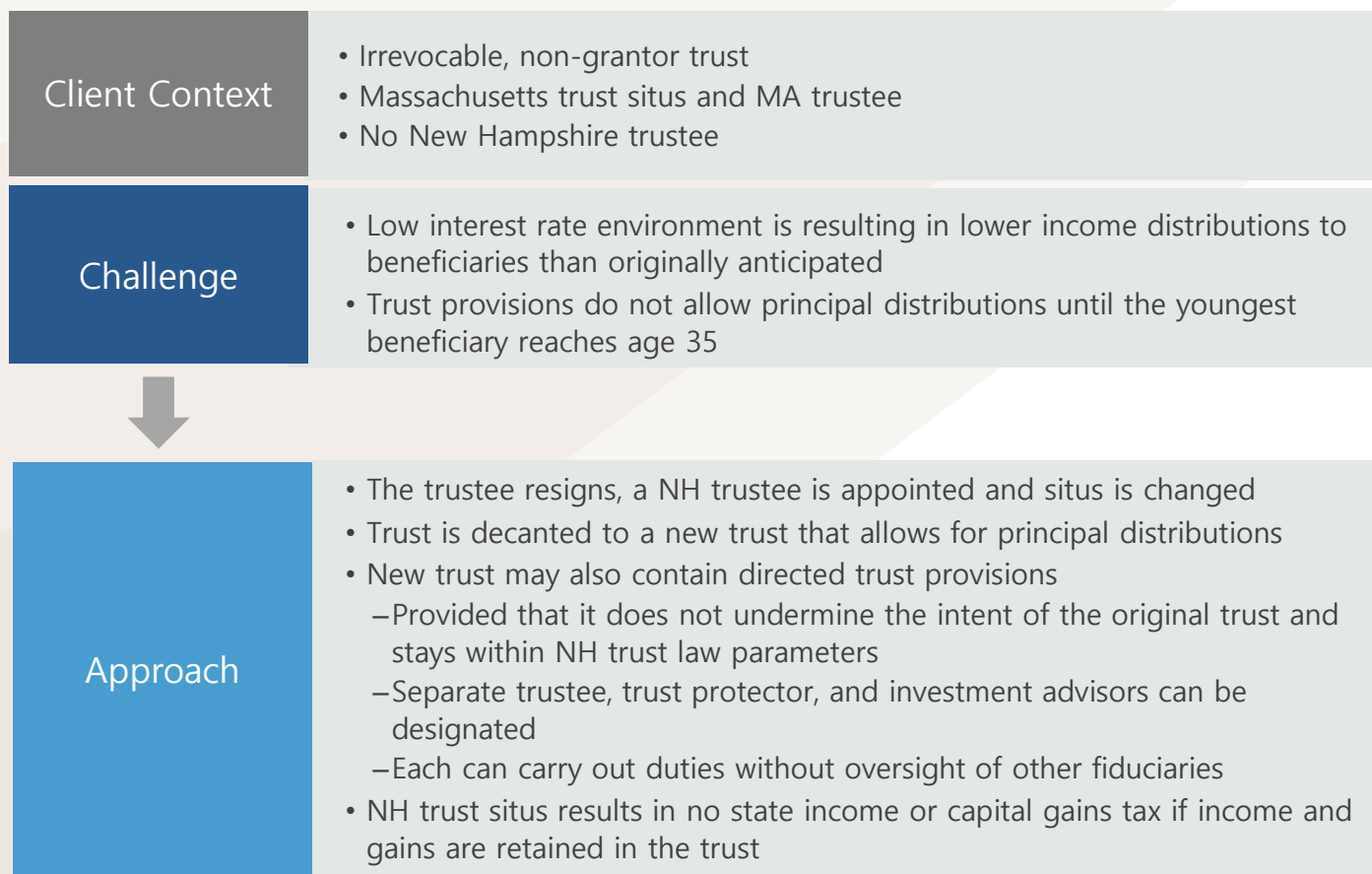
Income and capital gains retained in NH irrevocable, non-grantor trusts are not subject to state taxation



Note: Example is not an actual client, but is an illustrative example based on the experiences of various clients

Example: Amending a “Broken” Trust

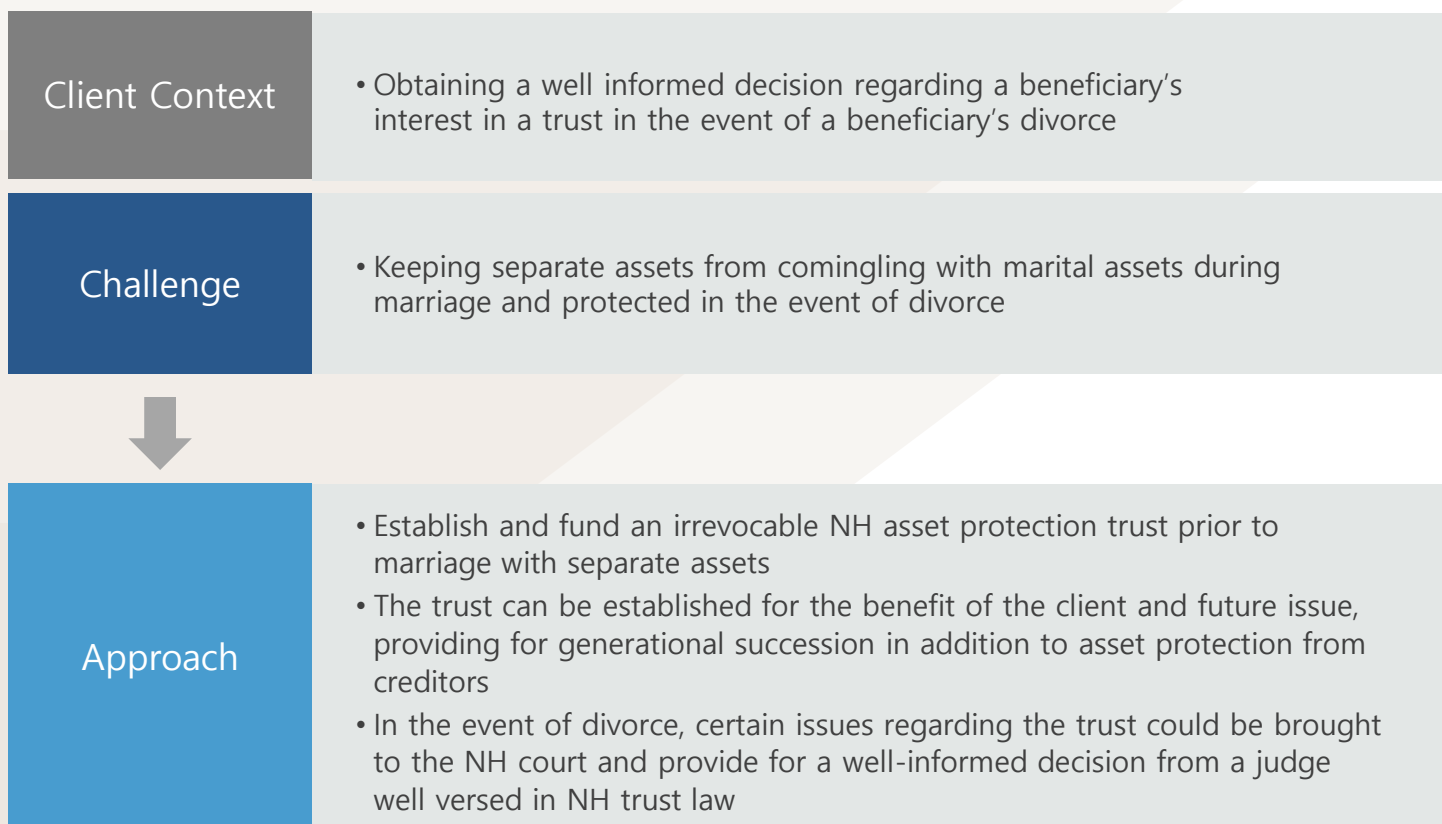
In many situations, a trust can be migrated to NH to amend out-of-date provisions



Note: Example is not an actual client, but is an illustrative example based on the experiences of various clients

Example: Dedicated Trust Court

It can be advantageous to resolve issues involving a NH trust in the NH trust court



Note: Example is not an actual client, but is an illustrative example based on the experiences of various clients

Q&A



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