trust on October 1, 1985, but before T’s death, the $100,000 is treated as an addition to the trust and a proportionate amount of the trust is subject to chapter 13.

Example 3. Lapse of a revocable trust. T and S are the settlors of separate revocable trusts with equal values. Both trusts were established for the benefit of skip persons (as defined in §26.2611–1) S dies on December 1, 1985, and under the provisions of S’s trust, the principal pours over into T’s trust. If T dies before January 1, 1987, the entire trust is excluded under paragraph (b)(2) of this section from the operation of chapter 13. If T dies after December 31, 1986, the entire trust is subject to the generation-skipping transfer tax provisions because T’s trust is not a trust described in paragraph (b)(1) or (2) of this section. In the latter case, the fact that S died before January 1, 1987, is irrelevant because the principal of S’s trust was added to a trust that never qualified under the transition rules of paragraph (b)(1) or (2) of this section.

Example 4. Pour over to exempt trust. Assume the same facts as in Example 3, except upon the death of S on December 1, 1985, S’s trust continues as an irrevocable trust and that the principal of T’s trust is to be paid over upon T’s death to S’s trust. Again, if T dies before January 1, 1987, S’s entire trust falls within the provisions of paragraph (b)(2) of this section. However, if T dies after December 31, 1986, the pour-over is considered an addition to the trust. Therefore, S’s trust is not a trust excluded under paragraph (b)(2) of this section because an addition is made to the trust.

Example 5. Lapse of a general power of appointment. S, the spouse of the settlor of an irrevocable trust that was created in 1980, had, on September 25, 1985, a general power of appointment over the trust assets. The trust provides that should S fail to exercise the power of appointment the property is to remain in the trust. On October 21, 1986, S executed a will under which S failed to exercise the power of appointment. If S dies before January 1, 1987, without having exercised the power in a manner which results in the creation of, or increase in the amount of, a generation-skipping transfer (or amended the will in a manner that results in the creation of, or increase in the amount of, a generation-skipping transfer) transfers pursuant to the trust or the will are not subject to chapter 13 because the trust is an irrevocable trust and the will qualifies under paragraph (b)(2) of this section.

Example 6. Lapse of general power of appointment held by intestate decedent. Assume the same facts as in Example 5, except on October 22, 1986, S did not have a will and that S dies after that date. Upon S’s death, or upon the prior exercise or release of the power, the value of the entire trust is treated as having been distributed to S, and S is treated as having made an addition to the trust in the amount of the entire principal. Any distribution or termination pursuant to the trust occurring after S’s death is subject to chapter 13. It is immaterial whether S’s death occurs before January 1, 1987, since paragraph (b)(2) of this section is only applicable where a will or revocable trust was executed before October 22, 1986.

(c) Additional effective dates. Except as otherwise provided, the regulations under §§26.2611–1, 26.2612–1, 26.2613–1, 26.2632–1, 26.2641–1, 26.2642–1, 26.2642–3, 26.2642–4, 26.2642–5, 26.2652–1, 26.2652–2, 26.2653–1, 26.2654–1, 26.2663–1, and 26.2663–2 are effective with respect to generation-skipping transfers as defined in §26.2611–1 made on or after December 27, 1995. However, taxpayers may, at their option, rely on these regulations in the case of generation-skipping transfers made, and trusts that became irrevocable, after December 23, 1992, and before December 27, 1995. The last four sentences in paragraph (b)(1)(1) of this section are applicable on and after November 18, 1999.


§26.2611–1 Generation-skipping transfer defined.

A generation-skipping transfer (GST) is an event that is either a direct skip, a taxable distribution, or a taxable termination. See §26.2612–1 for the definition of these terms. The determination as to whether an event is a GST is made by reference to the most recent transfer subject to the estate or gift tax. See §26.2652–1(a)(2) for determining whether a transfer is subject to Federal estate or gift tax.

§26.2612–1 Definitions.

(a) Direct skip. A direct skip is a transfer to a skip person that is subject to Federal estate or gift tax. If property is transferred to a trust, the transfer is a direct skip only if the trust is a skip person. Only one direct skip occurs when a single transfer of property skips two or more generations. See paragraph (d) of this section for the definition of skip person. See §26.2652–1(b) for the definition of trust. See