

Life is better when you have choices—and so is life insurance. Many universal life policies offer two death benefit options, but you can deliver a third: Death Benefit Option (DBO) 3.1

What is DBO 3?

It allows a beneficiary to receive the policy face amount plus total premiums paid less withdrawals.

Who should consider this option? Accumulated DBO 2 = face amount + value accumulated value Clients who value death **DBO 3** = face amount + benefit coverage more Premiums paid cumulative premiums than cash-value growth paid (less surrenders) and are comfortable Face amount **DBO 1** = face amount paying a larger premium in exchange for a higher benefit amount. Policy year

What are the advantages?

- **Policy reimbursement.** DBO 3 provides policy cost reimbursement for clients who are concerned that premiums paid will reduce the net assets available to transfer. For example, assume a hypothetical scenario with a \$500,000 policy:
 - **> Using DBO 1.** The beneficiary receives a death benefit of \$500,000, but if total premiums paid were \$200,000, the net amount received would be \$300,000.
 - > **Using DBO 3.** The beneficiary receives the \$500,000 face amount plus premiums paid. If the premiums paid were, say, \$260,000, the beneficiary would receive a total of \$760,000.
- **Single life estate tax option.** The premium is gifted into a trust and, upon the insured's death, recovered income tax-free and often estate tax-free.
- **Key person insurance.** If a covered employee dies, the business has 100% cost recovery.
- Buy-sell strategy. A business partner can recoup premiums and still have funds for the buyout.
- Endorsement split dollar. Parties to the agreement share equally in policy cost reimbursement.
- Enhanced rate of return. DBO 3 can boost a policy's Internal Rate of Return² (IRR) in later years.

DBO 1 vs. DBO 3: rates of return over time

Consider showing clients how DBO 3 can yield a competitive IRR in later years.

DBO 1 DBO 3
DBO 1 DBO 3

End of year age	Annual premium (\$)	Death benefit (\$)	Before-tax IRR equivalent⁴ (%)	Annual premium (\$)	Death benefit (\$)	Before-tax IRR equivalent⁴ (%)
50	6,000	500,000	152.8 < ····:	6,000	530,000	···· > 156.7
70	6,000	500,000	11.1	6,000	650,000	13.3
83 (LE) ³	6,000	500,000	4.9	6,000	728,000	7.0
90	6,000	500,000	3.3	6,000	770,000	5.4

Hypothetical example only to show the Internal Rate of Return. Based on \$500,000 Principal Universal Life Flex IIISM, 45-year-old male, Standard Non-Tobacco, annual premiums paid to age 90.

In this scenario, the IRR for DBO 3 becomes greater than that of DBO 1 at age 50.



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- ¹ Available only with Guideline Premium Test. Offered on all currently sold products except Principal Term and Principal Universal Life Provider Edge IISM.
- ² IRR represents the rate of return that a policy's net premiums must earn to equal the death benefit at the end of a specific year.
- ³ Life expectancy (LE) for a male age 45 is age 78.
- ⁴ Before-tax equivalent represents the rate that a taxable asset would have to earn in order to match the tax-free proceeds of life insurance. This example assumes a 25% tax rate.



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