

PLANNED GIVING

George Mason University Foundation, Inc.

Office of Advancement and Alumni Relations

4400 University Drive MS 1A3 | Fairfax, Virginia 22030

(703) 993-6971 | mylegacy@gmu.edu

Visit our website at **[gmu.giftplans.org](https://www.gmu.edu/giftplans.org)**



Planned giving is a wonderful way for alumni and friends to support Mason's future. Donors can make gifts of current or invested assets, IRAs, or property that may allow them to make a more meaningful gift. A planned gift may provide the donor or their heirs with additional financial benefits through increased income or tax savings, either during their lifetime or for their estate. Planned gifts can be structured to support any school, college, or program at Mason. Establishing a planned gift in support of Mason, for any amount, inducts the donor into the Legacy Society.



Gift Options Include:

Bequest

- › A donor may be able to make a greater gift through their will or trust; including Mason in one's will or by codicil is easy to do (sample bequest language provided in this brochure).
- › The donor is able to leave a meaningful legacy and is recognized for their leadership giving during their life.
- › The gift may help reduce estate taxes.

Charitable Gift Annuity (CGA) - minimum of \$25,000

- › CGAs may increase the donor's annual income stream or retirement income, with a portion being tax free. For example, donors with funds invested in Certificates of Deposit (CDs), which average annual rates of less than 1% to 3%, can typically receive an annual annuity rate of 4% to 7% in a CGA, depending on age.
- › A donor who depends on their current income stream can still make a significant gift through a CGA.
- › CGAs can eliminate capital gains taxes when funded with appreciated securities.
- › CGAs help a couple assure that one spouse has sufficient income after the other dies (known as a two-life annuity).

Charitable Trust - minimum of \$100,000

- › The donor has an efficient way to benefit from appreciated property, receive a charitable income tax deduction, and reduce capital gains and estate taxes, while potentially increasing their income stream.
- › Charitable trusts can use appreciated assets that would be subject to capital gains tax if sold, enabling the donor to make a meaningful, tax-deductible charitable donation while increasing the donor's income.

Charitable Remainder Trust (CRT)

- › A Charitable Remainder Unitrust (CRUT) potentially hedges against inflation through a variable payout (at least annually) based on a fixed percentage of the value of the trust's assets.
- › A Charitable Remainder Annuity Trust (CRAT) adds security to the donor's income stream through a fixed annuity payout amount.

NOTE: Donors choose to receive income from their CGA, CRUT, or CRAT either annually, quarterly, or monthly.

Charitable Lead Trust (CLT)

- › Donors can reduce their taxation on current income and provide a significant and immediate gift to Mason and other beneficiaries for a term of several years (maximum of 20 years), while lowering gift and estate taxes.
- › A CLT can be beneficial for donors desiring to lower income taxes and to gift assets to children or grandchildren, potentially negating gift and generation skipping taxes, which enables the donor to transfer greater assets to their heirs or others, increasing the total value of the assets funding the trust.



Life Insurance and Retirement Plans

- › Donors can name Mason as a beneficiary of a life insurance policy (for a percentage or specific amount). A donor can also make an outright gift of an existing policy, or make an outright gift of a new policy. Some benefits may include: beneficial use of unneeded policies, and provides tax deduction for premiums of donated policy.
- › Donors and heirs may benefit through a Life Insurance Wealth Replacement Trust, which allows them to replace the assets used to fund the trust with the future policy income to provide for heirs or other beneficiaries.
- › Mason may be designated as a beneficiary of retirement plans, such as 401(k)s.

Life Estate

A donor may gift a residence, which allows for an immediate tax deduction on the current value. The donor continues living in their home during their lifetime or as long as desired. For those with no children or who wish to lessen an estate tax burden, this is a wonderful way to make a major gift with no changes in their assets or lifestyle.

Bargain Sale

In a Bargain Sale, the donor sells property to Mason for less than the fair market value, and the difference is considered a charitable gift, allowing the donor to make a gift with something other than cash. The donor could also potentially receive cash and a tax deduction, and in some cases, escape a property's indebtedness.



A photograph of a middle-aged man with short, curly grey hair and a full, well-groomed grey beard. He is wearing a blue button-down shirt and is smiling broadly, showing his teeth. He is sitting in a grey upholstered chair, with his hands clasped in his lap. The background is a plain, light-colored wall.

Gift Planning Options

Alumni and friends who invest in the future of George Mason University through a planned gift, of any amount, are honored as members of the Legacy Society.

	Type of Gift	Benefits	Beneficiary
GIFTS THAT PAY DONOR INCOME	Charitable Gift Annuity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Current income tax deduction • Fixed and predictable payments • Portion of payments may be tax free 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One or two annuitant beneficiaries • Mason is the future residual beneficiary
	Charitable Remainder Unitrust	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Current income tax deduction • Variable income for life or term of years • Can avoid capital gains tax 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One or more income beneficiaries • Mason is the future residual beneficiary
	Charitable Remainder Annuity Trust	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Current income tax deduction • Fixed income for life or term of years • Can avoid capital gains tax 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One or more income beneficiaries • Mason is the future residual beneficiary
GIFTS THAT MASON CAN USE TODAY	Outright Gift	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Current income tax deduction • Current support for Mason 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mason is the immediate beneficiary
	Charitable Lead Trust	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Current support for Mason • Lowers donor's income tax • Can increase future gifts to heirs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mason is the immediate income beneficiary for a term of years • Donor is or heirs are the future residual beneficiaries
GIFTS THAT BENEFIT MASON IN THE FUTURE	Bequest	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • May reduce state tax • May enable donor to make desired gift with no current cost 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mason is the future beneficiary
	Life Insurance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Beneficial use of unneeded policies • Provides tax deduction for premiums of donated policy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mason is the future beneficiary
	Retirement Plans	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Avoid double taxation of retirement income • Gifting to Mason may reduce income and estate tax 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mason may be designated as current or future beneficiary
	Retained Life Estate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Current income tax deduction • Potential estate tax savings • No change in lifestyle 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Donor retains lifetime beneficial use of property • Mason receives future rights to property

Sample Bequest Language:

I, [name], of [city, state ZIP], do give, devise, and bequeath to the George Mason University Foundation, Inc. (FTIN 54-1603842), a 501(c)(3) organization classified as a public charity, [amount, percentage, or description of either real or personal property]. Funds gifted through this bequest are designated [for the unrestricted use and purposes of George Mason University OR to benefit the purposes of George Mason University as follows:].

The language given here is only suggested language and is meant to be used with the advice of your attorney. Contact our office and we will work with your advisor regarding your gift plans to Mason.

If you include Mason in your plans, please use our legal name and federal tax ID:

Legal Name: George Mason University Foundation, Inc.

Address: 4400 University Drive MS 1A3, Fairfax, Virginia 22030

Federal Tax ID Number: 54-1603842



Additional Gifting Opportunities:

Appreciated Securities

If you have long-term securities (stocks and/or mutual funds) that have appreciated in value, you can have your broker or mutual fund company transfer the shares to Mason. This will allow you to avoid capital gains taxes while being able to deduct the full value of the securities in your itemized income tax deductions. In addition to securities, other appreciated assets such as cryptocurrency and business interests may be options for your giving.

Donor Advised Fund

Donors can create a donor advised fund by transferring appreciated securities and/or other funds which enable them to itemize a larger amount of tax deductions that year. The funds in the donor advised fund can be used to make contributions to Mason and other nonprofits over several years.

Individual Retirement Account

For those 70½ years old and older, you can make a gift directly from your IRA to a qualified charity such as Mason without paying income taxes on the gift. Historically, the amount you could give was capped at \$100,000 per year. This figure will now be adjusted annually for inflation beginning in 2024. This gift option is commonly called the IRA charitable rollover. It is also referred to as a qualified charitable distribution (QCD).

The age retirees must begin taking taxable withdrawals (required minimum distributions) from their IRA is 73 in 2023 and 75 by 2033, up from the previous 72. It does not, however, increase the age an IRA owner can take a qualified charitable distribution. That age remains at 70½.

If you are 70½ or older, you can make a one-time election for a qualified charitable distribution of up to \$50,000 (without being taxed) from your IRA to fund a life-income gift such as a charitable gift annuity, charitable remainder unitrust or charitable remainder annuity trust.

For more information, contact:

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*The information in this publication is not provided as legal or tax advice.
Consult with your advisor about your particular situation.*

