

2025

Seven Strategies for Year-End Giving



UC San Diego

Giving with Purpose

Inspiring, Impactful Year-End Gift Options

The end of the year lends itself to reflecting on what truly matters—those you’ve helped, what you believe in, and the legacy you’re building.

A well-timed charitable gift can reflect your values, change lives, and offer meaningful tax and planning benefits. However you choose to give, know that your support touches lives and makes a difference.

We’re honored to be part of your philanthropic plans. Let us help you and your advisors explore the options that best align with your goals.

1 A Gift of Cash

Looking for something straightforward? This easy gift qualifies for an income tax charitable deduction up to 60% of your adjusted gross income (AGI). However, keep in mind that other types of gifts may provide stronger tax benefits.

Initiate gift by December 31

2 A Gift of Appreciated Stock

Rebalancing your portfolio? Giving appreciated stock (held for more than a year) provides greater tax savings than giving cash. You pay no capital gains tax on the appreciation but still qualify for an income tax charitable deduction for the full fair market value of the shares. This is helpful if you have stock you want to sell but you don’t want to pay tax on the significant appreciation.

Initiate gift by December 22

3 A Charitable Gift Annuity

Wanting to create an income stream? This is an attractive giving option today because gift annuity rates are currently the highest they’ve been in 17 years! In exchange for your gift, you qualify for an immediate income tax charitable deduction and receive fixed lifetime payments that can supplement other sources of retirement income.

Initiate gift by December 1

Sample one-life gift annuity rates, effective since January 1, 2024.

AGE 70	AGE 75	AGE 80	AGE 85	AGE 90
6.3%	7.0%	8.1%	9.1%	10.1%

4 An Outright Gift from Your IRA

Don't need your required minimum distribution (RMD)? If you are age 70½ or older, you can make a qualified charitable distribution directly from your IRA to us. The gift counts toward your RMD if one is due, and no income tax is due on the transferred amount up to the annual aggregate limit (\$108,000 in 2025).

Initiate gift by December 15

5 A Life Income Gift from Your IRA

Want to create an income stream using retirement assets? If you are age 70½ or older, you can make a one-time, tax-free distribution up to \$54,000 from your IRA to create a new charitable gift annuity (CGA) or charitable remainder trust (CRT), thereby creating an income stream for you and/or your spouse. Spouses can combine gifts from their own IRAs into a single CRT or a joint-life CGA. The gift counts toward your RMD if one is due. Income payments are taxable as ordinary income.

Initiate gift by December 1

6 A Charitable Remainder Trust

Want a gift that multitasks? A CRT can reduce taxes by converting highly appreciated stock or real estate into a lifetime income stream. The irrevocable trust removes the assets from your estate and provides an immediate federal income tax deduction for itemizers. The trustee pays you (or others you choose) a lifetime income. At the end of your life (or at the end of the stated trust term), we receive the remaining assets.

Initiate gift by December 1

7 A Grant from Your Donor-Advised Fund

Prefer to give without impacting your current finances? If you have a donor-advised fund (DAF), you can recommend a grant to us from funds already set aside for charitable giving, so there is no impact on your spendable income. If you are considering a grant, please let us know so we can provide helpful transfer information.

Initiate gift by December 12

Why Give Now?

Starting in 2026, donors who itemize will be required to give at least 0.5% of their AGI before they can claim an income tax charitable deduction. For example, if your AGI is \$200,000, you will only qualify for a deduction on any gift amount over \$1,000. If you itemize, you might consider bunching gifts for two or more years into this tax year.



Year End or Any Time: Comfortable, Flexible Gifts That Secure Our Future

There are powerful ways to sustain our mission for years to come that have no impact on your current finances. You can also change these gifts if your needs or goals change.

A gift in your will or living trust. With just a couple sentences, you can make a future gift of a specific amount or asset, a percentage of your estate, or even what's left in your estate after other obligations have been met.

A charitable beneficiary designation. It is easy to name us as a primary, secondary, or percentage beneficiary of a life insurance policy, IRA, retirement account, or other financial account.





Understanding and Preparing for Scheduled Tax Changes

Numerous tax changes under the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act (TCJA) of 2017 were scheduled to expire (or “sunset”) on December 31, 2025. The One Big Beautiful Bill Act permanently extends many of those provisions, including the current income tax brackets, the higher standard deduction amount (with an additional boost to \$15,750 for 2025), and the higher estate tax exemption amount.

Beginning in 2026, the new legislation will impact charitable giving in the following ways:

1 A New Deduction for Nonitemizers

Nonitemizers can deduct up to \$1,000 for cash gifts to qualified public charities (excluding donor-advised funds). A new opportunity to save!

2 A New Cap on Deductions for Top Earners

Itemizers in the 37% tax bracket will have deductions capped at 35%. Consider giving now instead of waiting.

3 A New Minimum Giving Threshold

Itemized gifts must exceed 0.5% of your AGI before you can claim a deduction. Consider bunching gifts for multiple years into 2025 to avoid this giving floor.

4 An Extended Higher Limit for Gifts of Cash

The 60%-of-AGI limit for cash gifts to public charities is now permanent.

2025 Tax Preparation Checklist

- ☐ Copy of 2024 tax return
- ☐ Social Security numbers
- ☐ W-2 forms from all employers
- ☐ 1099-INT forms showing interest payments received
- ☐ 1099-G form showing any refund, credit, or offset of state/local taxes
- ☐ Receipts pertaining to a business (if the taxpayer is a small business owner)
- ☐ Forms 1099-DIV and 1099-R
- ☐ Other income receipts from rental real estate, royalties, partnerships, S corporations, and trusts
- ☐ Social Security benefits documentation
- ☐ Medical/dental expenses
- ☐ Receipts for state, local, real estate, and personal property tax payments
- ☐ Form 1098 mortgage interest and points
- ☐ Receipts for charitable contributions and gifts
- ☐ Casualty and theft loss documentation

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