

Gift and Bequest



The Satisfaction
of Finding the
Perfect Blend of
Giving



INSTITUTE FOR
HUMANE STUDIES
AT GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY

Have you ever heard the phrase **"blended gift"** and wondered what that meant?

A blended gift is a combination of a current gift and a planned gift. It is a way to support the causes that you care about and make your giving go further.

A giving strategy that may appeal to you is a blended gift that consists of a current gift and a charitable bequest made in your will or trust. A "gift and bequest" can help you achieve your goals. You can provide for your family, establish a financial plan and support the causes that matter most to you.

A Blended Gift Can Maximize the Impact of Your Giving

Did you know that a blended gift can multiply the impact of your giving? By combining your current annual gifts with a gift in your will or estate plan, you can support the causes that matter to you today while leaving a lasting legacy for tomorrow.

How a Gift and Bequest Works

1 Make a Gift Today



ASSET



GIFT TO
CHARITY

2 Plan for Tomorrow



ASSET



BEQUEST



ASSET TO
CHARITY

When you supplement your current charitable giving with a planned gift, you create a legacy for your family and cherished causes, while also saving significant taxes for you and your family.

Basic Benefits of a Gift and Bequest

	CURRENT GIFT	BEQUEST
Flexibility	Making a current gift, or series of current gifts, is flexible. You can support our cause and make an annual gift based on what you can afford to give this year. You can increase your giving as your capacity to give grows.	A bequest is also very flexible - you can change your mind if your needs change. A bequest gives you continued use and control over whatever you decide to leave to charity in your will or trust.
Personal Satisfaction	A current gift allows you to see firsthand the impact of your giving.	A bequest will enable you to leave a lasting legacy that continues to support our work even after you are gone.
Potential Tax Benefits	A current gift will allow you to take a charitable income tax deduction in the year of your gift, which can reduce your income taxes. If you give an appreciated asset, such as stock, you can also avoid paying capital gains tax.	A charitable bequest can produce a charitable estate tax deduction, which will reduce estate taxes if you have a taxable estate. You will want a tax-wise estate plan so that you leave the right assets to family (real estate and stock) and to charity (such as retirement assets). This will help you reduce taxes for your family as well.



What Are Your Goals?



If your charitable goals include seeing how your gifts are making an impact while also leaving a lasting legacy...



If your tax planning goals include reducing your income taxes and avoiding capital gains taxes and future estate taxes...



If your personal and family goals include providing for family with a tax-wise estate plan...

Then a current gift combined with a charitable bequest may be right for you.

Definitions

Current Giving

Gifts made today to support our mission. These are typically made by cash, check or a gift of a specific asset, such as stock or real estate.

Charitable Income Tax Deduction

A tax benefit you receive when making a charitable gift. The deduction reduces your tax liability in the year that the gift is given to charity. The amount of the deduction is typically equal to the fair market value of the charitable gift.

Charitable Bequest

A gift left to charity in your will or estate plan. You can leave a specific asset, a percentage of your estate, a residual gift (which is the rest of your estate after all other bequests have been made) or a contingent bequest (if the primary beneficiary, such as a relative, cannot accept or decides not to accept the bequest, the gift will go to the charity of your choice).

Estate Tax Deduction

The potential tax benefit your estate and family will receive if you leave a charitable gift to an organization such as ours in your will, trust or other documents that are part of your estate plan.



Let Us Help You

There are numerous ways to structure blended gifts depending on your unique personal situation. We can help you create a blended gift strategy to achieve your goals while supporting our mission. Please contact us to learn more.

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