
Before They Leave for College, Get These Documents Signed

A NOTE FOR PARENTS OF RISING COLLEGE STUDENTS

Summer is here, and for many families that means college orientation packets, dorm shopping lists, and a growing sense that your child is about to step into a much bigger world. Before they go, there's one task that doesn't make it onto most checklists — but it should.

Once your child turns 18, you lose the automatic legal right to act on their behalf.

"A medical emergency 500 miles away is not the time to discover you have no legal authority to help your child."

Three short documents give you the authority you need if something goes wrong.

01

Healthcare Proxy

Names a parent or trusted person to make medical decisions if your child cannot. Without it, doctors may refuse to speak with you or take direction from you, even in an emergency.

02

HIPAA Authorization

A separate release that allows medical providers to share health information with the people your child designates. Often overlooked — and often the document that stops parents from getting basic updates.

03

Durable Power of Attorney

Authorizes a parent to handle financial matters — bills, accounts, insurance — if your child is incapacitated. Especially worth having if they're studying far from home or abroad.

These documents are revocable, straightforward to prepare, and easy to sign before the semester begins. Coordinating remotely mid-semester is far harder.

If you have a child heading to college this fall — or a young adult in your life who has just turned 18 — I am happy to help your family get this done quickly.

Warm regards,

Alessandra

The Law Offices of Alessandra Messineo Long

GET IN TOUCH

or call **203-249-3601**

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