



University of Washington

Information for Donors of Tangible Personal Property

The following information is provided to individual donors considering making outright gifts of tangible personal property to the University of Washington. While we strive to provide accurate and complete information, we cannot represent individual donors. Please consult your legal, accounting, or other professional advisors to confirm the accuracy and applicability of information and current IRS regulations governing non-cash charitable contributions.

Thank you for your gift!

The University of Washington appreciates gifts of tangible personal property (also called in-kind or non-cash gifts). Generally, we accept any gift that is useable or can easily be sold to provide support for one of the University's programs.

Tax Considerations

Federal tax law generally allows individual donors who give non-cash gifts to the University to claim a charitable contribution deduction for the fair market value of the gift. Numerous exceptions apply, for example, if the University cannot make use of the property for an educational purpose. IRS Publication 526 titled "Charitable Contributions" and Publication 561 titled "Determining the Value of Donated Property" are informative in determining whether to claim a tax deduction.

Following are several specific tax implications donors should consider:

- **Non-Cash Gifts Exceeding \$250 in Value**
An income tax deduction will be allowed for charitable contributions valued at \$250 or more only when the donor has written acknowledgment from the University which must describe, but need not value, the property. The acknowledgment must be obtained by the date the donor actually files the tax return for the year in which the contribution was made. Valuation of donated property is the responsibility of the donor.
- **Non-Cash Gifts Exceeding \$500 in Value**
If a donor contributes property valued at \$500 or more, the donor must complete Section A of IRS Form 8283, and include this form with the tax return on which the donor claims the charitable income tax deduction. When only Section A is required, the University does not need to sign Form 8283.
- **Non-Cash Gifts Exceeding \$5,000 in Value**
Non-cash gifts exceeding \$5,000 require a written appraisal by an independent qualified appraiser. That

appraisal, together with the Form 8283, should be submitted with your Form 1040. This appraisal requirement also applies when the aggregate claimed value of all similar items of property for which charitable deductions are claimed in the same taxable year exceeds \$5,000. The University and the appraiser must both sign Form 8283. The University must acknowledge receipt of the gift by signing this form in Section B, Part IV. It is the responsibility of the donor to initiate the completion of this form.

- **Qualified Appraisals**

If required, a qualified appraisal must be prepared not earlier than sixty days before the date of contribution and not later than the due date of the tax return, including extensions. The appraisal must be prepared for the donor by a "qualified appraiser." A qualified appraiser is an individual who regularly appraises property of the nature contributed. The qualified appraiser may be neither the donor, the University, any party to the transaction in which the donor acquired the property, nor anyone related to the donor or the University. The payment of fees associated with the appraisal are required to be made by the donor.

- **Several Exceptions to the Rules**

Generally, publicly traded stock does not require an appraisal, regardless of dollar value. For stock that is not publicly traded, an appraisal is not required unless the claimed value is more than \$10,000. Other exceptions may apply. For further information, contact your tax advisor or the University's Office of Gift Planning.

- **IRS Form 8282**

The University must file IRS Form 8282 if, within three years of the date of the gift, the University disposes of a gift for which an appraisal was required. This form shows disposition date and the amount of proceeds. It is intended to help the IRS track discrepancies between the claimed value of non-cash contributions and the amount eventually received by the University.

For additional information, please contact the UW Office of Gift Planning at (206) 685-1001 or toll-free at (800) 284-3679.